



Dear Colleague

PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES DRUG TARIFF PRT 7 DISPENSING POOL PAYMENT

Purpose

1. This circular advises of changes to the Drug Tariff with respect to remuneration arrangements for dispensing month March 2017, in particular the level of the dispensing pool balancing payment for that month and one off payment to support the purchase of hand held tablet device.

Background

2. This temporary payment adjustment is required to regulate the delivery of the remuneration Global Sum for 2016-17.

3. A reimbursement payment is to be made to those contractors impacted by the measures introduced in circular [PCA \(P\)\(2016\) 13](#).

4. Community pharmacies will be aware, a SWAN wifi capability is being rolled out over the next 6 months to all community pharmacies that are directly connected to the SWAN network. Providing wifi is to enable the use of hand held tablet devices for PCR and other web based applications within the pharmacy.

Detail

5. A change in the Drug Tariff in respect of the month of March dispensing paid May has now been made as follows:

Balancing Dispensing Pool Payment and Reimbursement payment

6. A temporary **dispensing pool balancing payment** is introduced for the dispensing month March 2017 only. The payment to each eligible contractor is calculated as 12% of the base dispensing pool payment – or where it applies the alternative minimum monthly payment. This will be paid as “DP_Balance” adjustment.

13 April 2017

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards
Director of Practitioner
Services, NHS NSS

For information

Directors of Finance, NHS
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7. Circular PCA (P)(2016) 13 notified contractors that a deduction would be made to the fixed element of the fixed element of the O&D payment in respect of Gluten Free Food Service (GFFS). After consideration, contractors will be reimbursed deducted amounts from the GFFS payment for the period September 2016 – December 2016.

8. Eligibility for the dispensing payment is to be on the pharmaceutical list on 1 March 2017 and have a calculated based dispensing payment for that month.

Hand Held Tablet Devices

9. To assist with the purchase of a tablet to be used on the SWAN CP wifi network, the Scottish Government is providing a single one off payment of £200 towards the cost of one device. This payment will be made in the January month payment, due at the end of March. It will be shown on the pharmacy payment eSchedule as an adjustment, marked Wifitablet.

10. Details outlining specification and recommended device type for purchase will be issued separately from the ePharmacy team, NHS National Support Services.

11. Community Pharmacy Scotland has been consulted on the terms of this circular and the Drug Tariff has been amended.

Action

12. NHS Boards are asked to:

- **copy this circular to all community pharmacy contractors on their pharmaceutical lists, Health and Social Care Partnerships and the Area Pharmaceutical Board.**

Yours sincerely,



Rose Marie Parr

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer/

Deputy Director Pharmacy & Medicines Division