

30<sup>th</sup> March 2026**General Ophthalmic Services****To all Ophthalmic Contractors providing General Ophthalmic services****Please also bring this to the attention of all individual optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners (OMPS) providing General Ophthalmic Services in your practice****INCREASE IN SIGHT TEST, DOMICILIARY VISITING FEES and NI LOCAL and REGIONAL ENHANCED SERVICES PAYABLE TO OPHTHALMIC CONTRACTORS**

The Department of Health (NI), have authorised the Organisation to increase fees payable to Optometrists and Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners for sight testing and domiciliary visits carried out under General Ophthalmic Services. The fees are increased as follows: -

**From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

1. For HS Sight Tests performed by Optometrists or by Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 - £25.52.
2. For HS Domiciliary Sight Test visits carried out by Optometrists or Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 the visiting fee will be - £44.98 for the first and second patients seen at one visit and £11.25 for the third and subsequent patients seen on the same visit.

The Department of Health (NI), have also authorised the Organisation to increase fees payable to Optometrists and Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners for NI local and regional enhanced services. The fees are increased as follows: -

1. For LES 1 performed by Optometrists/Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 - £20.95.

2. For LES 2 performed by Optometrists/Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 - £55.12.
3. For NIPEARS performed by Optometrists/Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 -
  - NIPEARS Face to Face primary (first) assessment: £44.10
  - NIPEARS Face to Face follow up: £16.54
  - NIPEARS Remote Consultation: £27.56. (*This requires prior approval through the usual approval process*).
  - NIPEARS Remote follow up: £16.54. (*This requires prior approval through the usual approval process*).
  - NIPEARS Face to Face follow up resulting from a Remote consultation: £33.07. (*This requires prior approval through the usual approval process*).
  - IOP Review at secondary care request: £20.95. (*Claimed using the Additional Ophthalmic Services e form. This is only for repeat IOPs at the hospital request and doesn't include either requests from GPs for IOP checks in isolation outside of a full eye examination or repeat IOPs for patients being managed under the OHT service*).
4.
  - (1) OHT – Routine Review: £77.17.
  - (2) OHT – Patient Commencing Treatment: £77.17.
  - (3) OHT – Patient Changing Treatment: £77.17.
  - (4) OHT – Repeat Visual Fields (*Where deemed clinically appropriate as per services specification*): £24.25.
  - (5) OHT – Follow-up IOP Check: £20.95.
5. Post Op Cataract Review Service - £36.40

Please note that, the increase to the annual CET grant payable to individual optometrists and OMPs, currently £697, as per the applications for 2025 has been applied to all recent claims.

**Arrears: -**

Arrears will be calculated for services and paid as soon as possible. Any claims already paid will receive arrears backdated from April 2025 when the increased fees became effective.

Ophthalmic Services  
30<sup>th</sup> March 2026