



## THE DRUG TARIFF 1984, AMENDMENT NO. 2

PURSUANT to section 99 of the Social Security Act 1964, the Minister of Health hereby gives the following direction.

### ANALYSIS

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### DIRECTION

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This direction may be cited as the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No. 2, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Drug Tariff 1984\* (hereinafter referred to as the Tariff).

(2) This direction shall come into force on the 1st day of February 1985.

(3) For the purpose of applying the Tariff after the commencement of this direction, but without affecting the validity or consequences of anything that has been done before the commencement of this direction, the Tariff shall have effect as if this amendment were the only amendment to the Tariff that had ever been made.

**2. Prices for pharmaceutical requirements**—Clause 5 (5) of the Tariff shall be read as if there were inserted, after paragraph (a), the following paragraph:

“(aa) Any amount by which payment has been reduced under clause 7 (1) (b), clause 21 (3) (b), or clause 22 (1) (b) of this direction:”.

**3. Calculation of payments**—The Tariff shall be read as if for clause 7 there were substituted the following clause:

“7. (1) Payment for a pharmaceutical requirement when dispensed shall be calculated by—

“(a) Adding together—

“(i) The total selling price of that requirement’s ingredients; and

“(ii) The amount specified in the Second Schedule to the Prescription Pricing Schedules for the average container charge; and

“(iii) If that requirement is dispensed in a container having a child-resistant closure, the amount specified in that schedule for such a closure; and

“(iv) The appropriate professional fee set out in the Third Schedule to the Prescription Pricing Schedules; and

“(v) If that requirement is the residue of a quantity of a Class B controlled drug that was prescribed as an initial supply but could not, at the time of initial dispensing, be supplied in that quantity, the appropriate additional fee set out in that schedule; and

“(b) Subject to subclause (2) of this clause, subtracting \$1.

“(2) In calculating payment for a pharmaceutical requirement, \$1 shall not be subtracted—

“(a) If—

“(i) The person for whom that requirement is prescribed belongs to a class of person specified in subsection (1A) or subsection (1B) of section 93 of the Act; and

“(ii) The prescription concerned is either endorsed to that effect by the practitioner concerned or (where the contractor concerned is satisfied that the endorsement or lack of endorsement of the practitioner concerned is erroneous) endorsed to that effect and initialled by the contractor; and

“(iii) That prescription relates only to requirements prescribed for that person; or

“(b) If—

“(i) The person for whom that requirement is prescribed does not belong to a class of person specified in subsection (1A) or subsection (1B) of section 93 of the Act; and

“(ii) The contractor concerned is satisfied that the Director-General has exempted that person from the payment of a flat prescription charge; and

“(iii) The prescription relates only to requirements prescribed for that person; or

“(c) If—

“(i) The person for whom that requirement is prescribed does not belong to a class of person specified in subsection (1A) or subsection (1B) of section 93 of the Act; and

“(ii) The contractor concerned is not satisfied that the Director-General has exempted that person from the payment of a flat prescription charge; and

“(iii) That requirement is a contraceptive; and

“(iv) The prescription concerned relates only to contraceptives prescribed for that person.”

**4. Payment for syringes and needles**—Clause 21 of the Tariff shall be read as if for subclause (3) there were substituted the following subclauses:

“(3) Payment of any such claim shall be computed by—

“(a) Adding together—

“(i) The cost price of the requirements concerned; and

“(ii) 15 percent of that price; and

“(iii) The appropriate professional fee; and

“(b) Subject to subclause (4) of this clause, subtracting \$1.

“(4) In calculating payment for any such claim, \$1 shall not be subtracted if the person for whom the requirement concerned is prescribed belongs to a class of person specified in subsection (1A) or subsection (1B) of section 93 of the Act and the said form is endorsed to that effect by the contractor concerned.”

**5. Payment for plastic syringes**—The Tariff shall be read as if for clause 22 there were substituted the following clause:

“22.(1) Payment to a contractor for plastic syringes allowed under the Schedule to this direction shall be computed by—

“(a) Adding together—

“(i) The cost price of those syringes; and

“(ii) 15 percent of that price; and

“(iii) The appropriate professional fee; and

“(iv) The average container charge; and

“(b) Subject to subclause (2) of this clause, subtracting \$1.

“(2) In calculating payment for plastic syringes, \$1 shall not be subtracted if—

“(a) The person for whom that requirement is prescribed belongs to a class of person specified in subsection (1A) or subsection (1B) of section 93 of the Act and the prescription concerned is either endorsed to that effect by the practitioner concerned or (where the contractor concerned is satisfied that the endorsement or lack of endorsement of the practitioner concerned is erroneous) endorsed to that effect and initialled by the contractor concerned; and

“(b) The prescription concerned relates only to requirements prescribed for that person.”

**6. Period and quantity of supply where prescription written by medical practitioner**—The Tariff shall be read as if for clause 25 there were substituted the following clause:

**“25. Period and quantity of supply where prescription written by medical practitioner**—In the case of a prescription for a pharmaceutical requirement (other than an oral contraceptive) written by a medical practitioner, the following provisions shall apply:

“(a) Payment may be made for only such amount of the requirement as is sufficient to provide treatment for a period not exceeding 3 months, or in the case of a Class B controlled drug a quantity sufficient to provide treatment for a period not exceeding 1 month:

“(b) Where the medical practitioner has prescribed a quantity sufficient to provide treatment for more than 1 month, that requirement shall be dispensed in monthly lots, unless—

“(i) The medical practitioner endorses the prescription with the quantity to be dispensed on one or more occasions or with a statement of the period for which one or more lots is to be dispensed; or

“(ii) The contractor or the patient endorses the back of the prescription with a statement of the special reasons why a greater quantity is required to be dispensed:

- “(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this clause, where the medical practitioner prescribes a pharmaceutical requirement specified in the Schedule to this direction as being subject to ‘antibiotic restriction’, payment may be made for only such amount of the requirement as is sufficient to provide treatment for a period not exceeding 4 days and, where the prescription specifies a repeat, for only such further amount of the requirement as is sufficient to provide treatment for one further period not exceeding 4 days, unless the prescription is endorsed ‘extended supply’, and specifies in it the quantity required or the period for which treatment is required, in which case payment may be made for the actual quantity dispensed if that quantity does not exceed that necessary to provide treatment for a period of 3 months; but where a patient is receiving an extended supply of such a requirement, that requirement shall be dispensed in monthly lots, unless—

“(i) The medical practitioner endorses the prescription with the quantity to be dispensed on one or more occasions or with a statement of the period for which one or more lots is to be dispensed; or

“(ii) The contractor or the patient endorses the prescription with a statement of the special reasons why a greater quantity is required to be dispensed:

- “(d) Any prescription that is not presented to a contractor for dispensing within 7 days of its being written in the case of a Class B controlled drug, or within 3 months of its being written in any other case, shall cease to be a charge to the Department:

- “(e) A repeat on a prescription that remains unfulfilled after—

“(i) 3 months from the date of first dispensing in the case of a prescription for a pharmaceutical requirement for a total supply of from 1 to 3 months: or

“(ii) One month from the date of first dispensing in any other case—

shall cease to be a charge to the Department; but the contractor concerned may submit a claim for the part fulfilment of the total quantity ordered in respect of the part that is due for payment and payment may be made accordingly.”

**7. Period and quantity of supply in respect of prescriptions for oral contraceptives**—Clause 26 of the Tariff shall be read as if paragraph (a) were revoked.

**8. Period and quantity of supply when prescription written by dentist**—Clause 27(c) of the Tariff shall be read as if the words “endorses the prescription with the words extended supply and” were revoked.

**9. Endorsement of prescription with words “Approved condition”**—The Tariff shall be read as if clause 32 were revoked.

**10. Definition of “Antibiotic restriction”**—Clause 2 of Part I of the Schedule to the Tariff shall be read as if, for the expression “25(b)”, there were substituted the expression “25(c)”.

11. Definition of "Approved condition"—Part I of the Schedule to the Tariff shall be read as if Clause 3 were revoked.

12. Definition of "Diabetic syringes"—Clause 5 of Part I of the Schedule to the Tariff shall be read as if, for the expressions "13" and "1" there were substituted, respectively, the expressions "26" and "2".

13. Certain pharmaceutical requirements deleted from Part II of Schedule to Tariff—Part II of the Schedule to the Tariff shall be read as if the pharmaceutical requirements specified in the First Schedule to this direction were deleted.

14. Certain pharmaceutical requirements added to Part II of Schedule to Tariff—Part II of the Schedule to the Tariff shall be read as if it included the pharmaceutical requirements specified in the Second Schedule to this direction and as if those requirements were available to the extent specified in that Schedule.

15. Revocation—The Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1\* is hereby revoked.

\*S.R. 1984/260

SCHEDULES

C1.14

FIRST SCHEDULE  
DELETIONS

(Whether or not included, in a varied form, in the additions specified in the Second Schedule)

Pharmaceutical Requirement	Availability
Betamethasone and its salts as tablets .. ..	Retail Pharmacy-specialist
*Contraceptives, caps as approved by the Director-General .. ..	Approved condition-only on a wholesale supply order
*Contraceptives, condoms as approved by the Director-General .. ..	Approved condition-only on a prescription
*Contraceptives, condoms with a spermicidal agent, as approved by the Director-General .. ..	Approved condition-only on a prescription
*Contraceptives, diaphragms as approved by the Director-General .. ..	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Contraceptives, intra-uterine devices as approved by the Director-General .. ..	Approved condition-only on a wholesale supply order
*Contraceptives, spermicidal agents as approved by the Director-General together with applicator when specified .. ..	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order

\*Not included in the list of additions set out in the Second Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1.

FIRST SCHEDULE—*continued*  
DELETIONS—*continued*

Pharmaceutical Requirement	Availability
*Desogestrel with ethinyloestradiol tablets .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
Diazepam rectal tubes .. .. .	Only on a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinylloestradiol with levonorgestrel .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinylloestradiol with lynoestrenol tablets .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinylloestradiol with norethisterone .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate tablets .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate with ethinyloestradiol .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate with mestranol .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Levonorgestrel .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Norethisterone tablets 0.35 mg .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Norethisterone with mestranol tablets .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Norethisterone acetate with ethinyloestradiol .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Norethynodrel with mestranol .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
*Norgestrel with ethinyloestradiol .. .. .	Approved condition-on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
Propantheline bromide .. .. .	...
Ranitidine hydrochloride injection and tablets .. .. .	Retail Pharmacy-specialist
Theophylline long-acting capsules (as approved by the Director-General) and long-acting tablets .. .. .	...
Tripotassium dicitratobismuthate solution and tablets .. .. .	...

\*Not included in the list of additions set out in the Second Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1.

## SECOND SCHEDULE

C1.15

## ADDITIONS

Pharmaceutical Requirement	Availability
Atracurium besylate injection .. .. .	Only on a wholesale supply order
Auranofin tablets .. .. .	Retail Pharmacy-specialist
Betamethasone sodium phosphate tablets .. .. .	...
Castor oil with resorcinol, salicylic acid and undecylenic alkanolamide scalp solution .. .. .	...
*Contraceptives, caps as approved by the Director-General .. .. .	Only on a wholesale supply order
*Contraceptives, condoms as approved by the Director-General .. .. .	Only on a prescription
*Contraceptives, condoms with a spermicidal agent, as approved by the Director-General .. .. .	Only on a prescription
*Contraceptives, diaphragms as approved by the Director-General .. .. .	On a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Contraceptives, intra-uterine devices as approved by the Director-General .. .. .	Only on a wholesale supply order
*Contraceptives, spermicidal agents as approved by the Director General together with applicator when specified .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Desogestrel with ethinyloestradiol tablets .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
Diazepam rectal tubes .. .. .	...
*Ethinyloestradiol with levonorgestrel .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinyloestradiol with lynoestrenol tablets .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinyloestradiol with norethisterone .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate tablets .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate with ethinyloestradiol .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Ethinodiol diacetate with mestranol .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
Gliclazide tablets .. .. .	...
*Levonorgestrel .. .. .	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
Loprazolam mesylate tablets .. .. .	(a) Only on the prescription of a practitioner (b) On any one prescription form payment will be made for no more than a quantity sufficient for 30 days treatment, inclusive of any repeats

\*Not included in the list of additions set out in the Second Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1.

SECOND SCHEDULE—*continued*ADDITIONS—*continued*

Pharmaceutical Requirement	Availability
Mebendazole oral suspension .. ..	Only on a prescription not exceeding 30 ml per person
*Medroxyprogesterone acetate injection .. ..	Only on a prescription or practitioner's supply order
Nadolol tablets .. ..	...
*Norethisterone tablets 0.35 mg .. ..	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Norethisterone with mestranol tablets .. ..	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Norethisterone acetate with ethinyloestradiol .. ..	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
*Norethynodrel with mestranol .. ..	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
Norfloxacin tablets .. ..	Hospital Pharmacy-specialist
*Norgestrel with ethinyloestradiol .. ..	Only on a prescription or a practitioner's supply order
Oxybutynin chloride tablets .. ..	Retail Pharmacy-specialist
Pirenzepine hydrochloride tablets .. ..	(a) Only on the prescription of a practitioner (b) On any one prescription form payment will be made for no more than a quantity sufficient for 30 days treatment, inclusive of any repeats
Proprantheline bromide tablets .. ..	...
Ranitidine hydrochloride injection .. ..	Retail Pharmacy-specialist
Ranitidine hydrochloride tablets .. ..	(a) Retail Pharmacy-specialist; and (b) Only on a prescription with a daily dose not exceeding 150mg; or (c) On a prescription with a daily dose exceeding 150 mg, in which case payment will be made for no more than a quantity sufficient for 30 days treatment, inclusive of any repeats, on any one prescription form
Sotalol hydrochloride injection and tablets .. ..	...
Sucralfate tablets .. ..	(a) Only on the prescription of a practitioner (b) On any one prescription form payment will be made for no more than a quantity sufficient for 30 days treatment, inclusive of any repeats

\*Not included in the list of additions set out in the Second Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1.



SECOND SCHEDULE—*continued*ADDITIONS—*continued*

Pharmaceutical Requirement	Availability
Theophylline long-acting capsules and long-acting tablets .. .. .	
Triamcinolone hexacetonide injection .. .. .	
Tripotassium dicitratobismuthate solution and tablets .. .. .	(a) Only on the prescription of a practitioner (b) On any one prescription form payment will be made for no more than a quantity sufficient for 30 days treatment, inclusive of any repeats

\*Not included in the list of additions set out in the Second Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984, Amendment No 1.

Dated at Wellington this 14th day of December 1984.

MICHAEL BASSETT, Minister of Health

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*This note is not part of the direction, but is intended to indicate its general effect.*

This direction, which comes into force on 1 February 1985, makes 4 changes to the provisions of the Drug Tariff 1984.

First, it requires a reduction of the payment by the Department to contractors of \$1 per prescription, which may in turn be collected by the contractor from the patient. There will be certain exemptions to this reduced payment. Prescriptions for those classes of person referred to in subsections (1A) and (1B) of section 93 of the Social Security Act 1964 will be exempt from this reduction.

Secondly, all prescribed contraceptives will become available without restriction to persons entitled to pharmaceutical benefits. Prescribed contraceptives will also be exempt from the \$1 reduction

Thirdly, the endorsement "extended supply" will be required only on prescriptions written by medical practitioners for more than 4 days' supply of an antibiotic.

Fourthly, the direction provides for deletions from and additions to the list of pharmaceutical requirements in Part II of the Schedule to the Drug Tariff 1984. Deleted items do not in all cases disappear from the list, as they are sometimes added again in a varied form.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 19 December 1984.

This notice is administered in the Department of Health.