
D I R E C T I O N S

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

The General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Payment in Respect of Electronic Referrals) Direction 2018

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care gives the following Direction as to payments to be made under general medical services contracts in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 87 and 272(7) and (8) of the National Health Service Act 2006(a).

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has consulted in relation to this Direction in accordance with section 87(4) of the National Health Service Act 2006.

Citation and commencement

1. This Direction may be cited as the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Payment in Respect of Electronic Referrals) Direction 2018 and comes into force on the day after the day on which it is signed.

Direction in relation to payments in respect of electronic referrals

2.—(1) The Board must make a one off payment to each contractor in relation to a general medical services contract for the purpose described in paragraph (2) calculated in accordance with paragraph (3).

(2) The purpose described in this paragraph is the transition by the contractor from using a paper based system for referring registered patients to a first consultant-led outpatient appointment for medical services under the 2006 Act to full use by the contractor of the system for electronic referrals known as the NHS e-Referral Service (e-RS) for referrals to all such appointments by 1st October 2018.

(3) Before 1st July 2018 the Board must pay, or ensure that payment is made, to each contractor referred to in paragraph (1) a sum in pounds calculated as follows—

$$0.17xN$$

where N is the weighted population figure for the contractor's practice on 1st January 2018.

(4) In sub-paragraph (2)—

- (a) “2006 Act” means the National Health Service Act 2006;
- (b) “Board” means the National Health Service Commissioning Board(b);
- (c) “contractor” means the provider of medical services under a general medical services contract;

(a) 2006 (c.41). Section 87 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (“the 2006 Act”) was amended by paragraph 33 of Schedule 4 to the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (c.7) (“the 2012 Act”). By virtue of section 271(1) of the 2006 Act, the powers conferred by these sections are exercisable by the Secretary of State only in relation to England.

(b) The National Health Service Commissioning Board (known as “NHS England”) was established by section 1H of the 2006 Act. Section 1H was inserted into the 2006 Act by section 9(1) of the 2012 Act.

- (d) “general medical services contract” means a contract made under section 84(2) of the 2006 Act (general medical services contracts: introductory);
- (e) “practice” has the meaning given in regulation 3 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) Regulations 2015(a); and
- (f) “weighted population figure” means the Contractor Weighted Population Figure (as defined in Part 2 of Annex A of the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlement Directions 2013(b) (definitions)) which is set for each contractor for the purposes of the Global Sum Allocation Formula in Part 1 of Annex B of those Directions.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.



Name: Edward Scully
Member of the Senior Civil Service

Date: 29th March 2018

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- (a) S.I. 2015/1863; as amended by S.I. 2016/211, 696, 875 and 1077 and 2017/908.
 - (b) Those Directions were signed on 27th March 2013 and were amended by the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2013 which were signed on 18th September 2013; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2014 which were signed on 28th March 2014; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No.2) Directions 2014 which were signed on 30th September 2014; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2015 which were signed on 23rd March 2015; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No.2) Directions 2015 which were signed on 28th September 2015; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No.3) Directions 2015 which were signed on 6th October 2015; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No.4) Directions 2015 which were signed on 4th December 2015; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2016 which were signed on 31st March 2016; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No.2) Directions 2016 which were signed on 9th May 2016; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlement (Amendment No.3) Directions 2016 which were signed on 24th November 2016; the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2017 which were signed on 31st March 2017 and the General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.2) Directions 2017 which were signed on 30th October 2017. Copies are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-primary-medical-services-directions-2013> and from the Department of Health and Social Care, Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS.