



Dear Colleague

NHS OPTICAL VOUCHERS AND COMMUNITY GLAUCOMA SERVICE (CGS):

- **Increase in NHS optical voucher values;**
- **CGS application process in NHS Lanarkshire.**

Summary

1. This letter advises on:
 - Changes to legislation for NHS optical vouchers in Scotland that will increase NHS optical voucher values from 1 June 2023;
 - Phase 3 of the CGS application process, which only applies to NHS Lanarkshire.

Action

2. NHS Boards are asked to immediately copy and issue the Memorandum to this letter to all:
 - optometrists, ophthalmic medical practitioners and body corporates on their Ophthalmic Lists;
 - community optometry practices and dispensing only practices in their NHS Board area;
 - Hospital Eye Service (HES) manager(s) in their NHS Board, for onward distribution to relevant HES colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Ferris

Deputy Director

21 April 2023

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services
Scotland

NHS Board Optometric
Advisers

Enquiries to:

nss.psdgospayteam@nhs.scot
(for any queries relating to the
increase in NHS optical voucher
values)

eyecare@gov.scot (for any
other queries)

**MEMORANDUM TO NHS:
PCA(O)2023(02)**

Summary

1. This Memorandum advises on the following:
 - Changes to legislation for NHS optical vouchers in Scotland that will increase NHS optical voucher values from 1 June 2023;
 - Phase 3 of the Community Glaucoma Service (CGS) application process, which only applies to NHS Lanarkshire.

NHS optical voucher values increase

2. On 21 April 2023 the [National Health Service \(Optical Charges and Payments\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2023](#) (“the 2023 Regulations”) were laid before the Scottish Parliament. The 2023 Regulations will now be subject to scrutiny by the Parliament.
3. When in force, the 2023 Regulations will increase the values of all NHS optical vouchers in Scotland:
 - (for GOS(S)3 and HES(S)3 vouchers) accepted by a supplier on or after 1 June 2023 from a patient for payment or part payment for the supply of an optical appliance;
 - (for GOS(S)4 vouchers) used by a supplier on or after 1 June 2023 as payment or part payment for the repair or replacement of an optical appliance.
4. An NHS optical voucher issued to a patient in Scotland before 1 June 2023 but accepted or used by a supplier on or after 1 June 2023 is therefore to be accepted or used at the new increased amounts. For the avoidance of doubt, the date of acceptance or use of an optical voucher does not mean the date on which the supplier submits an optical voucher payment claim to Practitioner and Counter Fraud Services (P&CFS).
5. Further details of the new NHS optical voucher values are set out in [Appendix A](#).

CGS applications – Phase 3

Background

6. As set out in [PCA\(O\)2022\(06\)](#), the Scottish Government is in the process of working with stakeholders to roll out the CGS across Scotland.

7. As set out in [PCA\(O\)2023\(01\)](#), to date phases 1 and 2 of the CGS application process have taken place. This has applied to all NHS Boards with the exception of NHS Lanarkshire and NHS Orkney.

CGS application process - Phase 3

8. Phase 3 of the CGS application process **applies exclusively to NHS Lanarkshire**.
9. The Scottish Government is currently working with colleagues from primary and secondary care within NHS Lanarkshire to determine the rollout plan for this area.
10. As part of the rollout, applications relating to accredited provider, accredited clinician and assisting accredited clinician status may be submitted to NHS Lanarkshire between **Monday 24 April 2023 and Sunday 7 May 2023 inclusive**.
11. At the current time there is no requirement for additional Independent Prescriber community optometrists in NHS Lanarkshire to achieve NESGAT certification.

How to Apply

12. Application forms for registration as an accredited provider, accredited clinician and assisting accredited clinician are on the [eyes.scot](#) website. Additional information is provided in this area to assist applicants with completing the application process. Applicants are strongly advised to read this before submitting their application.
13. This area of the website holds restricted content not accessible to the general public, and applicants will therefore require specific login details to access it. These details have been provided by your NHS Board.
14. The Scottish Government recognises that participation within the CGS places specific requirements on clinicians and businesses. Interested parties should therefore be fully aware of the commitment they are making when submitting an application, which includes them agreeing to relevant Terms of Service. These can be found in Schedules 2 and 4 of the [Optometry Enhanced Services \(Community Glaucoma Service\)\(Scotland\) Directions 2022](#).

Notification of the outcome of applications – Phase 3

15. Applicants within Phase 3 should be notified regarding the outcome of their application by NHS Lanarkshire **no later than Friday 19 May 2023**.

Patient discharge timelines

16. Details of CGS patient discharge timelines within NHS Lanarkshire will be provided in due course.

Enquiries

17. Any queries relating to the increase in NHS optical voucher values should be emailed to P&CFS at: nss.psdgospayteam@nhs.scot.
18. Any other queries about this Memorandum should be emailed to the Scottish Government at: eyecare@gov.scot.

Dentistry, Optometry and Audiology Division
Directorate for Primary Care
Scottish Government

Appendix A**NHS optical voucher values from 1 June 2023**

Type of optical appliance	Previous value	New value
A. Glasses with single vision lenses of a spherical power of not more than 6 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptres.	£39.90	£41.70
B. Glasses with single vision lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptres but less than 10 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptres; (b) of a spherical power of less than 10 dioptres with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptres but not more than 6 dioptres.	£60.50	£63.20
C. Glasses with single vision lenses of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptres but not more than 14 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptres.	£88.60	£92.60
D. Glasses with single vision lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 14 dioptres with any cylindrical power; (b) of a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptres with any spherical power.	£199.90	£208.90
E. Glasses with bifocal lenses of a spherical power of not more than 6 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptres.	£68.80	£71.90
F. Glasses with bifocal lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptres but less than 10 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptres; (b) of a spherical power of less than 10 dioptres with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptres but not more than 6 dioptres.	£87.30	£91.20
G. Glasses with bifocal lenses of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptres but not more than 14 dioptres with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptres;	£113.40	£118.50
H. Glasses with prism-controlled bifocal lenses of any power or with bifocal lenses- (a) of a spherical power of more than 14 dioptres with any cylindrical power; (b) with a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptres with any spherical power.	£219.80	£229.70
I. (Hospital Eye Service) Glasses not falling within any of categories A-H for which a prescription is given in consequence of a sight test by the Hospital Eye Service.	£204.80	£214.00
J. (Hospital Eye Service) Contact lenses for which a prescription is given in consequence of a sight test by the Hospital Eye Service.	£58.15	£60.75

	Previous value	New value
Complex Lens Voucher (available to patients who have a complex prescription (+/- 10 dioptries or more) but are not eligible for an optical voucher)		
Single Vision	£14.90	£15.55
Bifocal	£38.15	£39.90
Tints/photochromic Lens Supplement (per lens)		
Single Vision	£4.50	£4.70
Bifocal	£5.00	£5.20
Prism (per lens)		
Single Vision	£12.85	£13.45
Bifocal	£15.70	£16.40
Small Glasses Supplement		
	£65.50	£68.45
Special Facial Characteristics Supplement		
	£65.50	£68.45

NHS optical voucher repair or replacement values from 1 June 2023

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
One lens	£12.95	£23.70	£38.40	£96.55	£28.05	£37.70	£51.35	£106.95	£99.10
Two lenses	£25.90	£47.40	£76.80	£193.10	£56.10	£75.40	£102.70	£213.90	£198.20
Front of frame	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25	£13.25
Side of frame	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85	£7.85
Whole frame	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80	£15.80

Note:

Where more than one repair is made to an optical appliance:

- in the case of a repair involving the lenses, the value of this element must not exceed the aggregate of the amounts for replacing two lenses in the above table;
- in the case of a repair involving the frame, the value of this element must not exceed £15.80 (increased from £15.10).

Where the small glasses supplement or special facial characteristics supplement applies, the additional amount payable for repair of:

- the front of the frame is £60.75 (increased from £58.15);
- the side of the frame is £32.80 (increased from £31.40);
- the whole of the frame is £68.45 (increased from £65.50).

Replacement - Contact lenses

If only one of a pair of contact lenses is replaced the voucher value is £60.75 (increased from £58.15). This only applies to clinically necessary contact lenses prescribed by the Hospital Eye Service.