

Charges and optical voucher values

1 APRIL 2005

Prescriptions

Wigs and fabric support

Hospital travel costs

Dental treatment

Sight tests

Glasses or contact lenses

The penalty charge

HELP WITH NHS HEALTH COSTS

Need help with paying these charges or getting an optical voucher? Read leaflet [HC11 – help with health costs](#). You can get a copy at Jobcentre Plus offices, NHS hospitals or ask your NHS practitioner. Or go to www.dh.gov.uk and search for HC11.

TAX CREDIT EXEMPTIONS

Working Tax Credit (WTC) Child Tax Credit (CTC)

You can mark NHS treatment forms to say you are entitled to full help with health costs (for example, free prescriptions) because you are entitled to a tax credit exemption certificate if:

- your tax credit award notice shows your gross annual income is £15,050 or less (from 6 April 2005) **and** one of the following also applies:
 - you get both WTC and CTC, or
 - you get WTC on its own which includes a disability element or severe disability element, or
 - you get CTC on its own because you are not eligible for WTC.

What to do before your tax credit certificate arrives

If you are entitled to help with NHS health costs and you need treatment before your certificate arrives, you can sign NHS treatment forms to say you don't have to pay. Tick the box to say you don't have to pay because you are "entitled to, or named on, an NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate". Take your tax credit award when you go for treatment as evidence of entitlement.

THE PENALTY CHARGE

The penalty charge is a civil fine and may be imposed where a patient is found to have wrongly claimed total or partial help with health costs. The penalty charge is 5 times the amount owed, up to a maximum of a £100. This is in addition to the original charge. For example:

Dental costs penalty charge

A patient who wrongly claims free dental treatment when the charge for the course of treatment is £30 will have to pay:

• The original dental charge of	£30
• The maximum penalty charge of	£100
• TOTAL	£130

Prescriptions penalty charge

A patient who wrongly claims free prescription items when the charge is £13.00 will have to pay:

• The original charge of	£13.00
• A penalty charge of	£65.00
• TOTAL	£78.00

If you are entitled to help you won't have to pay penalty charges – this won't affect you.

For further information about penalty charges, go to www.cfsms.uk.

NHS PRESCRIPTION CHARGES

- Charge per prescribed item £6.50

For items dispensed in combination (duo) packs, there is a prescription charge for each different drug in the pack.-

Prescription prepayment certificates (PPC)

Application received on or after 1 April 2005:

- 4 months £33.90
 - 12 months £93.20
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- Support stockings – each £6.50
 - Support tights – per pair £13.00 *

*Available from hospitals only

NHS WIGS AND FABRIC SUPPORTS

- Stock modacrylic wig £53.90
- Partial wig – human hair £142.30
- Full bespoke wig – human hair £208.10
- Abdominal support £33.00
- Spinal support £33.00
- Surgical brassiere £21.80

HOSPITAL TRAVEL COSTS

The maximum you will pay if you live in the Scottish Highlands and Islands or the Scilly Isles is:

- Scottish Highlands and Islands £8.00
- Scilly Isles £5.00

NHS DENTAL TREATMENT from 1 May 2004*

- Basic examination £5.64
- Extensive clinical examination £8.44
- Simple scale and polish £8.88
- Two small X-rays, and one small filling from £9.88
- Two small X-rays, and one large filling from £15.52
- A precious metal crown from £89.24
- Full set of plastic dentures from £122.32
- An upper or lower metal denture from £107.76

You pay eighty percent of the cost of the treatment up to a maximum of £384 if you can't get free treatment or help with the cost. The above are only examples of what you might pay for courses of treatment that start on or after 1 May 2004. The total cost of NHS treatment may be different from these examples because of the number, or types, of treatment involved. If you are registered for Continuing Care with your dentist, you may ask your dentist for a treatment plan. This is provided free of charge and explains what treatment your dentist recommends, the price for each part of the treatment, and the likely total cost.

*These charges may change on 1st May 2005 - information unavailable at time of printing. Check with your dentist for an up to date list of prices.

SIGHT TESTS

- NHS sight test £18.39**
- NHS sight tests at home £50.77**
- Hospital eye department test FREE

**For HC3 purposes only, from 1 April 2005

- Private sight test *see your optician*
- Private sight test at home *see your optician*

NHS VOUCHERS FOR GLASSES & CONTACT LENSES

Optical vouchers

Maximum value per pair of glasses or contact lenses

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| • Single vision | A | £32.90 |
| | B | £50.00 |
| | C | £73.10 |
| | D | £165.00 |
| • Bifocal | E | £56.80 |
| | F | £72.20 |
| | G | £93.60 |
| | H | £181.40 |
| • Hospital eye department | I | £169.00 |
| | J (per lens) | £48.00 |
| • Complex lens – single vision | | £12.40 |
| • Complex lens – bifocal | | £31.30 |

Supplements to vouchers

Where clinically necessary.

- | | | | per lens |
|------------------|---|---------------|------------------------|
| • Prism | P | Single vision | £10.70 |
| | P | Bifocal | £12.80 |
| • Tint | T | Single vision | £3.60 |
| | T | Bifocal | £4.10 |
| • Photochromic | | Single vision | £3.60 |
| | | Other lenses | £4.10 |
| • Special frames | | | per frame up to £54.10 |

Repairs/replacements of glasses or contact lenses

If, exceptionally, you are entitled to a voucher for repair or replacement, its value will be up to the figures shown in this leaflet, depending on the part which needs replacing or repairing.

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