

1979/45



THE SOCIAL SECURITY (X-RAY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES)  
REGULATIONS 1979

KEITH HOLYOAKE, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government Buildings at Wellington this 19th day of March 1979

Present

THE RIGHT HON. R. D. MULDOON PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to section 116 of the Social Security Act 1964, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

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REGULATIONS

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1979.

(2) The new scale of fees specified in these regulations shall apply to X-ray diagnostic services provided on or after the 1st day of October 1978.

**2. Interpretation**—In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“The Act” means the Social Security Act 1964:

“Department” means the Department of Health:

“Hospital Board” means a Hospital Board under the Hospitals Act 1957:

“Medical Officer of Health” means a Medical Officer of Health under the Health Act 1956:

“Minister” means the Minister of Health:

“Radiologist” includes a “recognised radiologist” (as hereinafter defined) and also includes any other medical practitioner who (being employed or engaged by a Hospital Board) makes any X-ray examinations or takes any X-ray photograph for the purposes of these regulations:

“Recognised radiologist” means a medical practitioner who is recognised in that behalf as a radiologist in accordance with these regulations:

“X-ray diagnostic services” means the services more particularly defined in regulation 3 of these regulations.

**3. Nature of benefits—**(1) Except as provided in subclause (2) of this regulation, the benefits provided for by these regulations (hereinafter in these regulations referred to as X-ray diagnostic services) shall comprise—

- (a) The making of X-ray examinations with the aid of a fluorescent screen;
  - (b) The taking of X-ray photographs;
  - (c) The supply and administration of any drugs or other substances for the purposes of any such examination or photograph;
  - (d) The provision of medical services incidental to any such examination or photograph, except medical services of a kind that are not ordinarily performed by radiologists as such (whether in any particular case such services are performed by the radiologist or by any other medical practitioner);
  - (e) The provision of any other incidental services for the purposes of any such examinations or photographs.
- (2) Nothing in these regulations shall apply to any X-ray examination or X-ray photograph made or taken—
- (a) For dental purposes;
  - (b) For the purposes of life insurance, superannuation, or other similar benefit; but this paragraph shall not exclude services in relation to certificates given for the purposes of benefits under Part I of the Social Security Act 1964 or in relation to certificates for sickness benefits from a friendly society;
  - (c) For visas;
  - (d) For emigration permits;
  - (e) For the sole or primary purpose of obtaining a certificate, for production to some other person, relating to the condition of health of the person in respect of whom the examination or photograph is made or taken;
  - (f) For the sole or primary purpose of ascertaining, at the request of any employer or proposed employer or person having the control or supervision of the person in respect of whom it was made or taken, the condition of health of that person, if he is not known or suspected by any medical practitioner to be suffering from disease or illness; but this paragraph shall not exclude any X-ray examination or X-ray photograph made or taken immediately before entering employment, or during employment, if in either case a Medical Officer of Health is of the opinion that the X-ray examination or X-ray photograph would be in the interests of the public health.

(3) Notwithstanding anything in subclause (2) (f) of this regulation, the Director-General of Health may from time to time in his discretion, in writing, approve the rendering of X-ray diagnostic services for any group of persons, on the application of any employer or person having the control or supervision of those persons, or on the recommendation of any medical practitioner being an officer of the Department of Health. In any such case, the provisions of these regulations, except paragraphs (c) and (d) of regulation 4 hereof, shall apply in respect of every person in the group.

**4. Application of regulations**—Subject to regulation 3 (3) of these regulations, these regulations shall apply only with respect to such X-ray diagnostic services as satisfy all of the following conditions:

- (a) That they are rendered in respect of persons who are entitled to receive benefits under Part II of the Act:
- (b) That they are performed by or under the direct supervision of a recognised radiologist or by or under the direct supervision of a medical practitioner employed or engaged by a Hospital Board:
- (c) That (in the case of an X-ray examination without a photograph) the examination was made on the written recommendation of a medical practitioner other than the radiologist or was made on the authority of a Medical Officer of Health:
- (d) That (in the case of an X-ray photograph) the photograph was taken on the written recommendation of a medical practitioner other than the radiologist or was taken on the authority of a Medical Officer of Health:

Provided that the conditions prescribed by this paragraph shall not apply in any case where a recognised radiologist who is also engaged in medical practice other than as a radiologist is of opinion, after personal examination of a patient, that it is advisable in the interests of the patient that an X-ray photograph be taken.

**5. Application for recognition as radiologist**—(1) On application made by any medical practitioner on a form to be provided for the purpose by the Department, the Minister may recognise the applicant as a radiologist for the purposes of these regulations.

(2) Every such application shall specify the personal qualifications possessed by the applicant by virtue of his academic qualifications and professional experience, and shall also specify, with reasonable particularity, the apparatus or equipment in the possession of the applicant or available for his use in the performance of radiological work.

(3) Any such application may be sent or delivered to the local Medical Officer of Health for transmission to the Minister.

**6. Recognition as radiologist**—(1) The Minister, having regard to the personal qualifications of any applicant for recognition as a radiologist under these regulations and to the nature of the apparatus and equipment available for his use, may in his discretion refuse recognition or may give to the applicant absolute or limited recognition.

(2) Absolute recognition shall be in respect of all classes of X-ray diagnostic services. Limited recognition may exclude any specified class or specified classes of such services or may be in respect of any specified class or specified classes of X-ray diagnostic services to the exclusion of all other classes of such services.

(3) Any recognition given by the Minister pursuant to this regulation (whether absolute or limited) may be given subject to such conditions (if any), not inconsistent with these regulations, as the Minister may think fit to impose. In particular, every recognition given for the purposes of these regulations shall be subject to the condition that all apparatus and equipment used by the radiologist may be inspected from time to time and at any reasonable time by any person authorised in that behalf by the Director-General of Health.

(4) The Minister may at any time, by not less than 1 month's notice in writing, revoke any recognition given by him under this clause, or may convert an absolute recognition into a limited recognition, or a limited recognition into an absolute recognition, or may alter any of the conditions attached by him to any recognition.

(5) Any applicant for recognition as a radiologist under these regulations may withdraw his application at any time before it has been finally dealt with by the Minister, and any person who has been recognised as a radiologist under these regulations shall cease to be so recognised on giving to the Minister not less than 1 month's notice in writing to that effect.

(6) The Minister may from time to time publish in such manner as he thinks fit the names and addresses and other particulars concerning persons who for the time being are recognised as radiologists for the purposes of these regulations.

**7. Duty of radiologists to keep records—**(1) As soon as practicable after the completion of the making of any X-ray examination or the taking of any X-ray photograph to which these regulations apply it shall be the duty of the radiologist to make, in duplicate, a written report thereon, and, where the examination or photograph was made or taken on the recommendation of another medical practitioner, to forward a copy of his report to that medical practitioner.

(2) A copy of his report shall be retained by the radiologist for a period of not less than 3 years. All films or plates used for any photographs shall be retained for the same period unless they are delivered to the medical practitioner or the Hospital Board, as the case may be, in accordance with whose recommendation or instructions the photographs were taken, or are delivered to any other medical practitioner or Hospital Board concerned with the subsequent treatment of the patient. Where any films or plates have been so disposed of the radiologist shall keep with his report a record of the name and address of the medical practitioner or the name of the Hospital Board, as the case may be, and the date of transmission or delivery of such films or plates.

(3) At any time during the said period of 3 years, the copy retained by the radiologist of his report and any films or plates so retained by him shall, on request, be produced for the inspection of any medical practitioner, being an officer of the Department of Health, who may be authorised in that behalf by the Director-General of Health.

**8. Payment of fees**—(1) Fees at the rates prescribed in the Schedule hereto shall be payable by the Department in respect of X-ray diagnostic services to which these regulations apply, except where such services are performed by a person employed or engaged by a Hospital Board.

(2) If any examination for which fees are claimed is not expressly included in the Schedule hereto, the Minister, by a general or specific direction, may in his discretion determine that such examination shall be deemed for the purposes of these regulations to be within such one of the specified classes as in his opinion is most closely analogous thereto, and fees as for an examination of that class shall be payable accordingly.

(3) Where any examination relates to part only of a region for which a fee is prescribed, the fee for the examination shall be the fee prescribed for an examination of the region. Where any part is comprised in 2 or more regions for which different fees are prescribed, the fee for the separate examination of that part shall be the lowest of the fees prescribed for the several regions.

**9. Hospital Boards not to recover payment from persons entitled to benefit**—Subject to section 92 of the Social Security Act 1964, no Hospital Board shall demand or accept or be entitled to recover, in consideration of any X-ray diagnostic services to which these regulations apply rendered in respect of a person who is entitled to claim a benefit under these regulations, any payment from that person or any other person.

**10. Amount of benefit to be deducted from fee charged by radiologist**—(1) Where any services to which these regulations apply (not being services to which regulation 9 of these regulations relates) are performed by a recognised radiologist, the amount of the prescribed fees payable under these regulations shall be deducted from the amount charged or chargeable by the radiologist for such services; and on any account rendered to or on account of the patient for such services credit shall be given for the amount of the fees paid or payable under these regulations:

Provided that nothing in this subclause shall apply in any case where the patient or a responsible person competent to act on behalf of the patient notifies the radiologist in writing that he does not wish to accept the benefit of the regulations; and in any such case the whole amount of the radiologist's fees may be charged to or on account of the patient, and no fees shall be payable under these regulations.

(2) The Minister may withhold payment, in whole or in part, of the fees payable under these regulations to any radiologist for any X-ray diagnostic services performed by him if he is of opinion that any fee charged to or on account of the patient is excessive.

**11. Claims for payment of fees**—(1) Every claim under these regulations for the payment of fees shall be made in the first instance to the Medical Officer of Health of the appropriate district, and shall be made on forms to be provided for the purpose by the Department.

(2) Claims for the payment of fees under these regulations shall be supported in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) In every case the claim shall contain a certificate, signed by the radiologist by whom or under whose supervision the service was rendered, that the service to which the claim relates was duly rendered:
- (b) In the case of a claim by a recognised radiologist for services rendered on the recommendation of another medical practitioner, the claim shall have attached to it a recommendation, signed by the medical practitioner, stating the name of the patient and the particular nature of the services recommended:
- (c) In the case of any claim by a recognised radiologist for services not rendered on the recommendation of another medical practitioner, the claim shall contain or be accompanied by a brief statement, signed by the radiologist, setting out his reasons for rendering the services to which the claim relates.
- (3) In the case of a claim by a recognised radiologist, the claim shall also disclose the amount of any additional charge made or proposed to be made to or on account of the patient in respect of the same services.

**12. Revocations**—The following regulations are hereby revoked:

- (a) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941\*:
- (b) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941, Amendment No. 1†:
- (c) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941, Amendment No. 3‡:
- (d) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941, Amendment No. 4§:
- (e) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941, Amendment No. 6||:
- (f) The Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941, Amendment No. 7¶.

\*S.R. 1941/122 (Reprinted with Amendments Nos. 1 to 3: S.R. 1957/141)

†S.R. 1942/14

‡S.R. 1956/99

§S.R. 1959/139

||S.R. 1964/21

¶S.R. 1977/76

## SCHEDULE

### SCALE OF FEES PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF X-RAY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

I. For medical practitioners with absolute recognition as radiologists.  
A. Upper limb and shoulder girdle—

	\$
1. Sternum	4.80
2. Sterno-clavicular joints	4.80
3. Clavicle	3.60
4. Acromio-clavicular joints	3.60
5. Scapula	3.60
6. Shoulder	3.60

SCHEDULE—*continued*A. Upper limb and shoulder girdle—*continued*

	\$
7. Humerus .....	2.40
8. Elbow joint .....	2.40
9. Forearm .....	2.40
10. Hand and/or wrist joint .....	2.40
11. Arthrogram .....	12.00
12. Axillary arteriogram (percutaneous) .....	24.00
13. Subclavian arteriogram (by catheterisation) .....	36.00
14. Tomography plus .....	7.20
15. Upper limb (infant) .....	4.80

## B. Lower limb and pelvic girdle—

	\$
1. Sacro-iliac joints .....	3.60
2. Pelvis .....	2.40
3. Pelvis plus hip joint .....	4.80
4. Pelvis and/or both hip joints .....	6.00
5. Hip joint (2 projections) .....	3.60
6. Femur .....	3.60
7. Knee joint .....	2.40
8. Knee joint plus intercondylar and/or axial projection .....	3.60
9. Leg .....	2.40
10. Ankle joint .....	2.40
11. Ankle joint plus projections in forced inversion and/or eversion .....	3.60
12. Foot .....	2.40
13. Foot plus projection with weight bearing .....	3.60
14. Arthrogram .....	12.00
15. Venogram .....	12.00
16. Femoral arteriogram (percutaneous) .....	24.00
17. Abdominal aortogram .....	30.00
18. Lymphangiogram .....	36.00
19. Tomography plus .....	7.20
20. Lower limb (infant) .....	4.80

## C. Spinal column—

	\$
1. Cervical spine .....	6.00
2. Thoracic spine .....	6.00
3. Lumbar spine plus lumbo-sacral joint .....	6.00
4. Sacro-coccygeal spine .....	6.00
5. Tomography plus .....	7.20
6. Lower thoracic and lumbar spine .....	6.00
7. Cervical and upper thoracic spine .....	6.00
8. Lumbar spine .....	6.00
9. Lumbar spine and sacrum .....	6.00

SCHEDULE—*continued*

## D. Respiratory system—

	\$
1. Nasal sinuses	3.60
2. Naso-pharynx	2.40
3. Mastoids (bilateral)	7.20
4. Larynx	2.40
5. Thoracic inlet	2.40
6. Chest (PA projection)	3.60
7. Chest (with lateral projection)	4.80
8. Thoracic cage	4.80
9. Bronchogram	12.00
10. Bilateral bronchogram	18.00
11. Sinogram	6.00
12. Pneumo-mediastinogram	24.00
13. Pulmonary arteriogram	36.00
14. Thoracic aortogram	36.00
15. A.P. tomography plus	12.00
16. Lateral tomography plus	12.00

## E. Cardio-vascular system—

	\$
1. Chest (PA projection)	3.60
2. Chest (with lateral or other projection)	4.80
3. Chest (with both oblique projections—with or without barium)	6.00
4. Heart screening	3.60
5. Coronary arteriography	36.00
6. Cardiac catheterisation	24.00
7. Angio-cardiography	36.00
8. A.P. tomography plus	12.00
9. Lateral tomography plus	12.00

## F. Alimentary system—

	\$
1. Upper teeth	3.60
2. Lower teeth	3.60
3. Mandible	4.80
4. Temporo-mandibular joints	4.80
5. Salivary gland	4.80
6. Sialogram	9.60
7. Pharynx	2.40
8. Abdomen (single projection)	3.60
9. Abdomen (2 or more projections)	4.80
10. Barium meal (oesophagus)	3.60
11. Barium meal (stomach)	4.80
12. Barium meal (duodenum)	3.60
13. Hypotonic duodenography	6.00
14. Small intestinal meal	12.00
15. Barium enema	14.40
16. Double contrast enema	18.00



SCHEDULE—*continued*F. Alimentary system—*continued*

	\$
17. Oral cholecystogram .....	9.60
18. Intravenous cholecystogram .....	14.40
19. Intravenous cholangiogram .....	12.00
20. Intra-operative cholangiogram .....	12.00
21. T-tube cholangiogram .....	7.20
22. Mesenteric, coeliac or hepatic arteriogram .....	36.00
23. Spleno-portogram .....	24.00
24. Portal venography via arterial route .....	36.00
25. Tomography plus .....	7.20
26. Combined barium meal and oral cholecystogram .....	14.40

## G. Renal system—

	\$
1. Plain renal .....	3.60
2. Intravenous pyelogram .....	14.40
3. Retrograde pyelogram .....	14.40
4. Retrograde cystogram .....	7.20
5. Micturating cysto-urethrogram .....	14.40
6. Ascending urethrogram .....	7.20
7. Renal arteriogram .....	36.00
8. Renal cyst puncture .....	12.00
9. Retro-peritoneal pneumogram .....	24.00
10. Tomography plus .....	7.20
11. Combined intravenous pyelogram and cystourethrogram .....	18.00

## H. Genital system—

	\$
1. Pregnant abdomen (antero-posterior or lateral) .....	3.60
2. Pregnant abdomen (antero-posterior and lateral) .....	4.80
3. Mammogram unilateral .....	7.20
4. Mammogram bilateral .....	10.80
5. Pelvimetry (antero-posterior or lateral) .....	6.00
6. Pelvimetry (antero-posterior and lateral) .....	8.40
7. Placental localisation .....	6.00
8. Placental arteriogram .....	36.00
9. Hystero-salpingogram (performed by radiologist) .....	12.00
10. Hystero-salpingogram (performed by gynaecologist—obstetrician) .....	6.00
11. Amniogram .....	7.20

## J. Nervous system—

	\$
1. Skull .....	6.00
2. Nasal bones .....	3.60
3. Facial bones .....	4.80
4. Optic foramina .....	3.60
5. Dacryocystogram .....	9.60

SCHEDULE—*continued*J. Nervous system—*continued*

	\$
6. Auditory canals .....	3.60
7. Lumbar myelogram .....	12.00
8. Lumbar and thoracic myelogram .....	14.40
9. Lumbar, thoracic, and cervical myelogram .....	16.80
10. Cerebello-pontine cisternogram .....	19.20
11. Carotid arteriogram .....	24.00
12. Bilateral carotid arteriogram .....	36.00
13. Vertebral arteriogram .....	24.00
14. Cerebral arteriography by trans-aortic catheteri- sation .....	36.00
15. Lumbar or cisternal encephalogram .....	24.00
16. Venticulogram .....	24.00
17. Myodil ventriculogram .....	12.00
18. Tomography plus .....	7.20

## K. Miscellaneous—

	\$
1. Domiciliary examination plus .....	18.00
2. Stereoscopic examination plus .....	1.20
3. Opposite side for comparison plus .....	1.20
4. Foreign body—as for area examined .....	Nil
5. Injection fee .....	2.40
6. Fluoroscopy only .....	Nil

II. For medical practitioners with limited recognition as radiologists.  
The benefit to be at 60 percent of the above rates.

P. G. MILLEN,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations consolidate the Social Security (X-ray Diagnostic Services) Regulations 1941 and amendments.

The Schedule to the regulations prescribes a new scale of fees payable by the Department of Health for X-ray diagnostic services provided on or after 1 October 1978.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 22 March 1979.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Health.