

1990 No. 191

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1990

Made 23rd May 1990

Coming into operation 1st June 1990

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 62, 106 and 107(6) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and in conjunction with the Department of Finance and Personnel(b) and after consultation with such organisations as appeared to the Department to be representative of medical practitioners practising as ophthalmic medical practitioners, and ophthalmic opticians, as required by Article 62(3) of the said Order, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1990 and shall come into operation on 1st June 1990.

(2) In these regulations, the “principal regulations” means the General Ophthalmic Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986(c).

Amendment of terms of service

2.—(1) Schedule 1 to the principal regulations (terms of service) is amended in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) For paragraph 3 (arrangements for the provision of services) there is substituted—

“Premises at which general ophthalmic services are to be provided

3.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) a contractor shall provide general ophthalmic services at only an address which is included in relation to him in the ophthalmic list.

(2) Where requested to do so by or on behalf of a patient a contractor may agree to provide general ophthalmic services at the place at which the patient normally resides.”

(3) In paragraph 5 (notices) after the word “services” where it first occurs there is inserted “in accordance with paragraph 3(1)”.

(4) In paragraph 9(5) (payments) the words from “; or” to “request” are omitted.

(a) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14); as amended by S.I. 1984/1158 (N.I. 8) and S.I. 1988/2249 (N.I. 24)

(b) Formerly Department of Finance: see S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3

(c) S.R. 1986 No. 163; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1989 No. 113

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 23rd May 1990.

(L.S.)

J. Scott

Assistant Secretary

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 23rd May 1990.

(L.S.)

R. Miller

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations further amend the General Ophthalmic Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986 ("the principal regulations") which provide for the arrangements under which ophthalmic medical practitioners and ophthalmic opticians ("contractors") provide general ophthalmic services under the Health Service.

The regulations amend Schedule 1 to the principal regulations (contractors' terms of service). Regulation 2(2) substitutes a new paragraph 3 to require a contractor to provide general ophthalmic services at his practice premises unless he agrees to provide such services at the place where the patient normally resides. Regulation 2(3) amends paragraph 5 so that a contractor is required to display a notice, in accordance with that paragraph, at his practice premises only and not elsewhere. Regulation 2(4) amends paragraph 9(5) to remove a contractor's right to recover from a patient any amount in respect of loss of remunerative time or travelling expenses occasioned by a visit to that patient's home.