THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (WALES) ACT
2006

Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of
Financial Entitlements Directions 2013

Made 10 June 2013
Coming into force 11 June 2013

Introduction

1.1 The Welsh Ministers give these Directions as to payments to be made under general medical services contracts in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 45, 203(9) and (10) and 204(1) of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006(a).

1.2 The Welsh Ministers have consulted in accordance with section 45(4) of that Act both with the bodies appearing to the Welsh Ministers to be representative of persons to whose remuneration these Directions relate and with such other persons as the Welsh Ministers think appropriate.

1.3 The title of these Directions is the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlement Directions 2013.

1.4 The Directions include the attached Document SFE/April/2013 and its Annexes and are referred to collectively as “this SFE”. Any reference in this SFE to an Annex means one of those Annexes.

1.5 This SFE replaces the Statement of Financial Entitlements, which came into force on 30 April 2005 as amended by the Directions listed in Annex J, but the Statement of Financial Entitlements 2005 as amended continues to have effect in relation to the matters set out in section 21 of Part 6 of this SFE.

1.6 This SFE is divided into Parts, Sections, paragraphs, sub-paragraphs and heads. A Glossary of some of the words and expressions and definitions of words used in this SFE is provided in Annex A.

1.7 This SFE applies in relation to Wales.

1.8 This SFE may be revised at any time, in certain circumstances with retrospective effect(b).

Application and commencement

2.1 The directions in this SFE are given to the LHBs. This SFE relates to the payments to be made by LHBs to a contractor under a general medical services contract.

(a) 2006 (c.42);
(b) See section 45(3)(e) of the 2006 Act.
2.2 Except as provided in directions 2.3 and 2.4, this SFE comes into force on 11 June 2013 but has effect from 1 April 2013;

2.3 Section 8 (Rotavirus vaccine) and Annex I (routine childhood vaccines and immunisation) in so far as it relates to section 8, comes into force on and has effect from 1 July 2013.

2.4 Section 10 (Shingles immunisation programme) comes into force on and has effect from 1 September 2013.

Signed by Lisa Dunsford, Deputy Director Primary Care, Medical Directorate, Department for Health, Social Services and Children, under the authority of the Minister for Health and Social Services, one of the Welsh Ministers

Date: 10 June 2013
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, WALES

The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

   Part 1
   Global Sum and Minimum Practice Income Guarantee

2. GLOBAL SUM PAYMENTS

   Global Sum Payments: General
   Calculation of a contractor’s first Initial Global Sum Monthly Payment
   Calculation of Adjusted Global Sum Monthly Payments
   First Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments
   Revision of Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments
   Conditions attached to Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments
   Deduction for not achieving 150 points under the Quality & Outcomes Framework
   Contractor Population Index
   Vaccines and Immunisations

3. MINIMUM PRACTICE INCOME GUARANTEE

   Minimum Practice Income Guarantee: General
   Calculation of Global Sum Equivalent
   Calculation of Correction Factor Monthly Payments
   Continuing obligation to pay Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect the period ending 31st March 2014
   Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2008 and ending 31st March 2009
   Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2009 and ending 31st March 2010
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2010 and ending 31st March 2011
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2011 and ending 31st March 2012
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2012 and ending 31st March 2013
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period commencing on 1st April 2013 and ending 31st March 2014
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2014 and ending 31st March 2015.
CFMP of a value of £10 or less
Amount of CFMPs and due date for payment
Practice mergers or splits
Conditions attached to payment of Correction Factor Monthly Payments

Part 2
Quality and Outcomes Framework

4. QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

Background
Types of payments in relation to the QOF
Aspiration Payments
Achievement Payments
The four principal domains of the QOF
Calculation of points in respect of the domains
Calculation common to all domains
Calculations in respect of the clinical domain and the public health domain
Thresholds

5. ASPIRATION PAYMENTS

Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments : General
Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments : the 70% method
Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments : the Aspiration Points Total method
Payment arrangements for Monthly Aspiration Payments
Conditions attached to Monthly Aspiration Payments

6. ACHIEVEMENT PAYMENTS

Basis of Achievement Payments
Assessment of Achievement Payments
Assessment of Achievement Payments where a GMS contract terminates during the financial year
Returns in respect of Achievement Payments
Calculation of Achievement Payments
Recovery where Aspiration Payments have been too high
Accounting arrangements and due date for Achievement Payments
Conditions attached to Achievement Payments

**PART 3**

**DIRECTED ENHANCED SERVICES**

7. **CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATIONS**

   General: Childhood vaccines and immunisations
   Childhood Immunisation Scheme plans
   Target payments in respect of two-year olds
   Calculation of Quarterly Two-Year Olds Immunisation Payment
   Conditions attached to Quarterly Two-Year Olds Immunisation Payments
   Target payments in respect of five-year-olds
   Calculation of Quarterly Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment
   Conditions attached to Quarterly Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment

**PART 4**

**PAYMENTS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES**

8. **ROTA VIRUS VACCINE**

   General
   Payment for administration of rotavirus vaccine
   Eligibility for payment
   Claims for payment
   Conditions attached to payment

9. **PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE AND HIB/MENC BOOSTER VACCINE**

   General
   Payment for administration of PCV vaccine and Hib/MenC vaccine as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule
   Payment for administration of PCV vaccine other than as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule
   Children at increased risk of pneumococcal infection
   Children over the age of 13 months but under the age of 5 years who have previously had invasive pneumococcal disease
   Children with an unknown or incomplete immunisation status
   Eligibility for payment
   Claims for payment
   Conditions attached to payment
10. SHINGLES IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME
   General
   Payment for administration of the Shingles vaccine
   Eligibility for payment
   Claims for payment
   Conditions attached to payment

11. PAYMENTS FOR LOCUMS COVERING MATERNITY, PATERNITY AND ADOPTION LEAVE
   General
   Entitlement to payments for covering ordinary or additional maternity, paternity and ordinary or additional adoption leave
   Ceilings on the amounts payable
   Payment arrangements
   Conditions attached to the amounts payable

12. PAYMENTS FOR LOCUMS COVERING SICKNESS LEAVE
   General
   Entitlement to payments for covering sickness leave
   Ceilings on the amounts payable
   Payment arrangements
   Conditions attached to the amounts payable

13. PAYMENTS FOR LOCUMS TO COVER FOR SUSPENDED DOCTORS
   General
   Eligible cases
   Ceilings on the amounts payable
   Payment arrangements
   Conditions attached to the amounts payable

14. PAYMENTS IN RESPECT OF PROLONGED STUDY LEAVE
   General
   Types of study in respect of which Prolonged Study Leave may be taken
   Educational Allowance Payment
   Locum cover in respect of doctors on Prolonged Study Leave
   Payment arrangements
   Conditions attached to the amounts payable

15. SENIORITY PAYMENTS
   General
   Eligible posts
Service that is Reckonable Service
Calculation of years of Reckonable Service
Determination of the relevant dates
Calculation of the full annual rate of Seniority Payments
Superannuable Income Fractions
Amounts payable
Conditions attached to the payment of Quarterly Seniority Payments

16. DOCTORS’ RETAINER SCHEME

General
Payments in respect of sessions undertaken by members of the Scheme
Provisions in respect of leave arrangements
Payment conditions

17. DISPENSING

General
Costs in respect of which reimbursement is payable
Personally administered drugs and appliances, and those used for diagnosis
Products not covered by this Section
Deductions in respect of charges
Contractors unable to obtain discounts
Contractors that are to receive special payments
Preconditions before payments under this Section are payable
Payment arrangements
Accounting obligations

18. DISPENSARY SERVICES QUALITY SCHEME

Dispensary Services Quality Payments: General
Eligibility for Dispensary Services Quality Payments
Calculation of Dispensary Services Quality Payments
Conditions attached to Dispensary Services Quality Payments
Accounting arrangements and date payment is due
Part payment of Dispensary Services Quality Payments in special circumstances
Provisions relating to contractors whose practices merge
Provisions relating to contractors whose practices split
Discretionary matters

PART 5
SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

19. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Overpayments and withheld amounts
Underpayments and late payments
Payments on account
Payments to or in respect of suspended doctors whose suspension ceases
Effect on periodic payments of termination of a GMS contract
Time limitation for claiming payments
Dispute resolution procedures
Protocol in respect of locum cover payments
Adjustment of Contractor Registered Populations

20. SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The LHB’s responsibilities in respect of contractors’ employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions
Monthly deductions in respect of superannuation contributions
End-year adjustments
Locums practitioners
Recovery of unpaid contributions

PART 6
TRANSITIONAL, REVOCATION AND SAVING PROVISIONS

21. Transitional provisions
Revocations
Savings

ANNEXES

A. Glossary
B. Global Sum
C. Temporary Patients Adjustment
D. Quality and Outcomes Framework
E. Calculation of Additional Services Sub-domain of the Public Health Domain Achievement Points
F. Adjusted Practice Disease Factor Calculations
G. Dispensing Payments
H. Dispensary Services Quality Scheme
I. Routine childhood vaccines and immunisations
J. Amendments to the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013 which came into force on 11 June 2013
PART 1 – GLOBAL SUM AND MINIMUM PRACTICE INCOME GUARANTEE

Section 2: GLOBAL SUM PAYMENTS

Global Sum Payments: General

2.1. Global Sum Payments are a contribution towards the contractor’s costs in delivering essential and additional services, including its staff costs. Although the Global Sum Payment is notionally an annual amount, it is to be revised quarterly and a proportion paid monthly.

Calculation of a contractor’s first Initial Global Sum Monthly Payment

2.2. At the start of each financial year or, if a GMS contract starts after the start of the financial year, from the date on which the GMS contract takes effect, LHBs must calculate for each contractor its first Initial Global Sum Monthly Payment (“Initial GSMP”) value for the financial year. This calculation is to be made by first establishing the contractor’s Contractor Registered Population (CRP)—

(a) at the start of the financial year; or
(b) if the contract takes effect after the start of the financial year, on the date on which the GMS contract takes effect.

2.3. Once the contractor’s CRP has been established, this number is to be adjusted by the Global Sum Allocation Formula, a summary of which is included in Annex B of this SFE. From 1 April 2015, the resulting figure which is the contractor’s Weighted Population for the quarter, is to be multiplied by £82.11.

2.4. Then, the LHB will need to add the total produced by paragraph 2.3 to the annual amount of the contractor’s Temporary Patients Adjustment. The method of calculating contractors’ Temporary Patients Adjustments is set out in Annex C. The resulting amount is then to be divided by twelve, and the resulting amount from that calculation is the contractor’s first Initial GSMP for the financial year.

Calculation of Adjusted Global Sum Monthly Payments

2.5. If, where a first Initial GSMP for the financial year has been calculated, the relevant GMS contract stipulates that the contractor is not to provide one or more of the Additional Services listed in column 1 of the Table in this paragraph, the LHB is to calculate an Adjusted GSMP for that contractor as follows. If the contractor is not going to provide—

(a) one of the Additional Services listed in column 1 of the Table, the contractor’s Adjusted GSMP will be its Initial GSMP reduced by the percentage listed opposite the service it is not going to provide in column 2 of the Table;
(b) more than one of the Additional Services listed in column 1 of the Table, an amount is to be deducted in respect of each service it is not going to provide. The value of the deduction for each service is to be calculated by reducing the contractor’s Initial GSMP by the percentage listed opposite that service in column 2 of the Table, without any other deductions from the Initial GSMP first being taken into account. The total of all the deductions in respect of each service is then deducted from Initial GSMP to produce the Adjusted GSMP.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Services</th>
<th>Percentage of Initial GSMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cervical Screening Services</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Health Surveillance</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments

2.6. Once the first value of a contractor’s Initial GSMP, and where appropriate Adjusted GSMP have been calculated, the LHB must determine the gross amount of the contractor’s Payable GSMP. This is its Initial GSMP or, if it has one, its Adjusted GSMP. The net amount of a contractor’s Payable GSMP, i.e. the amount actually to be paid each month, is the gross amount of its Payable GSMP minus any monthly deductions in respect of superannuation determined in accordance with Section 20 (superannuation contributions – see paragraphs 20.6 and 20.7 and 20.13).

2.7. The LHB must pay the contractor its Payable GSMP, thus calculated, monthly (until it is next revised). The Payable GSMP is to fall due on the last day of each month. However, if the contract took effect on a day other than the first day of a month, the contractor’s Payable GSMP in respect of the first part-month of its contract is to be adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing—

(a) the number of days during the month in which the contractor was under an obligation under its GMS contract to provide the Essential Services; by
(b) the total number of days in that month.

Revision of Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments

2.8. The amount of the contractor’s Payable GSMP is thereafter to be reviewed—

(a) at the start of each quarter;
(b) if there are to be new Additional Services opt-outs (whether temporary or permanent);
(c) if the contractor is to start or resume providing specific Additional Services that it has not been providing; or
(d) if the amount specified in paragraph 2.3 is changed.

2.9. Whenever the Payable GSMP needs to be revised, the LHB will first need to calculate a new Initial GSMP for the contractor (unless this has not changed). This is to be calculated in the same way as the contractor’s first Initial GSMP (as outlined in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.4 above), but using the most recently established CRP of the contractor (the number is to be established quarterly).

2.10. Any deductions for Additional Services opt-outs are then to be calculated in the manner described in paragraph 2.5. If the contractor starts or resumes providing specific Additional Services under its GMS contract to patients to whom it is required to provide essential services, then any deduction that had been made in respect of those services will need to be reversed. The resulting amount (if there are to be any deductions in respect of Additional Services) is the contractor’s new (or possibly first) Adjusted GSMP.

2.11. Once any new values of the contractor’s Initial GSMP and Adjusted GSMP have been calculated, the LHB must determine the gross amount of the contractor’s new Payable GSMP. This is its (new) Initial GSMP or, if it has one, its (new or possibly first) Adjusted GSMP. The net amount of a contractor’s Payable GSMP, i.e. the amount actually to be paid each month, is the gross amount of its Payable GSMP minus any monthly deductions in respect of superannuation determined in accordance with section 20 (see paragraphs 20.6 and 20.13).

2.12. Payment of the new Payable GSMP must (until it is next revised) be made monthly, and it is to fall due on the last day of each month. However, if a change is made to the Additional
Services that a contractor is under an obligation to provide and that change takes effect on any day other than the first day of the month, the contractor’s Payable GSMP for that month is to be adjusted accordingly. Its amount for that month is to be the total of —

(a) the appropriate proportion of its previous Payable GSMP. This is to be calculated by multiplying its previous Payable GSMP by the fraction produced by dividing—

(i) the number of days in the month during which it was providing the level of services based upon which its previous Payable GSMP was calculated, by

(ii) the total number of days in the month; and

(b) the appropriate proportion of its new Payable GSMP. This is to be calculated by multiplying its new Payable GSMP by the fraction produced by dividing—

(i) the number of days left in the month after the change to which the new Payable GSMP relates takes effect, by

(ii) the total number of days in the month.

2.13. Any overpayment of Payable GSMP in that month as a result of the LHB paying the previous Payable GSMP before the new Payable GSMP has been calculated is to be deducted from the first payment in respect of a complete month of the new Payable GSMP. If there is an underpayment for the same reason, the shortfall is to be added to the first payment in respect of a complete month of the new Payable GSMP.

Conditions attached to Payable Global Sum Monthly Payments

2.14. Payable GSMPs, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to calculate the contractor’s Payable GSMP;

(b) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System, and do so promptly and fully;

(c) the contractor must immediately notify the LHB if for any reason it is not providing (albeit temporarily) any of the services it is under an obligation to provide under its GMS contract; and

(d) all information supplied to the LHB pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

2.15. If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any or any part of a Payable GSMP that is otherwise payable.

Deduction for not achieving 150 points under the Quality and Outcomes Framework

2.16. It is also a condition of every contractor’s Payable GSMPs that it achieves, in relation to each financial year in which it receives Payable GSMPs, an Achievement Points Total of at least 150, whether or not it participated in the Quality and Outcomes Framework. If it breaches this condition, the LHB must withhold from the contractor the amount produced by multiplying—

(a) 150; by

(b) the amount specified in paragraph 6.8 as the value of each Achievement Point in a calculation of an Achievement Payment for the financial year to which the Achievement Points Total relates; by

(c) the contractor’s Contractor Population Index that is, or would be, used for the calculation of any Achievement Payment due to the contractor in respect of that financial year (the contractor will, in any event, receive an Achievement Payment in respect of the points it does score for that financial year, pursuant to Section 6).
2.17. However, if the contractor’s GMS contract either takes effect during or is terminated before the end of, that financial year, the amount to be withheld pursuant to paragraph 2.16 is to be adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing the number of days during which the financial year for which its GMS contract had effect by 365 (or 366 where the financial year includes 29th February).

**Contractor Population Index**

2.18. The Contractor Population Index (CPI) of a contractor, mentioned in paragraph 2.16(c), is the contractor’s most recently established CRP divided by the NARP.

2.19. The value of a QOF point will be recalculated each year after the NARP has been established and will apply to the following financial year, subject to any uplift that may or may not be applied. The revised QOF point value is to be calculated by multiplying the current financial years QOF point value by the fraction produced by dividing the newly established NARP that will apply for the following financial years by the NARP that applies to the current financial year. The calculation can be expressed as:

\[
\text{Revised QOF point value for the following financial year} = \frac{\text{Current financial year QOF point value} \times \text{Newly established NARP for the following financial year}}{\text{Current Year NARP}}
\]

**Section 3: MINIMUM PRACTICE INCOME GUARANTEE**

**Minimum Practice Income Guarantee: General**

3.1 The Minimum Practice Income Guarantee (MPIG) is based on the historic revenue of General Practitioners (GPs) comprising the contractor from the list in Annex D of the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements for 2004/5 which came into force on 19 April 2004 (“2004/5 SFE”) (essentially the Red Book fees and allowances) and was essentially designed to protect those income levels (a).

3.2 MPIG calculations are one-off calculations made in respect of contractors whose GMS contracts took effect, or which were treated as taking effect for payment purposes, on 1st April 2004. Nevertheless, an explanation of how MPIG calculations were originally undertaken has been retained in this SFE for reference purposes. The basis of an MPIG calculation was one year aggregate of the protected income amounts mentioned in paragraph 3.1, which produced the contractor’s Initial Global Sum Equivalent (GSE), which was then adjusted to produce first its Adjusted GSE and then its Final GSE.

**Calculation of Global Sum Equivalent**

3.3 In respect of contracts which took effect, or which were treated as taking effect for payment purposes, on 1st April 2004, in order to calculate a contractor’s GSE, a calculation was first made of its Initial and Adjusted GSE. This was done by the LHB—

(a) on the basis of information obtained by it from the contractor about payments to the contractor (or GPs comprising the contractor) under the Red Book, and in particular in the year preceding 1st July 2003; and

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(a) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements 2004/5 was replaced by the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements which came into force on 30 April 2005.
3.4 Whether any adjustments were in fact necessary to the Initial GSE, the final total produced as a result of the calculation in accordance with Annex D of the 2004/5 SFE was known as the contractor’s Adjusted GSE. That amount was then subject to three further adjustments—
   (a) the amount was increased by 2.85% to bring prices in respect of the year ending 30th June 2003 up to 31st March 2004 levels (i.e. rebasing for the financial year 2003 to 2004); then
   (b) the sub-paragraph (a) amount was increased by 1.47% to take account of projected price increases in respect of the financial year 2004 to 2005 (i.e. rebasing for the financial year 2004 to 2005); then
   (c) the sub-paragraph (b) amount was added to the contractor’s GSE Superannuation Adjustment. This was an adjustment to take account of an additional 7% employer’s superannuation contributions in respect of practice staff as a result of a Treasury transfer. The contractor’s GSE Superannuation Adjustment was its weighted population for the first quarter of the financial year 2004 to 2005 multiplied by £1.46.

   The resulting amount was the contractor’s Final GSE.

Calculation of Correction Factor Monthly Payments

3.5 The contractor’s Final GSE was then compared to the paragraph 2.3 total (paragraph 2.3 of the 2005 SFE) in respect of the contractor. In the financial year 2004 to 2005, a contractor’s paragraph 2.3 total was the annual amount of its first Initial Global Sum Payment, minus its Temporary Patients Adjustments and minus two adjustments in that financial year which have since been discontinued: a Superannuation Premium and an Appraisal Premium. From that paragraph 2.3 total was subtracted any Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment to which the contractor was entitled.

3.6 A contractor was entitled to the Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment if—
   (a) between 1st July 2002 and 1st April 2004, the GPs comprising the contractor had not been providing, within GMS services, services which as far as possible were equivalent to one or more of the Additional or Out of Hours Services listed in the Table in paragraph 2.5 of the 2005 SFE; and
   (b) the contractor would not be providing those services in the financial year 2004 to 2005.

3.7 The amount of the contractor’s Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment was calculated as follows. If the contractor was claiming an Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment in respect of —
   (a) one of the Additional or Out of Hours Services listed in column 1 of the Table in paragraph 2.5 of the 2005 SFE, the value of the contractor’s Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment was the amount by which its paragraph 2.3 total would be reduced if it was reduced by the percentage listed opposite that service in column 2 of the Table; and
   (b) more than one of the Additional or Out of Hours Services listed in column 1 of the Table in paragraph 2.5 of the 2005 SFE, the value of the contractor’s Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment was to include an amount in respect of each service. The value of the amount for each service was the amount by which the contractor’s paragraph 2.3 total would be reduced if it was reduced by the percentage listed opposite that service in column 2 of the Table, without any other deductions from the paragraph 2.3 total first being taken into account. The total of all the amounts in respect of each service was then aggregated to produce the final amount of the contractor’s Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment.

3.8 Accordingly, a contractor’s paragraph 2.3 total, minus any Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment to which it was entitled, was its Global Sum Comparator.

3.9 If the contractor’s Final GSE was less than its Global Sum Comparator, a Correction Factor was not payable in respect of that contractor. However, if its Final GSE was greater than its
Global Sum Comparator, Correction Factor Monthly Payments (“CFMPs”) had to be paid by the LHB to the contractor under its GMS contract. The amount of the CFMPs payable was the difference between the contractor’s Final GSE and its Global Sum Comparator, divided by twelve.

Continuing obligation to pay Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period ending on 31st March 2013

3.10 At the start of each financial year, LHBs determined which of their contractors were entitled to CFMPs. Generally these were—

(a) the contractors to which CFMPs were payable at the end of the previous financial year and which are still in existence at the start of the new financial year; and

(b) any contractors affected by a partnership merger or split whose contract takes effect at the start of the financial year and who, by virtue of paragraphs 3.16 to 3.19 of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31 March 2013 were entitled to receive CFMPs calculated in accordance with those paragraphs.

3.11 The baseline monthly figure amount for the calculation of a contractor’s CFMP for a new financial year was established as follows—

(a) in the case of a contractor affected by a partnership merger or split that takes effect at the start of the financial year, if, by virtue of paragraphs 3.16 to 3.19 of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31st March 2013, the contractor becomes entitled to CFMPs, or the amount of its CFMPs is to change, a calculation must first be made of the amount to which it would have been entitled as a CFMP in the previous financial year, had the merger or split taken effect then, and that amount is to be the baseline monthly figure amount for the calculation of its CFMPs for the new financial year; or

(b) in all other cases, the baseline monthly figure amount for the calculation of a contractor’s CFMPs for the new financial year is the monthly figure for any CFMP that was payable at the end of the previous financial year.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2008 and ending 31st March 2009

3.12 The baseline monthly figure amount of CFMP payable, as calculated in accordance with the provisions set out in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.9 of the 2005 SFE, was revised during the financial year commencing on 1st April 2008 and ending on 31st March 2009 in accordance with amending directions which came into force on 1st October 2008. Following such revision, in some cases CFMP ceased to be payable with effect from 1st October 2008. In some cases, a revised CFMP was established which became the CFMP payable with effect from 1st October 2008.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2009 and ending 31st March 2010

3.13 The baseline monthly figure amount of CFMP payable, as calculated in accordance with the provisions set out in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.9 of the 2005 SFE, was revised during the period commencing on 1st April 2009 and ending on 31st March 2010 in accordance with the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment (No.4) and Specification of National Minimum Uplift) Directions 2009, which came into force on 30th June 2009 but had effect from 1st April 2009.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2010 and ending 31st March 2011

3.14 Once the existing baseline monthly figure amount of a contractor’s CFMPs had been established, that amount was reviewed and, if necessary, revised for the period commencing on 1st April 2010 and ending on 31st March 2011, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.12A to 3.12C of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31st March 2011.
Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2011 and ending 31st March 2012

3.15 Once the existing baseline monthly figure amount of a contractor’s CFMPs had been established, that amount was reviewed and, if necessary, revised for the period commencing on 1st April 2011 and ending on 31st March 2012, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.13 of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31st March 2012.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2012 and ending 31st March 2013

3.16 Once the existing baseline monthly figure amount of a contractor’s CFMPs had been established, that amount was reviewed and, if necessary, revised for the period commencing on 1st April 2012 and ending on 31st March 2013, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.13 as in force on 31st March 2013.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1st April 2013 and ending 31st March 2014

3.17 In respect of the period commencing on 1st April 2013 and ending on 31st March 2014, the LHB must review the baseline monthly figure amount in respect of a contractor’s CFMP (which is the monthly figure for any CFMP that was payable at the end of the previous financial year) and uprate that amount by 3.55% which is the percentage by which the first amount specified in paragraph 2.3 is uprated at or for the start of the financial year.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1 April 2014 and ending 30 September 2014

3.17A In respect of the period commencing on 1 April 2014 and ending on 30 September 2014, the LHB must review the baseline monthly figure amount in respect of a contractor’s CFMP (which is the monthly figure for any CFMP that was payable at the end of the previous financial year) and uprate that amount by 4.8% which is the percentage by which the first amount specified in paragraph 2.3 is uprated for the start of the financial year.

Review and revision of the baseline monthly figure amount for Correction Factor Monthly Payments in respect of the period 1 October 2014 and ending 31 March 2015

3.17B In respect of the period commencing on 1 October 2014 and ending on 31 March 2015 the LHB must review the baseline monthly figure amount in respect of a contractor’s CFMP (which is the monthly figure for any CFMP that was payable at the end of the previous financial year) and uprate that amount by 2.2% which is the percentage by which the second amount specified in paragraph 2.3 is uprated for the period 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015;

CFMP of a value of £10 or less

3.18 No CFMP must be paid in the case where the value of the CFMP payable to the contractor, as calculated in accordance with paragraph 3.17, is equal to or less than £10.

Amount of CFMP and due date for payment

3.19 Except where paragraph 3.18 applies, in respect of the period commencing on 1st April 2014 and ending on 31st March 2015, the amount of a contractor’s CFMP is to be the revised baseline monthly figure as calculated in accordance with paragraph 3.17A.

3.20 CFMPs fall due on the last day of each month.
3.21 Thereafter throughout the new financial year, unless the contractor is subject to a partnership merger or split, the amount of the contractor’s CFMPs is to remain unchanged, even if the amount of the contractor’s Payable GSMP changes.

**Practice mergers or splits and Correction Factor Monthly Payments**

3.22 Except as provided for in paragraphs 3.23 to 3.27, a contractor with a GMS contract which takes effect, or is treated as taking effect for payment purposes, after 1st April 2004 will not be entitled to CFMPs.

3.23 If—

(a) a new contractor comes into existence as the result of a merger between one or more other contractors; and

(b) that merger led to the termination of GMS contracts and the agreement of a new GMS contract,

the new contractor is to be entitled to a CFMP that is the total of any CFMPs payable under the terminated GMS contracts.

3.24 If—

(a) a new contractor comes into existence as the result of a partnership split of a previous contractor (including a split in order to reconstitute as a company limited by shares); and

(b) at least some of the members of the new contractor were members of the previous contractor; and

(c) the split led to the termination of the previous contractor’s GMS contract,

the new contractor will be entitled to a proportion of any CFMP payable under the terminated contract. The proportions are to be worked out on a pro rata basis, based upon the number of patients registered with the previous contractor (i.e. immediately before its contract is terminated) who will be registered with the new contractor when its new contract takes effect.

3.25 However, where a contractor that is a company limited by shares becomes entitled to CFMPs as a consequence of a partnership split in order to reconstitute as a company limited by shares, entitlement is conferred exclusively on that company and is extinguished if that company is dissolved. Following such dissolution, discretionary payments under section 53 of the 2006 Act, equivalent to correction factor payments, could be made by the LHB to a new contractor to whom the extinguished company’s patients are transferred. Such payments may be appropriate, for example, where a group of providers in a partnership become a company limited by shares and then again a partnership, but all the while they continue to provide essentially the same services to essentially the same number of patients.

3.26 If—

(a) a new GMS contract is agreed by a contractor which has split from a previously established contractor; but

(b) the split did not lead to the termination of the previously established contractor’s GMS contract,

the new contractor will not be entitled to any of the previously established contractor’s CFMP unless, as a result of the split, an agreed number, or a number ascertainable by the LHB for the contractors, of patients have transferred to the new contractor at or before the end of the first full quarter after the new GMS contract takes effect.

3.27 If such a transfer has taken place, the previously established contractor and the new contractor are each to be entitled to a proportion of the CFMP that has been payable under the previously established contractor’s GMS contract. The proportions are to be worked out on a pro rata basis. The new contractor’s fraction of the CFMP will be—

(a) the number of patients transferred to it from the previously established contractor; divided by
(b) the number of patients registered with the previously established contractor immediately before the split that gave rise to the transfer.

And the previously established contractor’s CFMP is to be reduced accordingly.

**Conditions attached to payment of Correction Factor Monthly Payments**

3.28 CFMPs, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must make available any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to calculate the contractor’s CFMP; and

(b) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

3.29 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any or any part of a CFMP that is otherwise payable.

**Contractors entitlement to Practice Support Monthly Payments**

3.30 At the start of the 2015/16 financial year, LHBs must determine which of their contractors are entitled to Practice Support Monthly Payments.

3.31 A contractor is entitled to Practice Support Monthly Payments if the amount of CFMP paid in respect of the period 1/4/14 and ending 31/3/15 is greater than 15% of the sum of CFMP and GSMP paid in respect of the period 1/4/14 and ending 31/3/15.

3.32 A contractor entitled to PSMP will receive the difference between 15% of the sum of CFMP and GSMP paid in respect of the period 1/4/14 and ending 31/3/15 and CFMP paid in respect of the period 1/4/14 and ending 31/3/15 divided by 12.

3.33 The calculation of PSMP can be expressed as:

\[ \text{PSMP} = \text{CFMP} - 15\% \times \text{CFMP} + \text{GSMP} \]

3.34 Where a contractor is entitled to a PSMP, the payments will fall due on the last day of each month. Where the value of the PSMP payable to a contractor, as calculated in accordance with paragraphs 3.31 to 3.33, is equal to or less than £10.00, no PSMP will be paid to that contractor.

**Practice mergers or splits and Practice Support Monthly Payments**

3.34A Except as provided for in paragraphs 3.34B to 3.34F, a contractor with a GMS contract which takes effect, or is treated as taking effect for payment purposes, after 1st April 2015 will not be entitled to PSMPs.

3.34B If -

(c) a new contractor comes into existence as the result of a merger between one or more contractors; and

(d) that merger led to the termination of GMS contracts and the agreement of a new GMS contract,

the new contractor is entitled to a PSMP that is the total of any PSMP payable under the terminated GMS contracts.

3.34C If -
(a) a new contractor comes into existence as the result of a partnership split of a previous contractor (including a split in order to reconstitute as a company limited by shares);

(b) at least some of the members of the new contractor were members of the previous contractor; and

(c) the split led to the termination of the previous contractor’s GMS contract,

the new contractor will be entitled to a proportion of any PSMP payable under the terminated contract. The proportions are to be worked out on a pro rata basis, based upon the number of patients registered with the previous contractor (i.e. immediately before its contract is terminated) who will be registered with the new contractor when its new contract takes effect.

3.34D However, where a contractor that is a company limited by shares becomes entitled to PSMPs as a consequence of a partnership split in order to reconstitute as a company limited by shares, entitlement is conferred exclusively on that company and is extinguished if that company is dissolved. Following such dissolution, discretionary payments under section 53 of the 2006 Act, equivalent to PSMPs, could be made by the LHB to a new contractor to whom the extinguished company’s patients are transferred. Such payments may be appropriate, for example, where a group of providers in a partnership become a company limited by shares and then again a partnership, but all the while they continue to provide essentially the same services to essentially the same number of patients.

3.34E If —

(a) a new GMS contract is agreed by a contractor which has split from a previously established contractor; but;

(b) the split did not lead to the termination of the previously established contractor’s GMS contract,

the new contractor will not be entitled to any of the previously established contractor’s PSMP unless, as a result of the split, an agreed number, or a number ascertainable by the LHB for the contractors, of patients have transferred to the new contractor at or before the end of the first full quarter after the new GMS contract takes effect and in which case the PSMP is calculated in accordance with paragraph 3.34F.

3.34F If such a transfer has taken place, the previously established contractor and the new contractor are each to be entitled to a proportion of the PSMP that has been payable under the previously established contractor’s GMS contract. The proportions are to be worked out on a pro rata basis. The new contractor’s fraction of the PSMP will be –

(a) the number of patients transferred to it from the previously established contractor; divided by

(b) the number of patients registered with the previously established contractor immediately before the split that gave rise to the transfer.

And the previously established contractor’s PSMP is to be reduced accordingly.

Conditions attached to payment of Practice Support Monthly Payments

3.34G PSMPs, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must make available any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to calculate the
contractor’s PSMP; and
(b) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

3.34H If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any or any part of a PSMP that is otherwise payable.”

Erosion of Minimum Practice Income Guarantee commencing on 1st April 2015

3.35 In respect of the financial year which commences on 1 April 2015, LHBs must calculate the CFMP as follows.

3.36 Paragraphs 3.5 to 3.17B do not apply.

3.37 Where a contractor is entitled to a CFMP in accordance with 3.17A and 3.17B for the period commencing 1 April 2014 and ending 31 March 2015, the value of that CFMP is an amount referred to as A.

3.38 Where a contractor is entitled to a PSMP in accordance with paragraph 3.31, the value of that PSMP is an amount referred to as B.

3.39 The amount A less the amount B is an amount referred to as C. The amount C is to be divided by 7 to produce an amount D.

3.40 Accordingly, the the CFMP for the financial year which commenced on 1 April 2015 and ended on 31 March 2016, each eligible contractor received a CFMP equal to the value of C less the value of D.

3.41 The calculation of CFMP for the financial years from 1 April 2016 up to and including 1 April 2020 is as follows -

a) On 1st April 2016 and ending 31 March 2017, each eligible contractor will receive a CFMP equal to the value of C less twice the value of D;

b) On 1st April 2017 and ending 31 March 2018, each eligible contractor will receive a CFMP equal to the value of C less three times the value of D;

c) On 1st April 2018 and ending 31 March 2019, each eligible contractor will receive a CFMP equal to the value of C less four times the value of D;

d) On 1st April 2019 and ending 31 March 2020, each eligible contractor will receive a CFMP equal to the value of C less five times the value of D;

e) On 1st April 2020 and ending 31 March 2021, each eligible contractor will receive a CFMP equal to the value of C less six times the value of D;

3.42 Where a contractor is entitled to a CFMP, the payments will fall due on the last day of each month.

3.43 Where the value of the CFMP payable to a contractor, as calculated in accordance with paragraphs 3.37 to 3.41, is equal to or less than £10.00, no CFMP will be paid to that contractor.

3.44 For the financial year 1 April 2021 and ending 31 March 2022, and subsequent financial years, no contractor will be entitled to a CFMP.
PART 2 – QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

Section 4: GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ACTIVE CLINICAL DOMAIN AND CLUSTER NETWORK DOMAIN OF THE QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

Background

4.1 The Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) is set out in Annex D to this SFE.

4.2 Participation in the QOF is voluntary. Information on what is required to accomplish the task or achieve the outcome included in each indicator is set out in Annex D. Additional Guidance on the rationale for indicators, best practice, establishing evidence and verification is published by Welsh Government and can be obtained on www.wales.nhs.uk/gms.

4.3 This Section explains the types of payments in relation to the QOF and sets out the mechanism for measuring achievement payments in respect of indicators for the current financial year – see paragraphs 4.7 to 4.17.

Types of payments in relation to the QOF

4.4 Essentially, there are two types of payments that are made in relation to the QOF: Aspiration Payments (see also section 5) and Achievement Payments (see also section 6).

Aspiration Payments

4.5 Aspiration payments are, in effect, a part payment in advance in respect of achievement under the QOF, and may be calculated using one of two different methods—

(a) a calculation based on 70% of the contractor’s previous year’s Unadjusted Achievement Payment; or

(b) a calculation based on the total number of points that a contractor has agreed with the LHB that it is aspiring towards under the QOF during the financial year in respect of which the Aspiration Payment is made. This total is the contractor’s Aspiration Points Total. The points available are set out in the QOF indicators in Annex D, which have numbers of points attached to particular indicators.

4.6 If a contractor is to have an Aspiration Points Total, this is to be agreed between the contractor and the LHB—

(a) at the start of the financial year; or

(b) if the contractor’s GMS contract takes effect after the start of the financial year, no later than the date the contractor’s GMS contract takes effect.

Achievement Payments

4.7 Achievement Payments are payments based on the points total that the contractor achieves under the QOF – as calculated, generally speaking (see paragraph 6.2), on the last day of the financial year or the date on which its contract terminates (see paragraph 6.3) – this points total is its Achievement Points Total. The payments are to be made in respect of all Achievement points actually achieved, whether or not the contractor was seeking to achieve those points, but the final amount also takes into account the deduction of the Aspiration Payments that the contractor has received in respect of the same financial year.

The two principal domains of the QOF

4.8 The QOF is divided into two principal domains, which are—

(a) the Active Clinical Domain (“ACD”);
4.8A There is also an Inactive Clinical Domain – see Section 4A.

Calculation of points in respect of the domains

4.9 Each domain contains areas for which there are a number of indicators set out in tables in Section 2 (summary of QOF indicators) and Section 4 of Annex D. These indicators contain standards (tasks or thresholds) against which the performance of a contractor will be assessed. An explanation of these standards and the calculation relating to these standards are set out in paragraph 4.10 to 4.18.

Calculation common to all domains

4.10 Some of the indicators simply require particular tasks to be accomplished (e.g. the production of disease registers), and the standards contained in those indicators do not have, opposite them in the table of indicators, percentage figures for Achievement Thresholds. The points available in relation to these indicators which require tasks to be undertaken are only obtainable (and then in full) if the task is accomplished. What is required to accomplish these tasks is set out in Section 2 of Annex D.

Calculations in respect of the ACD (excluding the cervical screening additional service)

4.11 Other indicators relating to the ACD domain have designated Achievement Thresholds. The contractor’s performance against the standards set out in these indicators is assessed by a percentage – generally of the patients suffering from a particular disease in respect of whom a specific task is to be performed or a specific outcome recorded (referred to as “Fraction” indicators – see for example paragraph D.9 of Section 1 of Annex D). Two percentages are set in relation to each indicator—

(a) a minimum percentage of patients, which represents the start of the scale (i.e. with a value of zero points); and

(b) a maximum percentage of patients, which is the lowest percentage of eligible patients in respect of whom the task must be performed or outcome recorded in order to qualify for all the points available in respect of that indicator.

4.12 If a contractor has achieved a percentage score in relation to a particular indicator that is the minimum set for that indicator, or is below that minimum, it achieves no points in relation to that indicator. If a contractor has achieved a percentage score in relation to a particular indicator that is between the minimum and the maximum set for that indicator, it achieves a proportion of the points available in relation to that indicator. The proportion is calculated as follows.

4.13 First, a calculation will have to be made of the percentage the contractor actually scores (D). This is calculated from the following fraction: divide—

(a) the number of patients registered with the contractor in respect of whom the task has been performed or outcome achieved (A); by

(b) the number produced by subtracting from the total number of patients registered with the contractor with the relevant medical condition (B), the total number of patients who fall within the meaning of excepted patients and the total number of patients who fall within the meaning of excluded patients (C).

4.14 For the purposes of paragraph 4.13—

(a) “excepted patients” means patients who fall within the criteria for exception reporting as set out in paragraph D.11 – D.17 of Section 1 of Annex D; and

(b) “excluded patients” means patients who are on the relevant disease register or target group and are referred to in paragraph D12 of Section 1 of Annex D but are not included in an indicator denominator for the clinical area concerned.
4.15 The fraction derived from the calculation in paragraph 4.11 is then multiplied by 100 for the percentage score. The calculation can be expressed as—

\[ \frac{A}{B-C} \times 100 = D \]

4.16 Once the percentage the contractor actually scores has been calculated (D), subtract from this the minimum percentage score set for that indicator (E), then divide the result by the difference between the maximum (F) and minimum (E) percentage scores set for that indicator, and multiply the result of that calculation by the total number of points available in relation to that indicator (G). This can be expressed as—

\[ \frac{(D-E)}{(F-E)} \times G \]

4.17 The result is the number of points to which the contractor is entitled in relation to that indicator.

4.18 Calculation of the Cervical Screening Additional Service is set out in Annex E

Section 4A: GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE INACTIVE CLINICAL DOMAIN OF THE QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

General

4A.1 The Inactive Clinical Domain indicators can be found at Section 3 of Annex D. The calculation of Achievement Points for the Inactive Clinical Domain indicators will be based on the Achievement Points for those particular indicators in the 2016/2017 financial year used for payment purposes. As outlined in the CND at Section 4 of Annex D, contractors will peer review Inactive Clinical QOF indicators in order to gain assurance on standards.

4A.2 The contractor must ensure that it is able to provide any information which the LHB may reasonably request in relation to the Inactive Clinical Domain indicators for monitoring purposes. Information will be collected from GP clinical systems and sent to CM Web. Contractors will engage in peer review through the Cluster Networks to gain assurance on standards on elements of the Inactive Clinical QOF. Indicators DM 002, DM 003, DM 007, DM 012, DM 014, COPD 002, COPD 003 and COPD 005 will be subject to peer review during 2017/2018. The peer review will be undertaken through Cluster Networks which is an element of CND (CND 011W). Other indicators designated as “Inactive” may also be considered for peer review if specific cause for concern is identified.

Payments

4A.3 Contractors will be entitled to payment for the Inactive Clinical Domain indicators based on the Achievement Points used for payment for those particular indicators in the 2016/2017 financial year.

4A.4 Those points for the Inactive Clinical Domain will be calculated in the same way as for the ACD and CND under Section 4 and Section 6 at the current financial year’s prevalence and QOF point value.

Assessment of Achievement Payments where a GMS contract terminates during the financial year

4A.5 In a case where a GMS contract terminates before the end of the financial year, the last date in the financial year that the contractor is required to provide essential services under their GMS
contract is the date to be used in the previous financial year to identify the proportional points to be used for the calculation for payment purposes under paragraph 4A.4. For example, a contract terminates on 31 August of the relevant financial year, a contractor would then receive 5/12ths of their previous year’s Achievement Points Total.

Practice Mergers or Splits

4A.6 It is at the LHB’s discretion as to how the previous financial years’ Achievement Payment for the Inactive Clinical Domain are handled whilst ensuring it does not cause detriment to any of the practices. LHBs may wish to consider making discretionary payments in certain circumstances.

Section 5: ASPIRATION PAYMENTS: CALCULATION, PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CONDITIONS OF PAYMENTS

Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments: General

5.1 At the start of each financial year (or if a GMS contract starts after the start of the financial year, the date on which the GMS contract takes effect) subject to paragraph 5.2(b), the LHB must calculate for each contractor that has agreed to participate in the QOF the amount of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for that, or for the rest of that, financial year.

5.2 As indicated in paragraph 4.5 above, there are two methods by which a contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments may be calculated. Each contractor may choose the method by which its Monthly Aspiration Payments are calculated, if it is possible to calculate Monthly Aspiration Payments in respect of the contractor by both methods. However—

(a) if it is only possible to calculate a Monthly Aspiration Payment in respect of the contractor by basing the calculation on an Aspiration Points Total, that is the method which is to be used; and

(b) if the contractor’s GMS contract is to take effect on or after 2nd February but before 1st April, no Aspiration Points Total is to be agreed for the financial year into which that 2nd February falls, so the contractor will not be able to claim Monthly Aspiration Payments in that financial year. However, the contractor will nevertheless be entitled to Achievement Payments under the QOF if that contractor participates in the QOF.

Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments: the 70% method

5.3 Where—

(a) the contractor’s GMS contract took effect before the start of the financial year in respect of which the claim for Monthly Aspiration Payments is made; and

(b) in respect of the previous financial year the contractor was entitled to an Achievement Payment under this SFE,

that contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments may be calculated using the 70% method.

5.4 To calculate a contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments by the 70% method, the contractor’s Unadjusted Achievement Payment for the previous year needs to be established (that is, the total established under paragraph 6.9 (calculation of achievement payments) of this SFE). Generally, this will not be possible in the first quarter of the financial year, and so a Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment will need to be established by the LHB. The amount of this payment is to be based on the contractor’s return submitted in accordance with paragraph 6.3 of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31st March 2013 or paragraph 6.4 (returns in respect of Achievement Payments) of this SFE.
5.5 In practice, therefore, the amount of the contractor’s Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment will be a provisional value for the contractor’s Unadjusted Achievement Payment.

5.6 Once an annual amount for the contractor’s Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment has been determined, this is to be multiplied by the QOF Uprating Index for the financial year. The QOF Uprating Index is to be determined by dividing—

(a) the amount set out in paragraph 6.8 as the value of each Achievement Point for the financial year in respect of which the claim for Monthly Aspiration Payments is being made; by

(b) the amount set out in paragraph 6.8 as the value of each Achievement Points for the previous financial year,

and the resultant figure is to be multiplied by the CPI.

5.7 The total produced by paragraph 5.6 is then to be multiplied by 70%. This figure is then further multiplied by the figure which is the product of the maximum number of points available under the QOF for the financial year in respect of which the calculation is being made divided by the maximum number of points available under the QOF in the previous financial year.

5.8 Once the correct amount of the contractor’s Achievement Payment in respect of the previous financial year has been established, the amount of the Monthly Aspiration Payments of a contractor whose payments were calculated using a Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment is to be revised. First, the difference between the contractor’s Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year using the Unadjusted Achievement Payment and Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year calculated using the contractor’s Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment is to be established. If this figure is zero, there is to be no change to the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the rest of the financial year.

5.9 If contractor’s Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year using the Unadjusted Achievement Payment is lower than the Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year calculated using the contractor’s Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment, the difference between the two is to be divided by the number of complete months left in the financial year after the actual Achievement Payment is paid. The amount produced by that calculation is to be deducted from each of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments in respect of those complete months, thus producing the revised amount of that contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the rest of the financial year.

5.10 If the contractor’s Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year using the Unadjusted Achievement Payment is higher than the Total Aspiration Payment for the financial year calculated using the contractor’s Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment, the difference between the two is to be divided by the number of complete months left in the financial year after the actual Achievement Payment is paid. The amount produced by that calculation is to be added to each of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments in respect of those complete months, thus producing the revised amount of that contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the rest of the financial year.

**Calculation of Monthly Aspiration Payments: the Aspiration Points Total method**

5.11 Any contractor who is participating in the QOF may instead have their Monthly Aspiration Payments calculated by the Aspiration Points Total method, provided that the contractor’s GMS contract takes effect before 2nd February in the financial year in respect of which the claim for Monthly Aspiration Payments is made.

5.12 If the contractor is to have its Monthly Aspiration Payments calculated by this method, at the start of each financial year – or if a GMS contract starts after the start of the financial year, on the date on which the GMS contract takes effect – an Aspiration Points Total is to be agreed between the contractor and the LHB. As indicated in paragraph 4.5(b) above, an Aspiration Points Total is the total number of points that the contractor has agreed with the LHB that it is aspiring towards under the QOF during the financial year in respect of which the Aspiration Payment is made.
5.13 If the LHB and the contractor have agreed an Aspiration Points Total for the contractor, that total is to be divided by three. The resulting figure is to be multiplied by £167.96 and then by the contractor’s CPI, which produces the annual amount of the contractor’s Aspiration Payment. This is then to be divided by twelve for what, subject to paragraph 6.12 (recovery where Aspiration Payments have been too high), is to be the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payment, as calculated by the Aspiration Points Total method.

**Payment arrangements for Monthly Aspiration Payments**

5.14 If, as regards any financial year, a contractor could have its Monthly Aspiration Payments calculated by either the 70% method or the Aspiration Points Total method, it must choose the method by which it wishes its Monthly Aspiration Payments to be calculated. Once the contractor has made that choice, the contractor cannot change that choice during that financial year.

5.15 The LHB must pay the contractor under the contractor’s GMS contract its Monthly Aspiration Payment monthly. The Monthly Aspiration Payment is to fall due on the last day of each month. However, if the contractor’s contract took effect on a day other than the first day of a month, the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payment in respect of that first part month (which will have been calculated by the Aspiration Points Total method) is to be adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing—

(a) the number of days during the month in which the contractor was participating in the QOF; by

(b) the total number of days in that month.

5.16 The amount of a contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments is thereafter to remain unchanged throughout the financial year, even when the contractor’s CPI changes or if the contractor ceases to provide an Additional Service and as a consequence is less likely to achieve the Aspiration Points Total that has been agreed.

**Conditions attached to Monthly Aspiration Payments**

5.17 Monthly Aspiration Payments, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) as regards Monthly Aspiration Payments which are, or are to be, calculated by the Aspiration Points Total method—

(i) the contractor’s Aspiration Points Total on which the Payments are based must be realistic and agreed with the LHB, and

(ii) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerized or otherwise) to the LHB in such manner as the LHB may reasonably require, and do so promptly and fully;

(b) the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to calculate the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments;

(c) a contractor utilising computer systems approved by the LHB must make available to the LHB aggregated monthly returns relating to the contractor’s achievement of the standards contained in the indicators in the QOF, and in the standard form provided for by such systems;

(d) a contractor not utilising computer systems approved by the LHB must make available to the LHB similar monthly returns, in such form as the LHB may reasonably request (for example, the LHB may reasonably request that a contractor fill in manually a printout of the standard spreadsheet in a form specified by the LHB); and

(e) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.
5.18 If the contractor breaches any of the conditions referred to in paragraph 5.17, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any or any part of a Monthly Aspiration Payment that is otherwise payable.

Section 6: ACHIEVEMENT PAYMENTS: CALCULATION, PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CONDITIONS OF PAYMENTS

Basis of Achievement Payments

6.1 Achievement Payments are to be based on the Achievement Points to which a contractor is entitled each financial year, as calculated in accordance with this Section and Section 4.

Assessment of Achievement Payments

6.2 Subject to paragraph 6.3, the date in respect of which the assessment of achievement points is to be made is the last day of the financial year.

Assessment of Achievement Payments where a GMS contract terminates during the financial year

6.3 In a case where a GMS contract terminates before the end of the financial year, the assessment of the Achievement Points to which the contractor is entitled is to be made in respect of the last date in the financial year on which that contractor is required under the contractor’s GMS contract to provide essential services.

Returns in respect of Achievement Payments

6.4 In order to make a claim for an Achievement Payment, a contractor must make a return in respect of the information required by the LHB in order for the LHB to calculate the contractor’s Achievement Payment. Where a GMS contract terminates before the end of the financial year, a contractor may make a return at the time the contract terminates in respect of the information necessary to calculate the Achievement Payment to which the contractor is entitled in respect of that financial year.

6.5 On the basis of that return but subject to any revision of the Achievement Points Totals that the LHB may reasonably see fit to make to correct the accuracy of any points total, the LHB must calculate the contractor’s Achievement Payment as follows.

Calculation of Achievement Payments

6.6 The parts of the Achievement Payment that relate to the ACD, (other than the parts referred to in paragraph 6.7) are calculated as follows—

(a) the Achievement Points Total for the cervical screening additional service is to be assessed in accordance with Annex E, and a calculation is to be made of the cash total in respect of that domain in the manner set out in that Annex; and

(b) where there is a disease register in respect of an indicator, first a calculation needs to be made of an Adjusted Practice Disease Factor for each disease area. The sum from this calculation is then multiplied by £167.96 and by the contractor’s Achievement Points Total in respect of the disease area to produce a cash amount for that disease area. Then the cash totals in respect of all the individual disease areas in the domain are to be added together to give the cash total in respect of the domain.

A fuller explanation of the calculation of Adjusted Practice Disease Factors, and of the provisions that apply in the case of a GMS contract that only has effect for part of a financial year, is given in Annex F (Adjusted Practice Disease Factor Calculations).
6.7 The part of the Achievement Payment that relates to the palliative care indicator in the ACD must be calculated by multiplying the total number of Achievement Points gained by the contractor by £167.96.

6.8 As regards all the other Achievement Points gained by the contractor, including those under the CND, the total number of Achievement Points is to be multiplied by £167.96.

6.9 The cash totals produced under paragraphs 6.6 and 6.8 are then added together and multiplied by the contractor’s CPI, calculated in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2.18—

(a) at the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates;

(b) if its GMS contract takes effect after the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates, on the date its GMS contract takes effect; or

(c) if its GMS contract has been terminated, its CPI at the start of the quarter during which its GMS contract was terminated.

The cash total produced as a consequence of this paragraph is the Unadjusted Achievement Payment for the purposes of calculating aspiration payments for the following financial year.

6.10 If the contractor’s GMS contract had effect—

(a) throughout the financial year, the resulting amount is the interim total for the contractor’s Achievement Payment for the financial year; or

(b) for only part of the financial year, the resulting amount is to be adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing the number of days during the financial year for which the contractor’s GMS contract had effect by 365 (or 366 where the financial year includes 29th February), and the result of that calculation is the interim total for the contractor’s Achievement Payment for the financial year.

6.11 From these interim totals, the LHB needs to subtract the total value of all the Monthly Aspiration Payments made to the contractor under its GMS contract in the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates. The resulting amount (unless it is a negative amount or zero, in which case no Achievement Payment is payable) is the contractor’s Achievement Payment for that financial year.

Recovery where Aspiration Payments have been too high

6.12 If the resulting amount from the calculation under paragraph 6.11 is a negative amount, that negative amount, expressed as a positive amount (“the paragraph 6.11 amount”), is to be recovered by the LHB from the contractor in one of two ways—

(a) to the extent that it is possible to do so, the paragraph 6.11 amount is to be recovered by deducting one twelfth of that amount from each of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the financial year after the financial year to which the paragraph 6.10 amount relates. In these circumstances—

(i) the gross amount of its Monthly Aspiration Payments for accounting and superannuation purposes in the financial year after the financial year to which the paragraph 6.11 amount relates is to be the amount to which the contractor is otherwise entitled under paragraphs 5.3 to 5.10 or paragraph 5.11 to 5.13, and

(ii) the paragraph 6.11 amount is to be treated for accounting and superannuation purposes as an overpayment in respect of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the financial year to which the paragraph 6.10 amount relates; or

(b) if it is not possible to recover all or part of the paragraph 6.11 amount by the method described in sub paragraph (a) (for example, because of the termination of the GMS contract after a partnership split), the amount that cannot be so recovered is to be treated as an overpayment in respect of the contractor’s Monthly Aspiration Payments for the year to which the paragraph 6.10 amount relates, and is to be recovered accordingly (i.e. in accordance with paragraph 19.1).
Accounting arrangements and due date for Achievement Payments

6.13 The contractor’s Achievement Payment, as calculated in accordance with paragraph 6.11 is to be treated for accounting and superannuation purposes as gross income of the contractor in the financial year into which the date in respect of which the assessment of Achievement Points on which the Achievement Payment is based (“the relevant date”) falls and the Achievement Payment is to fall due—

(a) where the GMS contract terminates before the end of the financial year into which the relevant date falls (see paragraph 6.3), at the end of the quarter after the quarter during which the GMS contract was terminated, and

(b) in all other cases, at the end of the first quarter of the financial year after the financial year into which the relevant date falls (see paragraph 6.2).

Conditions attached to Achievement Payments

6.14 Achievement Payments, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must make the return required of it under paragraph 6.4;

(b) the contractor must ensure that all the information that it makes available to the LHB in respect of the calculation of its Achievement Payment is based on accurate and reliable information, and that any calculations it makes are carried out correctly;

(c) the contractor must ensure that it is able to provide any information that the LHB may reasonably request of it to demonstrate that it is entitled to each Achievement Point to which it says it is entitled, and the contractor must make that information available to the LHB on request;

(d) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the LHB in such manner as the LHB may reasonably require, and do so promptly and fully;

(e) the contractor must co-operate fully with any reasonable inspection or review that the LHB or another relevant statutory authority wishes to undertake in respect of the Achievement Points to which it says it is entitled; and

(f) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

6.15 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or part of an Achievement Payment that is otherwise payable.

PART 3 - IMMUNISATIONS

SECTION 7: CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATIONS

General: Childhood vaccines and immunisations

7.1 Childhood vaccines and immunisations are classified as Additional Services. If the contractor is providing these additional services to registered patients, the LHB must seek to agree a Childhood Immunisation Scheme. As part of the Childhood Immunisation Scheme, the Childhood Immunisation Scheme plan as specified in direction 5(2)(a) to (g) of the DES Directions forms part of the contractor’s GMS contract. This Section sets out the mechanism under which the payments will be payable only in respect of that part of the Childhood Immunisation Scheme referred to in direction 5 of the DES Directions. Contractors which provide childhood vaccines and immunisations as part of additional services under a GMS contract are required to offer to provide the vaccines and immunisations of the type and in the circumstances which are set out in Annex I.
Childhood Immunisation Scheme plans

7.2 Paragraphs 7.3 to 7.24 set out the payment mechanism in respect of Childhood Immunisation plans.

Target payments in respect of two-year-olds

7.3 The LHB must pay to a contractor under that contractor’s GMS contract a Quarterly Two-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment ("Quarterly TYOIP") if it qualifies for that payment. A contractor qualifies for that payment if, on the first day of a quarter—

(a) the contractor has, as part of its GMS contract, a Childhood Immunisations Scheme plan which has been agreed with the LHB; and

(b) subject to paragraph 7.4 as regards the cohort of children, established on that day, who are registered with the contractor and who are aged two (i.e. who have passed their second birthday but not yet their third), by the end of that quarter at least 70%, for the lower payment, or at least 90%, for the higher payment, have completed the recommended immunisation courses (i.e. those that have been recommended nationally and by the World Health Organisation) for protection against—

(i) diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, pertussis and Haemophilus influenza type B (HiB);

(ii) measles/mumps/rubella; and

(iii) Meningitis C.

7.4 In establishing whether the required percentage of the cohort of children referred to in paragraph 7.3 have completed the recommended immunisation courses referred to in that paragraph, the LHB is not required to determine whether any of that cohort have received the Hib/MenC booster vaccine recommended in the provisions set out in Annex I for the administration around the age of 12 months. The administration of that Hib/MenC booster vaccine is not a requirement for payment under this Section.

Calculation of Quarterly Two-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment

7.5 The LHB will first need to determine the number of completed immunisation courses that are required over the three disease groups in paragraph 7.3 (b) in order to meet either the 70% or 90% target. To do this the contractor will need to provide the LHB with the number of two-year-olds (A) whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of the quarter in respect of which the contractor is seeking payment (this is the cohort of children in respect of whom the calculation is to be made), and then the LHB must make the following calculations—

(a) \( (0.7 \times A \times 4) = B_1 \) (the number of completed immunisation courses needed to meet the 70% target); and

(b) \( (0.9 \times A \times 4) = B_2 \) (the number of completed immunisation courses needed to meet the 90% target).

7.6 The LHB will then need to calculate which, if any, target was achieved. To do this, the LHB will also need from the contractor the number of children in the cohort of children in respect of whom the calculation is to be made who, by the end of the quarter to which the calculation relates, have completed immunisation courses in each of the three disease groups \( (C_1 + C_2 + C_3) \). In this section, \( C_1 \) is the number of children in the cohort who have completed the immunisation course in respect of the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(ii); \( C_2 \) is the number of children in the cohort who have completed the immunisation course in respect of the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(i) and \( C_3 \) is the number of children in the cohort who have completed the immunisation course in respect of the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(iii). Only completed immunisation courses (whether or not carried out by the contractor) are to count towards the determination of whether or not the targets are achieved. No adjustment is to be made for exception reporting. A calculation (which provides for an additional weighting factor of 2 to
be given to immunisation courses in respect of the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(i)) is then to be made of whether or not the targets are achieved –

(a) if \((C_1 \times 2) + C_2 + C_3 \geq B_1\), then the 70% target is achieved; and

(b) if \((C_1 \times 2) + C_2 + C_3 \geq B_2\), then the 90% target is achieved.

7.7 Next the LHB will need to calculate the number of the completed immunisation courses, notified under paragraph 7.13(b)(ii), that the contractor can use to count towards achievement of the targets (D). To do this, the contractor will need to provide the LHB with a breakdown of how many immunisation courses in each disease group were completed before the end of the quarter to which the calculation relates by a completing immunisation administered, within the National Health Service (and not necessarily during the quarter to which the calculation relates), by—

(a) the Contractor;

(b) another GMS contractor as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “GMS contractor” includes a contractor providing services under section 42 of the 2006 Act, section 84 of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under a contractor providing services under section 17J of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under Article 57 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972);

(c) a PMS contractor as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “PMS Contractor” includes a contractor providing services under section 50 of the 2006 Act, a contractor providing services under section 92 of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under section 17C of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under Article 15B of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972);

(d) an Alternative Provider Medical Services contractor (“APMS contractor”) as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “APMS contractor” includes a contractor providing services under arrangements made under section 41 of the 2006 Act, section 83(2) of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under arrangements made under a contractor providing services under section 2C(2) of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under arrangements made under Article 56(2)(b) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972); or

(e) a Local Health Board Medical Services practice as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with such a practice which provided services under arrangements made under section 41(2) of the 2006 Act, section 83(2)(a) of the National Health Service Act 2006 (before the coming into force of section 34 (abolition of Primary Care Trusts) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) or Article 56(2)(a) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (such arrangements in Northern Ireland being referred to as Health and Social Services Board Medical Services).

7.8 For the purpose of paragraph 7.7 and paragraph 7.9, an immunisation course is considered as being completed when the final immunisation needed to complete the immunisation course (“the completing immunisation”) is administered.

7.9 Once the LHB has that information, (D) is to be calculated as follows –

\[
D = C_1 \times 2 - E_1 \times 2 + C_2 - E_2 + C_3 - E_3
\]

For these purposes –

- \((E_1^n)\) is the number of completed immunisation courses in each disease group where the completing immunisation was carried out other than by
a contractor or practice of a type specified in, and under the circumstances specified in, any of the paragraphs 7.7(a) to (e) (e.g. for the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(i), E1);

(a) \((C^N)\) is the number of children in the cohort of children in respect of whom the calculation is to be made who have completed the immunisation course in respect of a particular disease group (e.g. for the diseases referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(i), (C1);

(b) in the case of the disease group referred to in paragraph 7.3(b)(i), the value of \((C1 \times 2) - (E1 \times 2)\) can never be greater than \((A \times 2) \times 0.7\) or 0.9 (depending on which target achieved); where it is, it is treated as the result of: \(A \times 0.7\) or, as the case may be, 0.9.

7.10 The maximum amounts payable to a contractor will depend on the number of children aged two whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of each quarter compared with the average UK number of such children per 5000 population, which is 63. The maximum amounts payable to the contractor \((F)\) are therefore to be calculated as follows –

(a) where the 70% target is achieved: \((F^1) = \frac{A \times £735.08}{63}\); or

(b) where the 90% target is achieved: \((F^2) = \frac{A \times £2,205.25}{63}\)

7.11 The Quarterly TYOIP payable to the contractor is thereafter calculated as a proportion of the maximum amounts payable as follows –

\[
F^1 \text{ or } F^2 \times \frac{D}{B^1 \text{ or } B^2} = \text{Quarterly TYOIP}
\]

7.12 The amount payable as a Quarterly TYOIP is to fall due on the last day of the quarter after the quarter in respect of which the contractor is seeking payment (i.e. at the end of the quarter after the last quarter in which immunisations were carried out that could count towards the targets). However, if the contractor delays providing the information the LHB needs to calculate its Quarterly TYOIP beyond the LHB’s cut-off date for calculating quarterly payments, the amount is to fall due at the end of the next quarter (that is, just under nine months after the cohort was established). No Quarterly TYOIP is payable if the contractor provides the necessary information more than four months after the final date for immunisations which could count towards the payment.

Conditions attached to Quarterly Two-Year-Olds Immunisation Payments

7.13 Quarterly TYOIPs, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must meet its obligations under its Childhood Immunisations Scheme plan;

(b) the contractor must make available to the LHB sufficient information to enable it to calculate the contractor’s Quarterly TYOIP. In particular, the contractor must supply the following figures—

(i) the number of two-year-olds whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of the quarter in respect of which a payment is claimed;

(ii) how many of those two-year-olds have completed each of the recommended immunisation courses (i.e. that have been recommended nationally and by the World Health Organisation) for protection against the disease groups referred to in paragraph 7.3(b) by the end of the quarter in respect of which a payment is claimed; and

(iii) of those completed immunisation courses, how many were carried out by a contractor or practice of a type specified in, and under the circumstances specified in, any of the paragraphs 7.7(a) to (e); and
all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

7.14 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or part of a Quarterly TYOIP that is otherwise payable.

Target payments in respect of five-year-olds

7.15 The LHB must pay to a contractor under its GMS contract a Quarterly Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment ("Quarterly FYOIP") if it qualifies for that payment. A contractor qualifies for that payment if, on the first day of a quarter—
(a) the contractor has, as part of its GMS contract, a Childhood Immunisations Scheme plan which has been agreed with the LHB; and
(b) as regards the cohort of children, established on that day, who are registered with the contractor and who are aged five (i.e. who have passed their fifth birthday but not yet their sixth), by the end of that quarter at least 70%, for the lower payment, or at least 90%, for the higher payment, have received all the recommended reinforcing doses (i.e. those that have been recommended nationally and by the World Health Organisation) for protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and poliomyelitis.

Calculation of Quarterly Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payments

7.16 The LHB will first need to determine the number of completed immunisation courses that are required over the three disease groups in paragraph 7.3(b) in order to meet either the 70% or 90% target. To do this the contractor will need to provide the LHB with the number of five-year-olds (A) whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of the quarter in respect of which the contractor is seeking payment (this is the cohort of children in respect of whom the calculation is to be made), and then the LHB must make the following calculations—
(a) \((0.7 \times A) = B^1\) (the number of completed booster courses needed to meet the 70% target); and
(b) \((0.9 \times A) = B^2\) (the number of completed booster courses needed to meet the 90% target).

7.17 The LHB will then need to calculate which, if any, target was achieved. To do this, the LHB will also need from the contractor the number of children in the cohort of children in respect of whom the calculation is to be made who, by the end of the quarter to which the calculation relates, have completed the booster courses required (C). Only completed booster courses (whether or not carried out by the contractor) are to count towards the determination of whether or not the targets are achieved. No adjustment is to be made for exception reporting. A calculation is then to be made of whether or not the targets are achieved—
(a) if \(C \geq B^1\), then the 70% target is achieved; and
(b) if \(C \geq B^2\), then the 90% target is achieved.

7.18 Next the LHB will need to calculate the number of the completed courses, notified under paragraph 7.23(b)(ii), that the contractor can use to count towards achievement of the targets (D) the initial value of which is \((C)\) minus the number of children whose completed courses were not carried out by a contractor or practice of a type specified in, or under the circumstances specified in, any of the paragraphs (a) to (e) below. To do this, the contractor will need to provide the LHB with a breakdown of how many of the completed courses were carried out before the end of the quarter to which the calculation relates by a completing course administered, within the National Health Service (and not necessarily during the quarter to which the calculation relates), by—
(a) the Contractor;
(b) another GMS contractor as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “GMS contractor” includes a contractor providing services under section 42 of the 2006 Act, a contractor providing services under section 84 of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under...
section 17J of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under Article 57 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972);

(c) a PMS contractor as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “PMS Contractor” includes a contractor providing services under section 50 of the 2006 Act, a contractor providing services under section 92 of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under section 17C of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under Article 15B of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972);

(d) an Alternative Provider Medical Services contractor (“APMS contractor”) as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with that contractor (where the term “APMS contractor” includes a contractor providing services under arrangements made under section 41(2)(b) of the 2006 Act, a contractor providing services under arrangements made under section 83(2) of the National Health Service Act 2006, a contractor providing services under section 2C(2) of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act 1978 or a contractor providing services under arrangements made under Article 56(2)(b) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972); or

(e) a Local Health Board Medical Services practice as part of primary medical services to a patient who was at that time registered with such a practice which provided services under arrangements made under section 41(2)(a) of the 2006 Act (such arrangements in Wales being referred to as Local Health Board Medical Services), a Primary Care Trust Medical Services practice under section 83(2)(a) of the National Health Service Act 2006 (before the coming into force of section 34 (abolition of Primary Care Trusts) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012), or Article 56(2)(a) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (such arrangements in Northern Ireland being referred to as Health and Social Services Board Medical Services).

7.19 If $D > B^1$ or $B^2$ (depending on the target achieved), then $D$ is adjusted to equal the value of $(B^1)$ or $(B^2)$ as appropriate.

7.20 The maximum amounts payable to a contractor will depend on the number of children aged five whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of each quarter compared with the average UK number of such children per 5000 population, which is 63. The maximum amounts payable to the contractor (E) are therefore to be calculated as follows—

(a) where the 70% target is achieved: $E^1 = \frac{A \times £227.70}{63}$

(b) where the 90% target is achieved: $E^2 = \frac{A \times £683.06}{63}$

7.21 The Quarterly FYOIP payable to the contractor is thereafter calculated as a proportion of the maximum amounts payable as follows—

$$E^1 \text{ or } E^2 \times \frac{D}{B^1 \text{ or } B^2} = \text{Quarterly FYOIP}$$

7.22 The amount payable as a Quarterly FYOIP is to fall due on the last day of the quarter after the quarter in respect of which the contractor is seeking payment (i.e. at the end of the quarter after the last quarter in which completed courses were carried out that could count towards the targets). However, if the contractor delays providing the information the LHB needs to calculate its Quarterly FYOIP beyond the LHB’s cut-off date for calculating quarterly payments, the amount is to fall due at the end of the next quarter (that is, just under nine months after the cohort was established). No Quarterly FYOIP is payable if the contractor provides the necessary information more than four months after the final date for immunisations which could count towards the payment.
Conditions attached to Quarterly Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payments

7.23 Quarterly FYOIPs, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must meet its obligations under its Childhood Immunisations Scheme plan;
(b) the contractor must make available to the LHB sufficient information to enable the LHB to calculate the contractor’s Quarterly FYOIP. In particular, the contractor must supply the following figures—

(i) the number of five-year-olds whom it is under a contractual obligation to include in its Childhood Immunisations Scheme Register on the first day of each quarter in respect of which a payment is claimed;
(ii) how many of those five-year-olds have received the complete course of recommended reinforcing doses (i.e. that have been recommended nationally and by the World Health Organisation) for protection against the diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and poliomyelitis by the end of the quarter in respect of which a payment is claimed; and
(iii) of those completed courses, how many were carried out by a contractor or practice of a type specified in, and under the circumstances specified in, any of the paragraphs 7.18(a) to (e); and
(c) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

7.24 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or any part of any Quarterly FYOIP that is otherwise payable.

PART 4 - PAYMENTS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Section 8: ROTAVIRUS VACCINE

General

8.1 Section 8 makes provision in respect of payments to be made in respect of the administration of the rotavirus vaccine by a contractor. A contractor may be contracted to provide the childhood vaccines and immunisations which are classified as Additional Services. The rotavirus vaccine is part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule (see Annex I) and therefore falls within the childhood vaccines and immunisations which are classified as Additional Services.

8.2 References in Section 8 to the age of a child expressed in months are references to calendar months. A reference made to a vaccine being administered at or around a certain age in this Section, is an indication of the recommended schedule for administration of the vaccine (a). The specific timing of the administration of the vaccine, which should be within the parameters of the recommended childhood immunisation schedule, is a matter for the clinical judgement of the relevant health care professional.

Payment for administration of rotavirus vaccine

8.3 The LHB must pay a contractor who qualifies for the payment, a payment of £9.80 in respect of each child registered with the contractor who receives a completed course of immunisation (as set out below) as part of their routine childhood immunisation schedule.

8.4 A payment is to be made only where the course of immunisation is complete and where the contractor has administered the second and final vaccine in accordance with the Table—

(a) See “Immunisation against infectious diseases – The Green Book”.

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When to immunise | How vaccine is given
---|---
2 months | One oral dose
3 months | One oral dose

8.5 Where the vaccine status of the child is incomplete and the contractor vaccinates the child by giving—
(a) the final completing dose at least one month following the administration of the first dose; and
(b) the second dose of the vaccine to the child before the child reaches the age of 24 weeks, the LHB must pay a contractor in accordance with paragraph 8.3.

8.6 Where the vaccine status of a child is unknown (a) and the contractor vaccinates the child by giving—
(a) the final completing dose of the vaccine at least one month following the administration of the first dose (which must have been given before the child reaches the age of 15 weeks); and
(b) the second dose of the vaccine to the child before that child reaches the age of 24 weeks, the LHB must pay contractor in accordance with paragraph 8.3.

8.7 Where the vaccine status of the child is unknown and the child is unable to receive the first dose before the age of 15 weeks, no vaccine should be given and a contractor is not eligible for any payment under this Section.

Eligibility for payment

8.8 A contractor is only eligible for a payment under Section 8 in circumstances where the following conditions are met—
(a) the contractor is contracted to provide the childhood vaccines and immunisations as part of Additional Services;
(b) the child in respect of whom the payment is claimed was on the contractor’s list of registered patients at the time the final completing course of the vaccine was administered;
(c) the contractor administers the final completing course of the vaccine to the child in respect of whom the payment is claimed;
(d) the contractor does not receive any payment from any other source in respect of the vaccine (if the contractor does receive any such payment in respect of any child from any other source, the LHB must give serious consideration to recovering any payment made under this Section in respect of that patient pursuant to paragraphs 19.1 and 19.2 (overpayments and withheld amounts); and
(e) the contractor submits the claim within 6 months of administering the final completing course of the vaccine.

Claims for payment

8.9 The contractor is to submit claims in respect of the final completing course of the vaccine after they have been administered at a frequency to be agreed between the LHB and the contractor (which must be a frequency which provides for the claim to be submitted within 6 months of administering the final completing vaccination), or if agreement cannot be reached, within 14 days of the end of the month during which the final completing course of the vaccine was administered. Any amount payable falls due on the next date, following the expiry of 14 days after the claim is submitted, when the contractor’s Payable GSMP falls due.

(a) See recommendation in “Immunisation against infectious diseases – The Green Book.”
The LHB must ensure that the receipt and payment in respect of any claims are properly recorded and that each such claim has a clear audit trail.

Conditions attached to payment

8.11 A payment under the provisions of this Section is only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must supply the LHB with the following information in respect of each child for which a payment is claimed—
   (i) the name of the child;
   (ii) the date of birth of the child;
   (iii) the NHS number, where known, of the child;
   (iv) except where paragraph (v) applies, confirmation that the child has received two doses of the rotavirus vaccine in accordance with the table at paragraph 8.4;
   (v) if the claim is made in the circumstances set out in paragraph 8.5, confirmation that all required vaccines have been administered; and
   (vi) the date of the final completing course of the vaccine, which must have been administered by the contractor,
   but where a parent or carer objects to details of the child’s name or date of birth being supplied to the LHB, the contractor need not supply such information to the LHB but must supply the child’s NHS number;

(b) the contractor must provide appropriate information and advice to the parent or carer of the child;

(c) the contractor must record in the child’s records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, any refusal of an offer of the rotavirus vaccine;

(d) where the rotavirus vaccine is administered, the contractor must record in the child’s records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, those matters set out in paragraph 5(2)(d) of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations;

(e) the contractor must ensure that any health care professional who performs any clinical service in connection with the administration of the vaccine has such clinical experience and training as are necessary to enable him to properly perform such services and that such health care professionals are trained in the recognition and initial treatment of anaphylaxis;

(f) the contract must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain, in order to form its opinion on whether the contractor is eligible for payment under the provisions of this Section;

(g) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System, and do so promptly and fully; and

(h) all information provided pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

8.12 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any, or any part of, the payment due under this Section.

Section 9: PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE AND HIB/MENC BOOSTER VACCINE

General

9.1 Section 9 make provision in respect of payments to be made in respect of the administration by a contractor, which is contracted to provide childhood vaccines and immunisations as part of Additional Services (such vaccines are classified as an Additional Service), of the pneumococcal
conjugate vaccine (PCV) and the combined Hib and Men C booster vaccine (Hib/MenC) as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule and in certain non-routine cases.

9.2 References in Section 9 to the age of a child expressed in months are references to calendar months. Where reference is made to a vaccine being administered at or around a certain age, this is an indication of the recommended schedule for administration of the vaccine contained Immunisation against Infectious Diseases – The Green Book which is published by the Department of Health. The specific timing of the administration of the vaccine, which should be within the parameters of the recommended schedule, is a matter for the clinical judgement of the relevant health care professional.

Payment for administration of PCV vaccine and Hib/MenC vaccine as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule

9.3 The LHB must pay to a contractor who qualifies for the payment, a payment of £19.60 in respect of each child registered with the contractor—

(a) who has received, as part of their routine childhood immunisation schedule, all four of the vaccines set out in the table at paragraph 9.5, namely the series of three PCV vaccines to be administered at two months, four months and around 13 months, and the Hib/MenC booster vaccination which is to be administered at around 12 months; and

(b) in respect of whom the contractor administered the final completing course of the vaccine.

9.4 For the purpose of paragraph 9.3(b), the final completing course of the vaccine means the third in the series of three PCV vaccines which is scheduled, in the table at paragraph 9.5, to be administered at around 13 months.

9.5 The table below sets out the schedule for the administration of the PCV and the Hib/MenC vaccines as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When to immunize</th>
<th>What is given</th>
<th>How vaccine is given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two months old</td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four months old</td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around 12 months</td>
<td>Haemophilus influenzae type B, Meningitis C (Hib/MenC)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around 13 months</td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment for administration of PCV vaccine other than as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule

9.6 The LHB must pay to a contractor who qualifies for the payment, a payment of £19.60 in respect of each child registered with the contractor who has received the PCV vaccine in any of the circumstances set out in paragraphs 9.8 to 9.14 and in respect of whom the contractor administered the final completing course of the vaccine.

Children at increased risk of pneumococcal infection

9.7 The table below sets out what are, for the purposes of this Section the specific pneumococcal clinical risk groups for children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical risk group</th>
<th>Examples (decision based on clinical judgement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen</td>
<td>This includes conditions such as homozygous sickle cell disease and coeliac syndrome that may lead to splenic dysfunction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic respiratory disease</td>
<td>This includes chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
including chronic bronchitis and emphysema; and such conditions as bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung fibrosis, pneumoconiosis and bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD). Children with respiratory conditions caused by aspiration, or a neuromuscular disease (e.g. cerebral palsy) with a risk of aspiration. Asthma is not an indication, unless continuous or frequently repeated use of systemic steroids (as defined in Immunosuppression below) is needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic heart disease</td>
<td>This includes those requiring regular medication and/or follow-up for ischaemic heart disease, congenital heart disease, hypertension with cardiac complications, and chronic heart failure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic renal disease</td>
<td>This includes nephrotic syndrome, chronic renal failure, renal transplantation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic liver disease</td>
<td>This includes cirrhosis, biliary atresia, chronic hepatitis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes (requiring insulin or oral hypoglycaemic drugs)</td>
<td>This includes type I diabetes requiring insulin or type 2 diabetes requiring oral hypoglycaemic drugs. It does not include diabetes that is diet controlled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunosuppression</td>
<td>Due to disease or treatment, including asplenia or splenic dysfunction and HIV infection at all stages. Patients undergoing chemotherapy leading to immunosuppression. Individuals treated with or likely to be treated with systemic steroids for more than a month at a dose equivalent to prednisolone 20mg or more per day (any age), or for children under 20Kg a does of ≥ 1mg/kg/day. Some immunocompromised patients may have a suboptimal immunological response to the vaccine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals with cochlear implants</td>
<td>It is important that immunisation does not delay the cochlear implantation. Where possible, pneumococcal vaccine should be completed at least 2 weeks prior to surgery to allow a protective immune response to develop. In some cases, it will not be possible to complete the course prior to surgery. In this instance, the course should be started at any time prior to or following surgery and completed according to the immunisation schedule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals with Cerebrospinal fluid leaks</td>
<td>This includes leakage of cerebrospinal fluid such as following trauma or major skull surgery.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.8 Where a child who is in any of the pneumococcal clinical risk groups set out in the table in paragraph 9.7 presents late for a vaccine (that is, not in accordance with the routine schedule set out in paragraph 9.5), and—

(a) consequently cannot receive, and has not received the four vaccines referred to in paragraph 9.3(a) in accordance with the routine schedule set out in the table in paragraph 9.5; but

(b) who nevertheless still presents in time to enable the child to receive, and did receive two doses of PCV before the age of 12 months, the Hib/MenC booster at around the age of 12 months and a third dose of PCV at around the age of 13 months;

the LHB must pay to the contractor administering the final completing course of the vaccine a payment of £19.60 in respect of that child. The third dose of PCV is considered the final completing course of the vaccine for this purpose.

9.9 Where a child over the age of 12 months but under the age of 5 years and who is in any of the clinical risk groups set out in the table in paragraph 9.7 presents late for vaccine (that is, not in accordance with the routine schedule set out in paragraph 9.5), and

(a) consequently cannot receive, and has not received, two doses of PCV before the age of 12 months, the Hib/MenC booster at around the age of 12 months and a third dose of PCV at around the age of 13 months; but
(b) nevertheless receives either a single dose of PCV or, if the child has asplenia, splenic dysfunction or is immunocompromised, two doses of PCV, the second of which is administered two months after the first dose,

the LHB must pay to the contractor administering the final completing course of the vaccine a payment of £19.60 in respect of that child. The single dose of PCV or, in the case of a child where a second dose of PCV is required, the second dose of PCV is considered the final completing course of the vaccine for this purpose.

Children over the age of 13 months but under the age of 5 years who have previously had invasive pneumococcal disease

9.10 Where a child who is over the age of 13 months but under the age of 5 years and who has previously had invasive pneumococcal disease receives a single dose of PCV in accordance with the recommendation contained in Immunisation against infectious diseases – The Green Book, the LHB must pay to the contractor administering the final completing course of the vaccine a payment of £19.60 in respect of that child unless a payment is otherwise payable for that same final completing course of the vaccine under paragraph 9.9 or 9.12. The single dose of PCV is considered the final completing course of the vaccine for this purpose.

Children with an unknown or incomplete immunisation status

9.11 Where a child who has an unknown or incomplete immunisation status receives vaccines sufficient to ensure that he has received two doses of PCV before the age of 12 months, the Hib/MenC booster at around the age of 12 months and a third dose of PCV at around the age of 13 months, the LHB must pay to the contractor administering the final completing course of the vaccine a payment of £19.60 in respect of that child. The third dose of PCV is considered the final completing course of the vaccine for this purpose.

9.12 Where a child who has an unknown or incomplete immunisation status and is too old to be able to receive two doses of PCV before the age of 12 months, the Hib/MenC booster at around the age of 12 months and a third dose of PCV at around the age of 13 months, receives a single dose of PCV prior to the age of 24 months, the LHB must pay to the contractor who administers the final completing course of the vaccine a payment of £19.60 in respect of that child. The single dose of PCV is considered the final completing course of the vaccine for this purpose.

Eligibility for payment

9.13 A contractor is only eligible for a payment under this Section in circumstances where the following conditions are met—
(a) the contractor is contracted to provide the childhood vaccines and immunisations as part of Additional Services;
(b) the child in respect of whom the payment is claimed was on the contractor’s list of registered patients at the time the final completing course of the vaccine was administered;
(c) the contractor administers the final completing course of the vaccine to the child in respect of whom the payment is claimed;
(d) subject to sub-paragraph (e), the child in respect of whom the payment is claimed is aged around 13 months when the final completing course of the vaccine is administered;
(e) in the case of payments in respect of the vaccines administered in accordance with paragraphs 9.9 or 9.10, the child must be under the age of 5 years when the final completing course of the vaccine is administered and in the case of the vaccines administered in accordance with paragraph 9.14, the child must be under the age 2 years when the final completing course of the vaccine is administered;
(f) the contractor does not receive any payment from any other source in respect of any of the series of three PCV vaccines and the Hib/MenC booster vaccine set out in the table at paragraph 9.5 or in respect of any vaccine administered under any of the circumstances set
out in paragraphs 9.8 to 9.12 of this Section (if the contractor does receive any such payment in respect of any child from any other source, the LHB must give serious consideration to recovering any payment made under this Section in respect of that child pursuant to paragraph 19.1(a) (overpayments and withheld amounts); and

(g) the contractor submits the claim within 6 months of administering the final completing course of the vaccine.

9.14 The LHB may specify a requirement that the contractor submit the claim within 6 months of administering the final completing course of the vaccine if it considers it is reasonable to do so.

9.15 The contractor is not entitled to payment of more than £19.60 in respect of any child under this Section, other than where –

(a) the contractor claims for payment for a final completing course of the vaccine administered under the circumstances set out in paragraph 9.10; and

(b) by virtue of that paragraph, the contractor is entitled to a payment under that paragraph, irrespective of any previous payment made in respect of that child under the provisions of this Section.

Claims for payment

9.16 The contractor is to submit claims in respect of the final completing course of the vaccine after they have been administered at a frequency to be agreed between the LHB and the contractor (which must be a frequency which provides for the claim to be submitted within 6 months of administering the final completing vaccine), or if agreement cannot be reached, within 14 days of the end of the month during which the final completing course of the vaccine was administered. Any amount payable falls due on the next date, following the expiry of 14 days after the claim is submitted, when the contractor’s Payable GSMP falls due.

9.17 The LHB must ensure that the receipt and payment in respect of any claims are properly recorded and that each such claim has a clear audit trail.

Conditions attached to payment

9.18 A payment under the provisions of this Section is only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must supply the LHB with the following information in respect of each child for which a payment is claimed—

(i) the name of the child;

(ii) the date of birth of the child;

(iii) the NHS number, where known, of the child;

(iv) except where paragraph (v) applies, confirmation that the child has received three doses of PCV and one dose of Hib/MenC in accordance with the table at paragraph 9.5;

(v) if the claim is made in the circumstances set out in paragraph 9.9, 9.10 or 9.12, confirmation that all required vaccines have been administered; and

(vi) the date of the final completing course of the vaccine, which must have been administered by the contractor,

but where a parent or carer objects to details of the child’s name or date of birth being supplied to the LHB, the contractor need not supply such information to the LHB but must supply the child’s NHS number;

(b) the contractor must provide appropriate information and advice to the parent or carer of the child, and where appropriate, also to the child, about pneumococcal vaccine and the Hib/MenC booster vaccine;
(c) the contractor must record in the child’s records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, any refusal of an offer of a pneumococcal vaccine or a Hib/MenC booster vaccine;

(d) where a pneumococcal vaccine or a Hib/MenC booster vaccine is administered, the contractor must record in the child’s records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, those matters set out in paragraph 5(2)(d) of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations;

(e) the contractor must ensure that any health care professional who performs any clinical service in connection with the administration of the vaccine has such clinical experience and training as are necessary to enable that health care professional to properly perform such services and that such health care professionals are trained in the recognition and initial treatment of anaphylaxis;

(f) the contract must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain, in order to form its opinion on whether the contractor is eligible for payment under the provisions of this Section;

(g) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System, and do so promptly and fully; and

(h) all information provided pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

9.19 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any, or any part of, the payment due under this Section.

Section 10: SHINGLES IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

General

10.1 Vaccines and immunisations are classified as an Additional Service. Section 10 makes provision in respect of payments to be made in respect of the administration by a contractor to provide the Shingles vaccines as part of the Shingles Immunisation Programme.

Payment for administration of the Shingles vaccine

10.2 The LHB must pay to the contractor who qualifies for the payment, a payment of £9.80 in respect of each registered patient of the contractor who has received the Shingles vaccine during the financial year ending 31 March, and who has attained the age of 70 years between 1 September 2013 and 1 September of the current financial year and have not yet attained the age of 80.

Eligibility for payment

10.3 A contractor is only eligible for a payment under this Section in circumstances where the following conditions are met—

(i) the contractor is contracted to provide vaccine and immunisations as part of additional services;

(j) the patient in respect of whom the payment is claimed was on the contractor’s list of registered patients at the time the vaccine was administered;

(k) the contractor administers the vaccine to the patient in respect of whom the payment is claimed;

(l) the patient in respect of whom the payment is claimed falls within the Target Age Group referred to in paragraph 10.2 when the vaccine is administered;

(m) the contractor does not receive any payment from any other source in respect of the vaccine (if the contractor does receive any such payment in respect of any patient from any other
source, the LHB must give serious consideration to recovering any payment made under this Section in respect of that patient pursuant to paragraphs 19.1 and 19.2 (overpayments and withheld amounts); and

(n) the contractor submits the claim within 6 months of administering the vaccine.

10.4 The LHB may set aside the requirement that the contractor submit the claim within 6 months of administering the vaccine if it considers it is reasonable to do so.

10.5 The contractor is not entitled to payment of more than £9.80 in respect of any patient under this Section, other than where the contractor claims for payment for the vaccine administered under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 10.2.

Claims for payment

10.6 The contractor is to submit claims in respect of the final completing course of the vaccine after they have been administered at a frequency to be agreed between the LHB and the contractor (which must be a frequency which provides for the claim to be submitted within 6 months of administering the final completing vaccination), or if agreement cannot be reached, within 14 days of the end of the month during which the final completing course of the vaccine was administered. Any amount payable falls due on the next date, following the expiry of 14 days after the claim is submitted, when the contractor’s Payable GSMP falls due.

10.7 The LHB must ensure that the receipt and payment in respect of any claims are properly recorded and that each such claim has a clear audit trail.

Conditions attached to payment

10.8 A payment under the provisions of this Section is only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must supply the LHB with the following information in respect of each patient for which a payment is claimed—
   (i) the name of the patient;
   (ii) the date of birth of the patient;
   (iii) the NHS number, where known, of the patient;
   (iv) confirmation that the patient has received the vaccine in accordance with paragraph 10.2;
   (v) the date on which the vaccine was administered by the contractor,

but where the patient objects to details of that patient’s name or date of birth being supplied to the LHB, the contractor need not supply such information to the LHB but must supply the patient’s NHS number;

(b) the contractor must provide appropriate information and advice to the patient about the vaccine and immunisation;

(c) the contractor must record in the patient’s records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, any refusal of an offer of the Shingles vaccine;

(d) where the Shingles vaccine is administered, the contractor must record in the patients records, kept in accordance with paragraph 72 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations, those matters set out in paragraph 4(2)(d) of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations;

(e) the contractor must ensure that any health care professional who performs any clinical service in connection with the administration of the vaccine has such clinical experience and training as are necessary to enable that health care professional to properly perform such services and that such health care professionals are trained in the recognition and initial treatment of anaphylaxis;

(f) the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain, in
order to form its opinion on whether the contractor is eligible for payment under the provisions of this Section;

(g) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System, and do so promptly and fully; and

(h) all information provided pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

10.9 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or any part of any payment due under this Section.

Section 11: PAYMENTS FOR GP PERFORMERS COVERING MATERNITY, PATERNITY AND ADOPTION LEAVE

General

11.1 Employees of contractors will have rights to time off for ante-natal care, maternity leave, paternity leave, adoption leave and parental leave, if they satisfy the relevant entitlement conditions under employment legislation for those types of leave. The rights of partners in partnerships to these types of leave are a matter for their partnership agreement.

11.2 If an employee or partner who takes any such leave is a performer under a GMS contract, the contractor may need to employ a locum or use the services of a GP performer who is party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to maintain the level of services that it normally provides. Even if the LHB is not directed in this SFE to pay for such cover, it may do so as a matter of discretion. However, if—

(a) the performer is a GP performer; and

(b) the leave is ordinary or additional maternity, paternity leave or ordinary or additional adoption leave,

the contractor may be entitled to payment of, or a contribution towards, the costs of locum cover under this SFE.

Entitlement to payments for covering ordinary maternity leave, ordinary adoption leave and paternity and special leave

11.3 (1) Where a contractor actually and necessarily engages a locum or uses the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by a contractor (or more than one such person) to cover the absence of a GP performer on:

(a) ordinary maternity leave for a period of no more than 26 weeks;

(b) ordinary adoption leave for a period of no more than 26 weeks;

(c) paternity leave for a period of no more than 2 weeks where the GP performer going on leave is not the main care provider; or

(d) special leave for a period of no more than 2 weeks where the GP performer going on leave is not the main care provider,

the LHB must provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging that locum (which will be the lower of the actual invoiced costs or the maximum amount as set out in paragraph 11.5) if it is satisfied that the conditions in subparagraph (2) are met.

(2) The conditions are:

a) the leave of absence is for more than one week;

b) the performer on leave is entitled to that leave either under-

i) statute;

ii) a partnership agreement or other agreement between the partners of a partnership; or
iii) a contract of employment, provided that the performer on leave is entitled under their contract of employment to be paid their full salary by the contractor during their leave of absence; and

c) the contractor is not claiming another payment for locum cover in respect of the performer on leave pursuant to this Part.

11.3A Discretionary payments for covering additional maternity leave and additional adoption leave

11.3A (1) Where a contractor actually and necessarily engages a locum or uses the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to cover the absence of a GP performer on:

a) additional maternity leave (for a period of no more than 26 weeks beginning on the date when the ordinary maternity leave period set out in paragraph 11.3(1)(a) ends); and

b) additional adoption leave (for a period of no more than 26 weeks beginning on the date when the ordinary adoption leave period set out in paragraph 11.3(1)(b) ends),

the LHB may provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging the locum.

11.4 The LHB must consider whether or not it is necessary for the contractor to engage, or continue to engage, a locum or to use, or continue to use, the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to cover for the absence of a GP performer under this Section having regard to the following principles-

a) it should not normally be considered necessary for the contractor to employ a locum, or to use the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor, if the performer on leave had a right to return but that right has been extinguished;

b) it should not normally be considered necessary for the contractor to employ a locum, or to use the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor, if the contractor has engaged a new employee or partner to perform the duties of the performer on leave and it is not carrying a vacancy in respect of another position which the performer on leave will fill on his return.

Amounts payable

11.5 ——(1) The maximum amount payable under this Section by the LHB in respect of locum cover for a GP performer is —

(a) in respect of the first two weeks for which the LHB provides reimbursement, £1,131.74 per week; and

(b) in respect of any week thereafter for which the LHB provides reimbursement in respect of locum cover, £1,734.18 per week.

(2) Any amounts payable by way of reimbursement under this Section —

(a) are not to be paid on a pro-rata basis having regard to the absent performer’s working pattern; and

(b) are to be whichever is the lower of the invoiced costs or the maximum amount payable in respect of any week under sub-paragraph (1).

Payment arrangements

11.6 The contractor is to submit claims for costs actually incurred after they have been incurred, at a frequency to be agreed between the LHB and the contractor, or if agreement cannot be reached,
within 14 days of the end of the month during which the costs were incurred. Any amount payable falls due 14 days after the claim is submitted.

**Conditions attached to the amounts payable**

**11.7** Payments or any part of a payment under this Section are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) if the leave of absence is maternity leave, the contractor must supply the LHB with a certificate of expected confinement as used for the purposes of obtaining statutory maternity pay, or a private certificate providing comparable information;

(b) if the leave of absence is for paternity leave, the contractor must supply the LHB with a letter written by the GP performer confirming prospective fatherhood and giving the date of expected confinement;

(c) if the leave of absence is for adoption leave, the contractor must supply the LHB with a letter written by the GP performer confirming the date of the adoption and the name of the main care provider, countersigned by the appropriate adoption agency;

(d) the contractor must, on request, provide the LHB with written records demonstrating the actual cost to it of the cover, or the additional cost to it of the cover provided by another GP performer who is already employed or engaged by it; and

(e) once the arrangements are in place, the contractor must inform the LHB—

(i) if there is to be any change to the arrangements; or

(ii) if, for any other reason, there is to be a change to the contractor’s arrangements for performing the duties of the performer on leave,

at which point the LHB is to determine whether it still considers the cover necessary.

**11.8** If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any sum otherwise payable under this Section.

**Section 12: PAYMENTS FOR LOCUMS OR GP PERFORMERS COVERING SICKNESS LEAVE**

**General**

**12.1** Employees of contractors will, if they qualify for it, be entitled to statutory sick pay for 28 weeks of absence on account of sickness in any three years. The rights of partners in partnership agreements to paid sickness leave is a matter for their partnership agreement.

**12.2** If an employee or partner who takes any sickness leave is a performer under a GMS contract, the contractor may need to employ a locum or use the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to maintain the level of services that it normally provides. Even if the LHB is not directed in this SFE to pay for such cover, it may do so as a matter of discretion and it may also provide support in order for the contractor to employ a locum for performers who are returning from sickness leave or for those who are at risk of needing to go on sickness leave. It should in particular consider exercising its discretion—

(a) where there is an unusually high rate of sickness in the area where the performer performs services; or

(b) to support contractors in rural areas where the distances involved in making home visits make it impracticable for a GP performer returning from sickness leave to assume responsibility for the same number of patients for which that performer previously had responsibility.
Payments for Locums or GP Performers Covering Sickness Leave

12.3 Where a contractor actually and necessarily engages a locum or uses the services of a GP performer who is a party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to cover the absence of a GP performer on sickness leave the LHB must provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging that locum (which will be the lower of the actual invoiced costs or the maximum amount as set out in paragraph 12.5), if it is satisfied that the conditions in subparagraph (2) are met.

(2) The conditions are:

(a) if the performer on sickness leave is employed by the contractor, the contractor must—
   (i) be required to pay statutory sick pay to that performer; or
   (ii) be required to pay the performer on leave their full salary during absences on sick leave under their contract of employment;

(b) if the GP performer’s absence is as a result of an accident, the contractor must be unable to claim any compensation from whoever caused the accident towards meeting the cost of engaging a locum to cover for the GP performer during the performer’s absence. But if such compensation is payable, the LHB may loan the contractor the cost of the locum, on the condition that the loan is repaid when the compensation is paid unless—
   (i) no part of the compensation paid is referable to the cost of the locum, in which case the loan is to be considered a reimbursement by the LHB of the costs of the locum which is subject to the following provisions of this Section; or
   (ii) only part of the compensation paid is referable to the cost of the locum, in which case the liability to repay shall be proportionate to the extent to which the claim for full reimbursement of the costs of the locum was successful; and

(c) the contractor is not already claiming another payment for locum cover in respect of the performer on leave pursuant to Part 4,

12.3A Discretionary payments for covering long-term sickness leave

12.3A—(1) Where a contractor actually and necessarily engages a locum or uses the services of a GP performer who is party to the contract or who is already employed or engaged by the contractor (or more than one such person) to cover the absence of a GP performer on sickness leave for a period of more than the maximum period in respect of which payments are payable by virtue of paragraph 12.6 (“long-term sickness leave”), the LHB may provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging that locum.

12.4 It is for the LHB to determine whether or not it was in fact necessary for the contractor to engage the locum, or to continue to engage the locum, but it is to have regard to the following principles—

(a) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the performer on leave had a right to return but that right has been extinguished;

(b) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the contractor has engaged a new employee or partner to perform the duties of the performer on leave and it is not carrying a vacancy in respect of another position which the performer on leave will fill on return;

Ceilings on the amounts payable

12.5 The maximum amount payable under this Section by the LHB in respect of locum cover for a GP performer is £1,734.18 per week.

12.5A Any amounts payable by way of reimbursements under this Section—
(a) are not to be paid on a pro-rata basis having regard to the absent performer’s working pattern; and

(b) are to be whichever is the lower of the invoiced costs or the maximum amount payable in respect of any week under paragraph 12.5.

12.6 No reimbursement under this Section will be paid in respect of the first two weeks period of the leave of absence. After that, the maximum periods in respect of which payments under this Section are payable in relation to a particular GP performer in respect of any such period are—

(a) 26 weeks for the full amount of the sum that the LHB has determined is payable; and

(b) a further 26 weeks for half the full amount of the sum the LHB initially determined was payable.

12.7 In order to calculate these periods, a determination is to be made in respect of the first day of the GP performer’s absence as to whether in the previous 52 weeks, any amounts have been payable in respect of that performer under this Section. If any amounts have been payable in those 52 weeks, the periods in respect of which they were payable are to be aggregated together. That aggregate period (whether or not it in fact relates to more than one period of absence)—

(a) if it is 26 weeks or less, is then to be deducted from the period referred to in paragraph 12.6(a); or

(b) if it more than 26 weeks, then 26 weeks of it is to be deducted from the period referred to in paragraph 12.6(a) and the balance is to be deducted from the period referred to in paragraph 12.6(b).

12.8 Accordingly, if payments have been made in respect of locum cover for the GP performer for 32 weeks out of the previous 52 weeks, the remaining entitlement in respect of that performer is for a maximum of 20 weeks, and at half the full amount that the LHB initially determined was payable.

Payment arrangements

12.9 The contractor is to submit to the LHB claims for costs actually incurred during a month at the end of that month, and any amount payable is to fall due on the same day of the following month that the contractor’s Payable GSMP falls due.

Condition attached to the amounts payable

12.10 Payments or any part of a payment under this Section are only payable if the following conditions are satisfied—

(a) the contractor must obtain the prior agreement of the LHB to the engagement of the locum (but its request to do so must be determined as quickly as possible by the LHB), including agreement as to the amount that is to be paid for the locum cover;

(b) the contractor must, without delay, supply the LHB with medical certificates in respect of each period of absence for which a request for assistance with payment for locum cover is being made;

(c) the contractor must, on request, provide the LHB with written records demonstrating the actual cost to it of the locum cover;

(d) once the locum arrangements are in place, the contractor must inform the LHB—

(i) if there is to be any change to the locum arrangements; or

(ii) if, for any other reason, there is to be a change to the contractor’s arrangements for performing the duties of the GP performer on leave, at which point the LHB is to determine whether it still considers the locum cover necessary;
(e) if the locum arrangements are in respect of a performer on leave who is or was entitled to statutory sick pay, the contractor must inform the LHB immediately if it stops paying statutory sick pay to that employee;

(f) the GP performer on leave must not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to that performer’s recovery; and

(g) the GP performer on leave must not be performing clinical services for any other person, unless under medical direction and with the approval of the LHB.

12.11 If any of these conditions are breached, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any sum otherwise payable under this Section.

Section 13: PAYMENTS FOR LOCUMS TO COVER SUSPENDED DOCTORS

General

13.1 The LHB has powers to suspend GP performers from the medical performers list.

13.2 A GP performer who is suspended from the medical performers list may be entitled to payments directly from the LHB. This is covered by a separate determination made under regulation 13(17) of the Performers Lists Regulations.

Eligible cases

13.3 In any case where a contractor—

(a) either—

(i) is a sole practitioner who is suspended from the LHB’s medical performers list and is not in receipt of any financial assistance from the LHB under section 53 of the 2006 Act as a contribution towards the cost of the arrangements to provide primary medical services under the contractor’s GMS contract during the contractor’s suspension;

(ii) is paying a suspended GP performer—

(aa) who is a partner of the contractor, at least 90% of that performer’s normal monthly drawings (or a pro rata amount in the case of part months) from the partnership account; or

(bb) who is an employee of the contractor, at least 90% of that performer’s normal salary (or a pro rata amount in the case of part months); or

(iii) paid a suspended GP performer the amount mentioned in paragraph (ii)(aa) or (bb) for at least six months of that performer’s suspension, and the suspended GP performer is still a partner or employee of the contractor;

(b) actually and necessarily engages a locum (or more than one such person) to cover for the absence of the suspended GP performer;

(c) the locum is not a partner in a partnership or shareholder in a company limited by shares where that partnership or company is the contractor, or already an employee of the contractor, unless the absent performer is a job-sharer; and

(d) the contractor is not also claiming any other payment for locum cover in respect of the absent performer under Part 4,

then subject to the provisions in this Section, the LHB must provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging that locum (which may or may not be the maximum amount payable, as set out in paragraph 13.5).

13.4 It is for the LHB to determine whether or not it is or was in fact necessary to engage the locum, or to continue to engage the locum, but it is to have regard to the following principles—
(a) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the performer on leave had a right to return but that right has been extinguished; and

(b) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the contractor has engaged a new employee or partner to perform the duties of the performer on leave and it is not carrying a vacancy in respect of another position which the performer on leave will fill on that performer’s return.

Ceilings on the amounts payable

13.5 The maximum amount payable under this Section by the LHB in respect of locum cover for a GP performer is £1,131.74 per week.

Payment arrangements

13.6 The contractor is to submit claims for costs actually incurred after they have been incurred, at a frequency to be agreed between the LHB and the contractor, or if agreement cannot be reached, within 14 days of the end of the month during which the costs were incurred. Any amount payable falls due 14 days after the date on which the claim is submitted.

Conditions attached to the amounts payable

13.7 Payments or any part of a payment under this Section are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must, on request, provide the LHB with written records demonstrating—

(i) the actual cost to it of the locum cover; and

(ii) that it is continuing to pay the suspended GP performer at least 90% of that performer’s normal income before the suspension (i.e. the normal monthly drawings from the partnership account, that performer’s normal salary or a pro rata amount in the case of part months); and

(b) once the locum arrangements are in place, the contractor must inform the LHB—

(i) if there is to be any change to the locum arrangements, or

(ii) if, for any other reason, there is to be a change to the contractor’s arrangements for performing the duties of the absent performer,

at which point the LHB is to determine whether it still considers the locum cover necessary.

13.8 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any such sum otherwise payable under this Section.

Section 14: PAYMENTS IN RESPECT OF PROLONGED STUDY LEAVE

General

14.1 GP performers may be entitled to take Prolonged Study Leave, and in these circumstances, the contractor for whom they have been providing services under its GMS contract may be entitled to two payments—

(a) an educational allowance, to be forwarded to the GP performer taking Prolonged Study Leave; and

(b) the cost of, or a contribution towards the cost of, locum cover.
Types of study in respect of which prolonged study leave may be taken

14.2 Payments may only be made under this Section in respect of Prolonged Study Leave taken by a GP performer where –

(a) the study leave is for at least 10 weeks but not more than 12 months;
(b) the educational aspects of the study leave have been approved by the Dean of General Practice, University Wales College of Medicine, having regard to any guidance on Prolonged Study Leave that the Dean of General Practice, University Wales College of Medicine has been agreed nationally; and
(c) the LHB has determined that the payments to the contractor under this Section in respect of the Prolonged Study Leave are affordable, having regard to the budgetary targets it has set itself.

Educational allowance payment

14.3 Where the criteria set out in paragraph 14.2 are met, in respect of each week for which the GP performer is on Prolonged Study Leave, the LHB must pay the contractor an Educational Allowance Payment of £133.68, subject to the condition that where the contractor is aware of any change in circumstances that may affect its entitlement to the Educational Allowance Payment, it notifies the LHB of that change in circumstances.

14.4 If the contractor breaches the condition set out in paragraph 14.3, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or any part of any Educational Allowance Payment that is otherwise payable.

Locum cover in respect of doctors on Prolonged Study Leave

14.5 In any case where a contractor actually and necessarily engages a locum (or more than one such person) to cover for the absence of a GP performer on Prolonged Study Leave, then subject to the following provisions of this Section, the LHB must provide financial assistance to the contractor under its GMS contract in respect of the cost of engaging that locum (which may or may not be the maximum amount payable, as set out in paragraph 14.7).

14.6 It is for the LHB to determine whether or not it was in fact necessary to engage the locum, or to continue to engage the locum, but it is to have regard to the following principles—

(a) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the GP performer on leave had a right to return but that right has been extinguished; and
(b) it should not normally be considered necessary to employ a locum if the contractor has engaged a new employee or partner to perform the duties of the performer on leave and it is not carrying a vacancy in respect of another position which the performer on leave will fill on that performer’s return.

14.7 The maximum amount payable under this Section by the LHB in respect of locum cover for a GP performer is £1,131.74 per week.

Payment arrangements

14.8 The contractor is to submit to the LHB claims for costs actually incurred during a month at the end of that month, and any amount payable is to fall due on the same day of the following month that the contractor’s Payable GSMP falls due.

Conditions attached to the amounts payable

14.9 Payments or any part of a payment in respect of locum cover under this Section are only payable if the following conditions are satisfied—
(a) the contractor must obtain the prior agreement of the LHB to the engagement of the locum (but its request to do so must be determined as quickly as possible by the LHB), including agreement as to the amount that is to be paid for the locum cover;
(b) the locum must not be a partner or shareholder in the contractor, or already an employee of the contractor, unless the performer on leave is a job-sharer;
(c) the contractor must, on request, provide the LHB with written records demonstrating the actual cost to it of the locum cover; and
(d) once the locum arrangements are in place, the contractor must inform the LHB—
   (i) if there is to be any change to the locum arrangements; or
   (ii) if, for any other reason, there is to be a change to the contractor’s arrangements for performing the duties of the performer on leave, at which point the LHB is to determine whether it still considers the locum cover necessary.

14.10 If any of these conditions are breached, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any sum in respect of locum cover otherwise payable under this Section.

Section 15: SENIORITY PAYMENTS

General

15.1 Seniority payments are payments to a contractor in respect of individual GP providers in eligible posts. They reward experience, based on years of Reckonable Service.

Eligible posts

15.2 Contractors will only be entitled to a Seniority Payment in respect of a GP provider if the GP provider has served for at least two years in an eligible post, or for an aggregate of two years in more than one eligible post – part-time and full-time posts counting the same. The first date after the end of this two year period is the GP provider’s qualifying date. For the purposes of this Section, a post is an eligible post—
(a) in case of posts held prior to 1st April 2004, if the post-holder provided unrestricted general medical services and was eligible for a basic practice allowance under the Statement of Fees and Allowance made under section 34 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services) Regulations 1992 (a) as in force on 31st March 2004; and
(b) in the case of posts held on or after 1st April 2004, if the post-holder performs primary medical services and—
   (i) that post-holder is a GMS contractor (i.e. a sole practitioner);
   (ii) is a partner in a partnership that is a GMS contractor, or
   (iii) is a shareholder in a company limited by shares that is a GMS contractor.

Service that is Reckonable Service

15.3 Work shall be counted as Reckonable Service if—
(a) it is clinical service as a doctor within the NHS or service as a doctor in the public service health care system of another EEA Member State (including service in that system pre-Accession);
(b) it is clinical service as a doctor or service as a medical officer within the prison service or the civil administration (which includes the Home Civil Service) of the United Kingdom, or
within the prison service or the civil administration of another EEA Member State (including service in that prison service or civil administration pre-Accession);

(c) it is service as a medical officer—
   (i) in the armed forces of an EEA Member State (including the United Kingdom) or providing clinical services to those forces in a civilian capacity (including service pre-Accession); or
   (ii) in the armed forces under the Crown other than the United Kingdom armed forces or providing clinical services to those forces in a civilian capacity, if accepted by the LHB or endorsed by the Welsh Ministers as Reckonable Service;

(d) it is service with the Foreign and Commonwealth office as a medical officer in a diplomatic mission abroad, if accepted by the LHB or endorsed by the Welsh Ministers as Reckonable Service; or

(e) it comprises up to a maximum of four years clinical service in a country or territory outside the United Kingdom—
   (i) which followed the date of first registration of the GP provider in that country or territory; and
   (ii) in circumstances where—
      (aa) on 31st March 2003, that period of clinical service had been counted by the LHB as a period of registration for the purposes of a calculation of the annual rate of the GP Provider’s Seniority Payment under the Statement of Fees and Allowance made under regulation 34 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services) Regulations 1992; and
      (bb) that period of clinical service is not counted as reckonable service by virtue of any preceding sub-paragraphs in this paragraph.

Calculation of years of Reckonable Service

15.4 Claims in respect of years of service are to be made to the LHB, and should be accompanied by appropriate details, including dates, of relevant clinical service. Where possible, claims should be authenticated from appropriate records, which may in appropriate circumstances include superannuation records. If the LHB is unable to obtain authentication of the service itself, the onus is on the GP provider to provide documentary evidence to support his claim (although payments may be made while verification issues are being resolved). The LHB should only count periods of service in a calculation of a GP provider’s Reckonable Service if satisfied that there is sufficient evidence to include that period of service in the calculation.

15.5 In determining a GP provider’s length of Reckonable Service—
   (a) only clinical service is to count towards Reckonable Service;
   (b) only clinical service since the date on which the GP provider first became registered (be it temporarily, provisionally, fully or with limited registration) with the General Medical Council, or an equivalent authority in another EEA Member State, is to count towards Reckonable Service, with the exception of Reckonable Service prior to registration that is taken into account by virtue of paragraph 15.3(e);
   (c) periods of part-time and full-time working count the same; and
   (d) generally, breaks in service are not to count towards Reckonable Service, but periods when doctors were taking leave of absence (i.e. they were absent from a post but had a right of return) due to compulsory national service, maternity leave, paternity leave, adoption leave, parental leave, holiday leave, sick leave or study leave, or because of a secondment elective or similar temporary attachment to a post requiring the provision of clinical services, are to count towards Reckonable Service.

15.6 Claims in respect of service in or on behalf of armed forces pursuant to paragraph 15.3(c) are to be considered in the first instance by the LHB, and should be accompanied by appropriate
details, including dates and relevant postings. If the LHB is not satisfied that the service should count towards the GP provider’s Reckonable Service as a doctor, it is to put the matter to the Welsh Ministers, together with any comments it wishes to make.

15.7 Before taking a decision on whether or not to endorse the claim, the Welsh Ministers will then consult the Ministry of Defence. Generally, the only service that will be endorsed is service where the GP provider undertook clinical or medical duties (whether on military service or in a civilian capacity), and the Welsh Ministers have received acceptable confirmation of the nature and scope of the duties performed by the GP provider from the relevant authorities.

15.8 Claims in respect of clinical service for or on behalf of diplomatic missions abroad pursuant to paragraph 15.3(d) are to be considered in the first instance by the LHB, and should be accompanied by appropriate details, including dates and relevant postings. If the LHB is not satisfied that the service should count towards the GP provider’s Reckonable Service as a doctor, it is to put the matter to the Welsh Ministers, together with any comments it wishes to make.

15.9 Before taking a decision on whether or not to endorse the claim, the Welsh Ministers will consult the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Generally the only service that will be endorsed is service where the GP provider undertook clinical duties for—

(a) members of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and their families;
(b) members of the Department for International Development and their families;
(c) members of the British Council and their families;
(d) British residents, official visitors and aid workers;
(e) Commonwealth and EEA Member State official visitors; or
(f) staff and their families of other Commonwealth, EEA, Member State or, in the opinion of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, friendly State diplomatic missions, and the Welsh Ministers have received acceptable confirmation of the nature and scope of the clinical duties performed by the GP provider from the relevant authorities.

Determination of the relevant dates

15.10 Once a GP provider’s years of Reckonable Service have been determined, a determination has to be made of two dates—

(a) the date a GP provider’s Reckonable Service began, which is the date on which that GP’s first period of Reckonable Service started (referred to in this Section as “the Seniority Date”); and
(b) the GP provider’s qualifying date (see paragraph 15.2).

Calculation of the full annual rate of Seniority Payments

15.11 Once a GP provider has reached the qualifying date that GP is entitled to a Seniority Payment in respect of service as a GP provider thereafter. The amount of the Seniority Payment will depend on two factors: that GP’s Superannuable Income Fraction and the number of years of Reckonable Service.

15.12 At the end of each quarter, the LHB is to make an assessment of the Seniority Payments to be made in respect of individual GP providers working for or on behalf of its GMS contractors. If—

(a) a GP provider’s Seniority Date is on the first date of that quarter, or falls outside that quarter, that GP’s Years of Reckonable Service are the number of complete years since the first Seniority Date, and the full annual rate of the Seniority Payment payable in respect of that GP is the full annual rate opposite the GP’s Years of Reckonable Service in the Table below; and
(b) if the GP provider’s Seniority Date falls in that quarter on any date other than the first date of that quarter, the full annual rate of the Seniority Payment in respect of that GP changes on
the Seniority Date – and so in respect of that quarter, the full annual rate of the Seniority Payment payable in respect of that GP is to be calculated as follows—

(i) calculate the daily rate of the full annual rate of payment for the first total of Years of Reckonable Service relevant to him (i.e. divide the annual rate by 365 (or 366 where the relevant year includes 29th February), and multiply that daily rate by the number of days in that quarter before the Seniority Date; and

(ii) calculate the daily date of the full annual rate of payment for the second total of Years of Reckonable Service relevant to that GP (i.e. divide the annual rate by 365 (or 366 where the relevant year includes 29th February), and multiply that daily rate by the number of days in that quarter after and including the Seniority Date, then add the totals produced by the calculations in heads (i) and (ii) together, and multiply by four.
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15.13 If immediately before 1st April 2013, any GP provider—
(a) would have been entitled to an amount calculated in accordance with paragraph 15.13 of the 2005 SFE; or
(b) received a Seniority Payment, an amount of which is calculated in accordance with paragraph 15.13 of the 2005 SFE,
that GP provider remains entitled to, and is to continue to receive a Seniority Payment, an amount which is the full annual rate of the Seniority Payment calculated in accordance with paragraph 15.13 of the 2005 SFE as in force on 31st March 2013.

Superannuable Income Fractions

15.14 In all cases, the full annual rate of a Seniority Payment for a GP provider is only payable under this SFE in respect of a GP provider who has a Superannuable Income Fraction of at least two thirds.

15.15 For these purposes, a GP provider’s Superannuable Income Fraction is the fraction produced by dividing—
(a) that GP provider’s NHS profits from all sources for the financial year to which the Seniority Payment relates, excluding—
(i) superannuable income which does not appear on that GP provider’s certificate submitted to the LHB in accordance with paragraph 20.11 (superannuation contribution: end-year adjustments) (i.e. NHS income already superannuated elsewhere); and
(ii) any amount in respect of Seniority Payments; by
(b) the Average Adjusted Superannuable Income.

15.16 The Average Adjusted Superannuable Income is to be calculated as follows—
(a) all the NHS profits of the type mentioned in paragraph 15.15(a) of all the GP providers in Wales who have submitted certificates to the LHB in accordance with paragraph 20.11, by the required date, are to be aggregated; then
(b) this aggregate is then to be divided by the number of GP providers in respect of which the aggregate was calculated; then
(c) the total produced by sub-paragraph (b) is to be adjusted to take account of the shift towards less than full-time working. The index by which the amount is to be adjusted is to be the same as the index for the financial year to which the calculation of Average Adjusted Superannuable Income relates by which the uprating factor for pensions is to be adjusted to take account of the shift towards less than full-time working(a), and the total produced by sub-paragraph (c) is the Average Adjusted Superannuable Income amount for the calculation in paragraph 15.15.

15.17 If the GP provider has a Superannuable Income Fraction of one third or between one third and two thirds, only 60% of the full annual amount payable in respect of a GP provider with Reckonable Service is payable under this SFE in respect of that GP provider. If the GP provider has a Superannuable Income Fraction of less than one third, no Seniority Payment is payable under this SFE in respect of that GP provider.

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(a) It is anticipated that the amounts mentioned in this paragraph will be calculated by the Technical Steering Committee (TSC).
Amounts payable

15.18 Once a GP provider’s full annual rate in respect of a quarter has been determined, and any reduction to be made in respect of that GP provider’s Superannuable Income Fraction has been made, the result amount is to be divided by four, and that quarterly amount is the Quarterly Superannuation Payment that the LHB must pay to the contractor under the GMS contract in respect of the GP provider.

15.19 If, however, the GP provider’s—

(a) qualifying date fall in that quarter, the quarterly amount is instead to be calculated as follows: the annual amount (taking account of any reduction in accordance with the GP provider’s Superannuable Income Fraction) is to be divided by 365 (or 366 where the relevant year includes 29th February), and then multiplied by the number of days in the quarter after and including that GP provider’s qualifying date; and

(b) retirement date falls in that quarter, the quarterly amount is instead to be calculated as follows: the annual amount (taking account of any reduction in accordance with the GP provider’s Superannuable Income Fraction) is to be divided by 365 (or 366 where the relevant year includes 29th February), and then multiplied by the number of days in the quarter prior to the GP provider’s retirement date.

15.20 Payment of the Quarterly Seniority Payment is to fall due on the last day of the quarter to which it relates (but see paragraph 19.6 (payments on account)).

Condition attached to payment of Quarterly Seniority Payments

15.21 A Quarterly Seniority Payment, or any part thereof, is only payable to a contractor if the following conditions are satisfied—

(a) if a GP provider receives a Quarterly Seniority Payment from more than one contractor, those payments taken together must not amount to more than one quarter of the full annual rate of Seniority Payment in respect of that GP provider;

(b) the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to calculate the payment;

(c) all information provided pursuant to or in accordance with sub-paragraph (b) must be accurate; and

(d) a contractor who receives a Seniority Payment in respect of a GP provider must give that payment to that doctor—

(i) within one calendar month of it receiving that payment, and

(ii) as an element of the personal income of that GP provider subject (in the case of a GP provider who is a shareholder in a contractor that is a company limited by shares) to any lawful deduction of income tax and national insurance.

15.22 If the conditions set out in paragraph 15.21(a) to (c) are breached, the LHB may in appropriate circumstances withhold payment of all or any part of any payment to which the conditions relate that is otherwise payable.

15.23 If a contractor breaches the condition in paragraph 15.21(d), the LHB may require repayment of any payment to which the condition relates, or may withhold payment of any other payment payable to the contractor under this SFE, to the value of the payment to which the condition relates.
Section 16: DOCTORS’ RETAINER SCHEME

General

16.1 This is an established Scheme designed to keep doctors who are not working in general practice in touch with general practice.

Payments in respect of sessions undertaken by members of the Scheme

16.2 Subject to paragraph 16.3, where—

(a) a contractor who is considered as a suitable employer of members of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme by the Dean of General Practice, University Wales College of Medicine employs or engages a member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme; and

(b) the service sessions for which the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme is employed or engaged by that contractor are arranged or approved by the Dean of General Practice, University Wales College of Medicine Health,

the LHB must pay to that contractor under its GMS contract £59.18 in respect of each full session that the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme undertakes for the contractor in any week, up to a maximum of four sessions per week.

Provisions in respect of leave arrangement

16.3 The LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract any payment payable under paragraph 16.2 in respect of any session which the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme is employed or engaged to undertake but which that member does not undertake because they are absent due to leave related to—

(a) annual holiday up to a maximum number of sessions annually equivalent to 6 weeks’ worth of arranged sessions for the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme;

(b) maternity, paternity or adoption, in accordance with the circumstances and for the periods referred to in Section 9 (payments for locums covering maternity, paternity and adoption leave);

(c) parental leave, in accordance with statutory entitlements (except that the normal statutory qualifying period of one year’s service with the contractor does not apply);

(d) sickness, for a reasonable period as agreed by the contractor and the LHB;

(e) an emergency involving a dependent, in accordance with employment law and any guidance issued by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills; and

(f) other pressing personal or family reasons where the contractor and the LHB agree that the absence of the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme is necessary and unavoidable.

Payment conditions

16.4 Payments under this section are to fall due at the end of the month in which the session to which the payment relates takes place. However, the payments, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must inform the LHB of any change to the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme’s working arrangements that may affect the contractor’s entitlement to a payment under this section;

(b) the contractor must inform the LHB of any absence on leave of the member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme and the reason for such absence;

(c) in the case of any absence on leave in respect of which there are any matters to be agreed between the contractor and the LHB in accordance with paragraph 16.3 above, the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and which the contractor either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain, in
order to form an opinion in respect of any of the matters which are to be agreed between the contractor and the LHB;

(d) the contractor must inform the LHB if the doctor in respect of whom the payment is made ceases to be a member of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme, or if it ceases to be considered a suitable employer of members of the Doctors’ Retainer Scheme by the Dean of General Practice, University Wales College.

16.5 If a contractor breaches any of these conditions, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of all or any part of any payment otherwise payable under this Section.

Section 17: DISPENSING

Dispensing: General

17.1 Some contractors are authorised or required to provide dispensing services to specific patients. The arrangements for this are set out in Part 3 (dispensing doctors) of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 1992 (“the 1992 Regulations”) and paragraph 51 (provision of drugs, medicines and appliances for immediate treatment or personal administration) of Part 3 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations. The 1992 Regulations are to be revoked with effect from 10 May 2013 by the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services)(Wales) Regulations 2013 (“the 2013 Regulations”).

Costs in respect of which reimbursement is payable

17.2 Where drugs and appliances are provided by a medical practitioner—

(a) in accordance with the arrangements under which a dispensing doctor undertakes to provide pharmaceutical services referred to in regulation 20 (Arrangements for the provision of pharmaceutical services by doctors) of the 1992 Regulations or (after the 2013 Regulations come into force) regulation 20 (Arrangements for the provision of pharmaceutical services by doctors) of the 2013 Regulations;

(b) for personal administration, in accordance with paragraph 51(1)(b) in Part 3 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations,

then subject to the following provisions of this Section, the LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract the payments listed in paragraph 17.3, as calculated in accordance with this Section.

17.3 The amounts payable in relation to the provision of drugs and appliances are—

(a) the basic price of the drug or appliance, which is the price as calculated in accordance with Part II Clause 8 (Basic Price), clause 10 (A and B) (Quantity to be Supplied), clause 11 (Broken Bulk), clause 13 (Reconstitution of Certain Oral Liquids) and Part VIIA Basic Prices of Drugs) of the Drug Tariff, less a discount calculated in accordance with Part 1 of Annex G;

(b) the appropriate dispensing fee, as set out in Part 2 of Annex G (in respect of contractors authorised or required to provide dispensing services in accordance with Part 8 of the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013) or Part 3 of Annex G (in respect of all other contractors);

(c) an allowance to cover the VAT payable on the purchase of any products listed in paragraph 17.4(a) to (e) and which are provided in accordance with paragraph 51(1)(b) in Part 3 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations. The allowance is to be calculated by applying the rate of VAT applying at the time of a claim to the basic price of the product after the discount has been calculated in accordance with Part 1 of Annex G has been deducted;

(d) exceptional expenses, as provided for in Part II, clause 12 (Out of Pocket Expenses), of the Drug Tariff; and
professional fees, as provided for in Part IIIA, clause 2A (additional fees for unlicensed medicines), of the Drug Tariff.

**Personally administered drugs and appliances and those used for diagnosis**

**17.4** A contractor who is providing services under a GMS contract may, whether or not the contractor is authorised or required to provide dispensing services to specific patients, be entitled to the payments listed in paragraph 17.3. This applies only in relation to the following products—

(a) vaccines, anaesthetics and injections;
(b) the following diagnostic reagents: Dick Test; Schick Test; Protein Sensitisation Test Solutions; and Tuberculin Tests (i.e. Koch Test, Mantoux Test, Patch Test and Diagnostic Jelly);
(c) intrauterine contraceptive devices (including drug-releasing IUCDs, contraceptive caps and diaphragms);
(d) pessaries which are appliances; and
(e) sutures (including skin closing strips).

**17.5** In respect of these products, subject to the provisions of this Section, the LHB must pay to all contractors under their GMS contracts the payments listed in paragraph 17.3, as calculated in accordance with this Section—

- if the products are provided in accordance with paragraph 51(1)(b) in Part 3 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations.

**Products not covered by this Section**

**17.6** No payments are payable under this Section in respect of the products listed in this paragraph, which are centrally supplied as part of the Childhood Immunisation Programme—

(a) MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella);
(b) BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin);
(c) Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative;
(d) Meningococcal C conjugate vaccine (for children under 5 and persons entering the first year of higher education);
(e) D'TaP/IPV/HiB (Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Inactivated Polio/Haemophilus influenzae type B);
(f) dTaP/IPV (low dose Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Inactivated Polio);
(g) D'TaP/IPV (Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Inactivated Polio);
(h) Td/IPV (Diphtheria/Tetanus/Inactivated Polio);
(i) Hib/MenC (Haemophilus influenzae type B/meningitis C), PCV (pneumococcal); and
(j) HPV (human papillomavirus types 16 and 18) in the case where the course of immunisation has commenced and is not complete before 19th October 2012;
(k) HPV (human papillomavirus types 6, 11, 16 and 18) in the case where the course of immunisation commences on or after 19th October 2012; or

**17.7** No payments are payable under this Section in respect of any other product which may be centrally supplied by the Welsh Government.

**17.8** Payments are payable under this Section—

(a) in respect of Td/IPV Diphtheria/Tetanus/Inactivated Polio where that product is used for the treatment of adults; or
(b) supplied to patients who require such products prior to travelling outside the United Kingdom and in either case where the Td/IPV product has been purchased by the contractor directly from the manufacturer.
17.9 If a medical practitioner issues a prescription for a drug or appliance and that medical practitioner does not supply it, no payments are payable in respect of that drug or appliance under this Section.

**Deductions in respect of charges**

17.10 Payment in respect of prescriptions shall be subject to any deduction required to be made under the National Health Service (Free Prescriptions and Charges for Drugs and Appliances)(Wales)Regulations 2007(a) in respect of charges required to be made and recovered by the dispensing practitioner.

**Contractors unable to obtain discounts**

17.11 If a contractor satisfies the LHB, by reason of remoteness of the contractor’s practice premises, the contractor is unable to obtain any discount on the basic price of drugs and appliances for which a payment is payable by the LHB under this Section (and the LHB must consult the Local Medical Committee for the area in which the contractor provides primary medical services, if there is one, before being so satisfied), the LHB must approve an exemption for that contractor from the application of the discount scale. The exemption shall be granted for a period of up to one year, and may be renewed thereafter for further periods, each not exceeding one year, if the contractor is able to satisfy the LHB that it is still unable to obtain any discount on the basic price of drugs and appliances for which a payment is payable under this Section.

17.12 Where the LHB approves such an exemption, it must inform the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services of the exemption and of the period for which it is to apply.

**Contractors that are to receive special payments**

17.13 If a contractor satisfies the LHB that—

(a) by reason of the remoteness of the contractor’s practice premises or the small quantities of drugs and appliances that the contractor needs to buy, the contractor has had to pay more than the basic price for drugs and appliances it orders; and

(b) its payments under paragraph 17.3(a) should be calculated at special payment levels rather than basic price levels,

(and the LHB must consult the Local Medical Committee for the area in which the contractor provides primary medical services, if there is one, before being so satisfied), the LHB must agree to reimburse the contractor on the basis of the special payment levels, instead of the basic price levels, of the drugs and appliances it supplies, as set out in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where on average the price paid by the contractor (excluding VAT) has been:</th>
<th>Special payment price level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 5% and up to 10% over the basic price</td>
<td>5% over the basic price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 10% and up to 15% over the basic price</td>
<td>10% over the basic price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 15% and up to 20% over the basic price</td>
<td>15% over the basic price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 20% over the basic price</td>
<td>20% over the basic price</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17.14 Where a contractor is reimbursed on the basis of special payment levels (see paragraph 17.13) any VAT allowance payable (see paragraph 17.3(c)) shall be calculated as a percentage of the special payment level.

17.15 Agreement to reimburse on the basis of special payment levels shall be granted for a period of up to one year, and may be renewed thereafter if the contractor is still able to satisfy the LHB...
that its payments under paragraph 17.3(a) should be calculated at special payment levels rather than basic price levels.

**Preconditions before payments under this Section are payable**

**17.16** The payments listed in paragraph 17.3 are only payable if the contractor has—

(a) noted, counted and sent all the prescriptions in respect of drugs or appliances in respect of which it wishes to claim reimbursement to the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services, 4th Floor, Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UB, not later than the 5th of the month following the month to which the prescriptions relate; and

(b) included all the claims under cover of a single claim form, and if the claim is in respect of the following high-volume personally administered vaccines – influenza, typhoid, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, Pneumococcal, and Meningococcal – it must be made in the form of bulk entries on the claim form.

**Payment arrangements**

**17.17** Where a contractor has satisfied the conditions in paragraph 17.16, the LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract—

(a) on the first day of the month after the month on which the contractor submitted its claim to the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services, an amount that represents 80% of the amount that the LHB reasonably estimates is likely to be due to the contractor in respect of the claim, once the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services has certified the amount due in respect of the claim (having taken into account the charges that are required to be made and recovered), although the LHB may pay less than 80% if the contractor’s claims each month in respect of prescriptions vary significantly; and

(b) on the first day of the second month after the month on which the contractor submitted its claim to the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services, the balance of the amount due in respect of the claim, having had that amount certified by NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership – Primary Care Services and taking into account—

   (i) the charges that are required to be made and recovered; and

   (ii) the amount already paid out in respect of the claim pursuant to sub-paragraph (a).

**Accounting obligations**

**17.18** It is a condition of the payments payable under this Section that the payments are only payable under this Section if the contractor ensures that—

(a) its actual expenditure on drugs and appliances (i.e. the amount it pays its suppliers) is shown “gross” on its practice accounts; and

(b) its payments from the LHB pursuant to this Section, and collected from patients in accordance with the National Health Service (Free Prescriptions and Charges for Drugs and Appliances)(Wales) Regulations 2007, are brought “gross” into its contractor accounts as “income”.

**Section 18: DISPENSARY SERVICES QUALITY SCHEME**

**Dispensary Services Quality Scheme: General**

**18.1** Contractors who are authorised or required to provide dispensing services to specific patients either in accordance with the provisions of Part 3 (dispensing doctors) of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 1992, or after the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services)(Wales) Regulations 2013 come into force, Part 5 of the National Health
Service (Pharmaceutical Services)(Wales) Regulations 2013, and paragraph 51 (provision of drugs, medicines and appliances for immediate treatment or personal administration) of Part 3 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations (the provision of such dispensing services being referred to in this Section as having “consent to dispense”), may choose to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme.

18.2 The obligations under the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme are set out in Annex H to this SFE. Participation in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme is voluntary.

Eligibility for Dispensary Services Quality Payments

18.3 A contractor that has consent to dispense will be eligible for an annual Dispensary Services Quality Payment, calculated in accordance with the provisions of this Section, if—

(a) the contractor participates in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme;
(b) the contractor satisfies the eligibility conditions set out in paragraph 18.4 (read with paragraphs 18.5 and 18.6); and
(c) the LHB is satisfied, following review of the contractor’s arrangements (which the LHB is to undertake between 1st January and 31st March inclusive of the financial year to which the payment relates or, where the provision of the service terminates before 1st January for any reason, on such other date as the LHB may, in consultation with the contractor, consider reasonable) that the contractor is providing the required level of service and is achieving the required standards, as set out in Annex H. This eligibility condition will only be satisfied if the contractor—

(i) complies with any reasonable requirement imposed on it, as part of that review, to provide documentary evidence of matters the LHB needs to consider in order to satisfy itself as to compliance with the standards and levels of service set out in Annex H; and
(ii) co-operates with a practice inspection, if the LHB considers it necessary to undertake one.

18.4 A contractor will only qualify for a Dispensary Services Quality Payment if it meets the following eligibility conditions—

(a) it must provide the LHB, in respect of each financial year during which it proposes to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme, with a written undertaking, within the time limits set out in paragraph 18.5, that it will, during the financial year to which the written undertaking relates—

(i) perform the services identified in Annex H; and
(ii) achieve the standards identified in Annex H;
(b) it must indicate in the written undertaking provided in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) the date during the financial year to which the written undertaking relates (that is, 1st April at the start of that financial year or a later date) with effect from which it either has been carrying out or proposes to carry out the services identified in Annex H;
(c) it must provide the LHB, in respect of each financial year during which it proposes to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme, with the name of a partner or salaried GP within the contractor’s practice who will be responsible for the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme and if the identity of the nominated responsible person changes, the contractor must notify the LHB in writing of the details of the new responsible person within 28 calendar days of the change; and
(d) it must, in respect of each financial year during which it proposes to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme, co-operate with the LHB in reviewing its Dispensary Services Quality Scheme arrangements.

18.5 The contractor must provide the written undertaking referred to in paragraph 18.4(a) within the following timescales—
(a) in the case of a GMS contract which is in existence on 1st April in the financial year and in respect of which the contractor has consent to dispense on that date, the contractor must provide the written undertaking before 1st July of that financial year;

(b) in the case of a GMS contract which is in existence on 1st April in the financial year but in respect of which the contractor does not have consent to dispense on that date, the contractor must provide the written undertaking within 3 months of obtaining consent to dispense, but in any event before 1st February of that financial year;

(c) in the case of a GMS contract which takes effect between 2nd April and 31st January inclusive in the financial year and in respect of which the contractor has, on the date the contract takes effect, consent to dispense, the contractor must provide the written undertaking within 3 months of the date the contract takes effect, but in any event before 1st February of that financial year; and

(d) in the case of a GMS contract which takes effect between 2nd April and 31st January inclusive of that financial year and in respect of which the contractor does not have, on the date the contract takes effect, consent to dispense, the contractor must provide the written undertaking within 3 months of the date of obtaining consent to dispense is obtained, but in any event before 1st February of that financial year.

18.6 A contractor is not eligible for a Dispensary Services Quality Payment in respect of any financial year as regards which its participation in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme starts on or after 1st February.

Calculation of Dispensary Services Quality Payments

18.7 If, as regards a GMS contract which is in existence on 1st April in any financial year, the contractor—

(a) had consent to dispense on 1st April of that financial year;

(b) had been participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme immediately prior to 1st April of that financial year; and

(c) satisfies the eligibility conditions set out in paragraph 18.3,

the LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract a Dispensary Services Quality Payment in respect of that financial year. That payment is to be calculated as follows—

£2.58 multiplied by the number of patients on the contractor’s list (as measured by the Exeter system) on 1st January of that financial year in respect of whom the contractor has consent to dispense.

18.8 If, as regards a GMS contract which is in existence on 1st April but to which paragraph 18.7(b) does not apply, or which is entered into between 2nd April and 31st January inclusive, the contractor—

(a) either had consent to dispense on 1st April of that financial year or has, on the date the contract takes effect, consent to dispense; and

(b) satisfies the eligibility conditions set out in paragraph 18.3,

the LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract a Dispensary Services Quality Payment in respect of that financial year.

18.9 The Dispensary Services Quality Payment payable under paragraph 18.8 above is calculated as follows—

£2.58 multiplied by—

the number of patients on the contractor’s list (as measured by the Exeter system) on 1st January of that financial year in respect of whom the contractor has consent to dispense on—

(a) 1st January of that financial year; or
(b) where the contract takes effect between 2nd January and 31st January inclusive of that financial year, the date upon which the contract takes effect,

then multiplied by X/365 (or X/366 where the financial year includes 29th February), where X is either the number of days left in the financial year from when the contract took effect or the number of days left in the financial year starting from (and including) the date specified by the contractor in his written undertaking pursuant to paragraph 18.4(b), whichever is the shorter period.

18.10 If, as regards a GMS contract which is in existence on 1st April, or which is entered into between 2nd April and 31st January inclusive, the contractor—

(a) either did not have consent to dispense on 1st April of that financial year or, on the date the contract takes effect, did not have consent to dispense;

(b) obtains consent to dispense between 2nd April and 31st January inclusive of that financial year; and

(c) satisfies the eligibility conditions set out in paragraph 18.3,

the LHB must pay to the contractor under its GMS contract a Dispensary Services Quality Payment in respect of that financial year.

18.11 The Dispensary Services Quality Payment payable under paragraph 18.10 above is calculated as follows—

£2.58 multiplied by—

the number of patients on the contractor’s list (as measured by the Exeter system) in respect of whom the contractor has consent to dispense on—

(a) 1st January of that financial year; or

(b) where the consent to dispense is obtained between 2nd January and 31st January inclusive of that financial year, the date upon which the consent to dispense is obtained,

then multiplied by X/365 (or X/366 where the financial year includes 29th February), where X is either the number of days left in the financial year from when the contract took effect or the number of days left in the financial year starting from (and including) the date specified by the contractor in his written undertaking pursuant to paragraph 18.4(b), whichever is the shorter period.

Conditions attached to Dispensary Services Quality Payments

18.12 A Dispensary Services Quality Payment, or any part thereof, is only payable if the contractor satisfies the following conditions—

(a) the contractor must make available to the LHB any information which the LHB does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain, in order to form its opinion on whether the contractor has fulfilled its obligations under the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme;

(b) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerized or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System, and do so promptly and fully; and

(c) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

18.13 If the contractor breaches any of the conditions referred to in paragraph 18.12, the LHB may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any, or any part of, a Dispensary Services Quality Payment that is otherwise payable.

Accounting arrangements and date payment is due

18.14 Dispensary Services Quality Payments are to be treated for accounting and superannuation purposes as gross income of the contractor in the financial year to which the payment relates. The Dispensary Services Quality Payment is to fall due—
18.15 In the case of a contract merger or split of a type described in paragraphs 18.18 to 18.23 below, the due date is the date that the payment would have fallen due if the contracts that are treated as terminated had in fact terminated.

**Part payment of Dispensary Services Quality Payments in special circumstances**

18.16 Where a contractor is participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme during any financial year and during that financial year—

(a) the contract terminates;

(b) the contractor ceases to have consent to dispense; or

(c) the contractor ceases to provide the services in Annex H,

the contractor may nevertheless be entitled to payment of a Dispensary Services Quality Payment, calculated in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 18.17 of this Section.

18.17 The calculation of the payment—

(a) will be on the basis of the number of patients in respect of whom the contractor has consent to dispense at the start of the quarter in which the contract terminates, the contractor ceases to have consent to dispense or the contractor ceases to provide the service in Annex H, as the case may be; and

(b) will be on the basis that in any calculation involving \( \frac{X}{365} \), or \( \frac{X}{366} \), “X” will be the number of days during the relevant financial year starting on the date when the contractor’s participation during that financial year in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme began and ending on the date on which the contract terminates, the contractor ceases to have consent to dispense or the contractor ceases to provide the services in Annex H, as the case may be.

**Provisions relating to contractors whose practices merge**

18.18 Paragraphs 18.19 and 18.20 apply where two or more contractors merge (“a contractual merger”) and as a result two or more patient lists are combined, resulting in either a new GMS contract or a varied GMS contract.

18.19 If any of the contractors in a contractual merger which takes place before 1st February in any financial year were participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme during that financial year, any Dispensary Services Quality Payment relating to that participation is to be calculated on the basis that their original GMS contract terminated on the date of the merger. The merged contract is to be treated for the purposes of this Section as a new contract coming into force on the date of the merger. If the new contractor (for these purposes) wants to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme it should seek to do so in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

18.20 If any of the contractors in a contractual merger which takes place on or after 1st February in any financial year were participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme during that financial year, any Dispensary Services Quality Payment is to be calculated on the basis that its
original GMS contract terminated on 31st March of that year. The merged contract is to be treated for the purposes of this Section as a new contract coming into force on the date of the merger. If the new contractor (for these purposes) wants to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme it should seek to do so in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The new contractor will have no entitlement to any Dispensary Services Quality Payment for the period between 1st February and 31st March of that financial year but may participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme in accordance with the provisions of this Section in future financial years.

Provisions relating to contractors whose practices split

18.21 Paragraphs 18.22 and 18.23 apply where a GMS contract splits (“a contractual split”) and as a result the contractor’s patient list is divided between two or more contractors, resulting in either new GMS contracts or varied GMS contracts or a combination of both.

18.22 If the original contractor in a contractual split which takes place before 1st February in any financial year was participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme during that financial year, any Dispensary Services Quality Payment is to be calculated on the basis that the original GMS contract terminated on the date of the split. The GMS contracts that emerge from the split are to be treated for the purposes of this Section as new contracts coming into force on the date of the split. If the new contractors (for these purposes) want to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme they should seek to do so in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

18.23 If the original contractor in a contractual split which takes place on or after 1st February in any financial year was participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme during that financial year, any Dispensary Services Quality Payment is to be calculated on the basis that the original GMS contract terminated on 31st March of that year. The GMS contracts that emerge from the split are to be treated for the purposes of this Section as new contracts coming into force on the date of the split. If any of the new contractors (for these purposes) want to participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme they should seek to do so in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The new contractors will have no entitlement to any Dispensary Services Quality Payment for the period between 1st February and 31st March of that financial year but may participate in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme in accordance with the provisions of this Section in future financial years.

Discretionary matters

18.24 Where the GMS contract of a contractor who is participating in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme is subject to a split or a merger and—

(a) the application of the provisions set out in this Section in respect of splits or mergers would, in the reasonable opinion of the LHB, lead to an inequitable result; or

(b) the circumstances of the split or merger are such that the provisions set out in this Section cannot be applied,

the LHB should consider, in consultation with the contractor or contractors concerned, making payments under section 53 of the 2006 Act.

18.25 It may be that the circumstances of a contract termination, or of a split or merger as described in paragraphs 18.18 to 18.23, have rendered it practically speaking impossible for a contractor to have complied with all of the entitlement conditions in paragraph 18.3. In these circumstances, the LHB may, where it is equitable to do so, set aside the considerations with which the contractor is no longer able to comply.
PART 5 ─ SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Section 19: ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Overpayments and withheld amounts

19.1 Without prejudice to the specific provisions elsewhere in this SFE, if the LHB makes a payment to a contractor under its GMS contract pursuant to this SFE and—

(a) the contractor was not entitled to receive all or part thereof, whether because it did not meet the entitlement conditions for the payment or because the payment was calculated incorrectly (including where a payment on account overestimates the amount that is to fall due);

(b) the LHB was entitled to withhold all or part of the payment because of a breach of a condition attached to the payment, but is unable to do so because the money has already been paid; or

(c) the LHB is entitled to repayment of all or part of the money paid,

the LHB may recover the money paid by deducting an equivalent amount from any payment payable pursuant to this SFE, and where no such deduction can be made, it is a condition of the payments made pursuant to this SFE that the contractor must pay to the LHB that equivalent amount.

19.2 Where the LHB is entitled pursuant to this SFE to withhold all or part of a payment because of a breach of a payment condition, and the LHB does so or recovers the money by deducting an equivalent amount from another payment in accordance with paragraph 19.1, it may, where it sees fit to do so, reimburse the contractor the amount withheld or recovered, if the breach is cured.

Underpayments and late payments

19.3 Without prejudice to the specific provisions elsewhere in this SFE relating to underpayments of particular payments, if the full amount of a payment that is payable pursuant to this SFE has not been paid before the date on which the payment falls due, then unless—

(a) this is with the consent of the contractor; or

(b) the amount of, or entitlement to, the payment, or any part thereof, is in dispute (once the payment falls due) it must be paid promptly (see regulation 22 of the 2004 Regulations).

19.4 If the contractor’s entitlement to the payment is not in dispute but the amount of the payment is in dispute, then once the payment falls due, pending the resolution of the dispute, the LHB must—

(a) pay to the contractor, promptly, an amount representing the amount that the LHB accepts that the contractor is at least entitled to; and

(b) thereafter pay any shortfall promptly, once the dispute is finally resolved.

19.5 However, if a contractor has—

(a) not claimed a payment to which it would be entitled pursuant to this SFE if it claimed the payment; or

(b) claimed a payment to which it is entitled pursuant to this SFE but the LHB is unable to calculate the payment until after the payment is due to fall due because it does not have the information or computer software it needs in order to calculate that payment (all reasonable efforts to obtain the information, or make the calculation, having been undertaken),

that payment is (instead) to fall due at the end of the month during which the LHB obtains the information or computer software it needs in order to calculate the payment.
Payments on account

19.6 Where the LHB and the contractor agree (but the LHB’s agreement may be withdrawn where it is reasonable to do so and if it has given the contractor reasonable notice thereof), the LHB must pay to a contractor on account any amount that is—

(a) the amount of, or a reasonable approximation of the amount of, a payment that is due to fall due pursuant to this SFE; or
(b) an agreed percentage of the amount of, or a reasonable approximation of the amount of, a payment that is due to fall due pursuant to this SFE,

and if that payment results in an overpayment in respect of the payment, paragraph 19.1 applies.

19.7 The LHB will not be able to calculate the correct amount of GP providers’ Seniority Payments during the financial year to which they relate because it will not be possible to calculate the correct value of the GP provider’s Superannuable Income Fraction until—

(a) the Average Adjusted Superannuable Income for that financial year has been established; and
(b) the GP provider’s pensionable earnings from all sources for that financial year, excluding—
   (i) pensionable earnings which do not appear on that provider’s certificate submitted to the LHB in accordance with paragraph 20.10; and
   (ii) any amount in respect of Seniority Payments,

have been established.

19.8 If the LHB cannot reach agreement with a contractor on a payment on account in respect of a Quarterly Seniority Payment pursuant to paragraph 19.6, it must nevertheless pay to the contractor on account a reasonable approximation for the Quarterly Seniority Payment, on or before the unrevised due date for payment of that payment (i.e. before it is revised in accordance with paragraph 19.5). If that payment results in an overpayment in respect of the Quarterly Seniority Payment, paragraph 19.1 applies.

Payments to or in respect of suspended doctors whose suspension ceases

19.9 If the suspension of a GP from the medical performers list ceases, and a contractor is entitled to any payments in respect of that GP pursuant to this SFE and payment was made to the GP pursuant to a determination made under regulation 13(17) of the Performers Lists Regulations but the GP was not entitled to receive all or any part of that payment, the amount to which the GP was not entitled may be set off, equitably, against any payment in respect of that GP pursuant to this SFE.

Effect on periodic payments of termination of a GMS contract

19.10 If a GMS contract under which a periodic payment is payable pursuant to this SFE is terminated before the date on which the payment falls due, a proportion of that payment is to fall due on that last day on which the contractor is under an obligation under its GMS contract to provide essential services. The amount of the periodic payment payable is to be adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing—

(a) the number of days during the period in respect of which the payment is payable for which the contractor was under an obligation under its GMS contract to provide essential services; by
(b) the total number of days in that period.

19.11 Paragraph 19.10 is without prejudice to any arrangements for the recovery of money paid under the GMS contract that is recoverable as a result of the contract terminating or any breach thereof.
**Time limitation for claiming payments**

**19.12** (1) Payments are only payable if claimed before the end of the period of six years beginning with the date on which they could first have fallen due (albeit that the due date has changed pursuant to paragraph 19.5).

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to any claims for payments which fall due under a provision of this SFE in respect of which an alternative timing limit for making claims for such payments is imposed unless, in the opinion of the LHB, exceptional circumstances exist which make it reasonable for that time limit to be disapplied.

**Dispute resolution procedures**

**19.13** Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this SFE between the LHB and a contractor is to be resolved as a dispute arising out of or in connection with the contractor’s GMS contract, i.e. in accordance with the NHS dispute resolution procedures or by the courts (see Part 7 of Schedule 6 to the 2004 Regulations).

**19.14** The procedures require the contractor and the LHB to make every reasonable effort to communicate and cooperate with each other with a view to resolving the dispute between themselves before referring it for determination. Either the contractor or the LHB may, if it wishes to do so, invite the Local Medical Committee for the area in which the contractor provides primary medical services under the GMS contract to participate in these discussions.

**Protocol in respect of locum cover payments**

**19.15** Part 4 sets out a number of circumstances in which the LHB is obliged to pay a maximum amount per week for locum cover in respect of an absent performer. However, even where the LHB is not directed pursuant to this SFE to make payments in respect of such cover, it has powers to do so as a matter of discretion – and may also decide, as a matter of discretion, to make top-up payments in a case where the maximum directed amount is payable.

**19.16** As a supplementary measure, the LHB is directed to adopt and keep up-to-date a protocol, which they must take all reasonable steps to agree with The General Practitioners Committee which is part of the British Medical Association, setting out in reasonable detail—

(a) how they are likely to exercise their discretionary powers to make payments (including top-up payments) in respect of locum cover, having regard to the budgetary targets they have set for themselves, where they are not obliged to make such payments;

(b) where they are obliged to make payments in respect of locum cover pursuant to Part 4, the circumstances in which they are likely to make payments in respect of locum cover of less that the maximum amount payable (for example where the locum cover is in respect of a part-time GP performer who normally works three days per week);

(c) how they are likely to exercise their discretionary powers to make payments in respect of cover for absent GP performers which is provided by nurses or other health care professionals;

(d) how they are likely to exercise their discretionary powers to make payments to a partner or shareholder in a contractor, or an employee of a contractor, who is providing locum cover for an absent GP performer who is also a partner or shareholder in, or an employee of, the contractor;

(e) how they are likely to exercise their discretionary powers to make payments in respect of a GP performer who is on a long term sickness leave, where locum cover payments are no longer payable in respect of that performer under Section 12. In determining the amounts that may be appropriate in these circumstances, the expectation of the Welsh Government is that they would not exceed the half rate payable in the second period of 26 weeks under paragraph 12.6(b), or the amount that would be payable under the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations if the performer retired on ground of permanent incapacity, whichever is the lower; and
Where they are not obliged to make payment in respect of locum cover pursuant to Part 4, how they are likely to exercise their discretionary powers to make payments in respect of a sole practitioner who is absent for the purposes of attending an accredited postgraduate educational course, in circumstances where, because of the nature of the locality in which the contractor’s premises are situated, locum cover arrangements (i.e. arrangements other than cover provided by a neighbouring practice) are essential to meet the needs of patients in that locality for primary medical services.

19.17 Where the LHB—

(a) intends to depart from that protocol in any individual case, it must consult the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the applicant affected by the departure from that protocol provides primary medical services; and

(b) departs from that protocol in any individual case and refuses an application for funding in respect of locum cover, this must be duly justified to the unsuccessful applicant.

Adjustment of Contractor Registered Populations

19.18 The starting point for the determination of a contractor’s Contractor Registered Population is the number of patients recorded in the Exeter Registration System as being registered with the contractor, initially when its GMS contract takes effect and thereafter at the start of each quarter, when a new number must be established.

19.19 However, in respect of any quarter, this number may be adjusted as follows—

(a) if a contractor satisfies the LHB that a patient who registered with it before the start of a quarter was not included in the number of patients recorded in the Exeter Registration System as being registered with it at the start of that quarter, and the LHB received notification of a new registration within 48 hours of the start of that quarter, that patient—

(i) is to be treated as part of that contractor’s Contractor Registered Population at the start of that quarter; and

(ii) if that patient was registered with another contractor at the start of that quarter, is not to be counted as part of that other contractor’s Contractor Registered Population for that quarter;

(b) if, included in the number of patients recorded in the Exeter Registration System as being registered with a contractor at the start of a quarter, there are patients who—

(i) transferred to another contractor in the quarter before the previous quarter (or earlier); but

(ii) notification of that fact was not received by the LHB until after the second day of the previous quarter,

those patients are not treated as part of the contractor’s Contractor Registered Population at the start of that quarter; or

(c) if a patient is not recorded in the Exeter Registration System as being registered with a contractor at the start of a quarter, but that patient—

(i) had been removed from a contractor’s patient list in error; and

(ii) was reinstated in the quarter before the previous quarter (or earlier),

that patient is to be treated as part of the contractor’s Contractor Registered Population at the start of that quarter.

19.20 If a contractor wishes its Contractor Registered Population to be adjusted in accordance with paragraph 19.19, it must—

(a) within 10 days of receiving from the LHB a statement of its patient list size for a quarter, request in writing that the LHB makes the adjustment; and

(b) within 21 days of receiving that statement, provide the LHB with the evidence upon which it wishes to rely in order to obtain the adjustment,
and the LHB must seek to resolve the matter as soon as is practicable. If there is a dispute in connection with the adjustments, paragraphs 19.13 and 19.14 apply.

Section 20: SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The LHB’s responsibilities in respect of contractors’ employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions

20.1 Employer’s superannuation contributions in respect of GP Registrars in general practice – who are subject to separate funding arrangements from those in respect of other GP performers – are the responsibility of the LHB, which act as their employer for superannuation purposes. In this section, a reference to a “specialist trainee” means a GP Registrar.

20.2 Under the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations, contractors continue to be responsible for paying the employer’s superannuation contributions of practice staff who are members of the NHS Pension Scheme, and for collecting and forwarding to the NHS Pensions Division which is part of the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSPD) both employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions in respect of their practice staff. Contractors are responsible, as the “employing authority” and are required to pay the LHB both the employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions for—

(a) non-GP providers; and

(b) GP performers who are not specialist trainees in general practice, who are members of the NHS Pension Scheme. The LHB must thereafter forward these contributions to the NHSPD. The detail of all these arrangements is set out in the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations.

20.3 In this Section—

(a) non-GP providers and GP performers who are not specialist trainees in general practice are together referred to as “Pension Scheme Contributors”; and

(b) the “LHB” is the “host LHB”, as defined in the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations(a).

20.4 The cost of paying Pension Scheme Contributors’ employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions relating to the income of Pension Scheme Contributors which is derived from the revenue of a GMS contract has been or will be included in the national calculations of the levels of the payments in respect of services set out in this SFE. It is also to be assumed that—

(a) any other arrangements that the contractor has entered into to provide services which give rise to pensionable earnings for the purposes of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations will have included provision for all the payable superannuation contributions in respect of its Pension Scheme Contributors in the contract price; and

(b) the payments from the LHB to the contractor in respect of services under the GMS contract, together with the contract price of any other contract to provide services which gives rise to pensionable earnings for the purposes of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations that the contractor has entered into, also cover the cost of any additional voluntary contributions that the LHB is obliged to forward to the NHSPD or an Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider on the contract’s, or its Pension Scheme Contributors’ behalf.

20.5 Accordingly, the costs of paying the employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions of a contractor’s Pension Scheme Contributors under the NHS Pensions Scheme in respect of their pensionable earnings from all sources – unless superannuated for the purposes of the NHS Pension Scheme elsewhere – are all to be deducted by the LHB from any money the

(a) “Host Board” is defined in regulation 2.A.1 of the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/653).
LHB pays, pursuant to this SFE, to the contractor that is the employing authority of the Pension Scheme Contributor.

Monthly deduction in respect of superannuation contributions

20.6 The deductions are to be made in two stages. First, the LHB, as part of the calculation of the net amount (as opposed to the gross amount) of a contractor’s payable GSMPs, deduct an amount that represents a reasonable approximation of a monthly proportion of—

(a) the contractor’s liability in the financial year to which the Payable GSMPs relate in respect of the employer’s superannuation costs under the NHS Pension Scheme relating to any of the contractor’s Pension Scheme Contributors (i.e. a reasonable approximation in respect of their total NHS Pension Scheme pensionable earnings which are not superannuated elsewhere) who are members of the NHS Pension Scheme;

(b) those Pension Scheme Contributors’ related employee’s superannuation contributions; and

(c) any payable additional voluntary contributions in respect of those Pension Scheme Contributors.

20.7 Before determining the monthly amount to be deducted, the LHB must take all reasonable steps to agree with the contractor what that amount should be, and it must duly justify to the contractor the amount that it does determine as the monthly deduction.

20.8 Superannuation contributions in respect of payments for specific purposes which are paid after the start of the financial year will, for practical reasons, need to be handled slightly differently. The LHB and the contractor may agree that the payment is to be made net of any superannuation contributions that the LHB is responsible for collecting on behalf of the NHSPD or an Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider. In the absence of such an agreement, the default position is that a reasonable proportion of the total amount of those contributions will need to be deducted from the remaining Payable GSMPs that are due to the contractor before the end of the financial year.

20.9 An amount equal to the monthly amount that the LHB deducts must be remitted to the NHSPD and any relevant Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions Providers no later than—

(a) the 19th day of the month in respect of which the amount was deducted; or

(b) in the case of Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions, 7 days after an amount in respect of them is deducted pursuant to paragraph 20.6.

End-year adjustments

20.10 After the end of any financial year, the final amount of each Pension Scheme Contributor’s superannuable income in respect of the financial year will need to be determined. For these purposes, the superannuable income of a Pension Scheme Contributor is the contractor’s total pensionable earnings, as determined in accordance with the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations, which are not superannuated elsewhere.

20.11 As regards contractors that are partnerships, sole practitioners or companies limited by shares, it is a condition of all the payments payable pursuant to Parts 1 to 3 of this SFE – if any of the contractor’s Pension Scheme Contributors are members of the NHS Pension Scheme – that the contractor ensures that its Pension Scheme Contributors (other than those who are neither members of the NHS Pension Scheme nor due Seniority Payments) prepare, sign and forward to the LHB—

(a) an accurately completed certificate, the General Medical Practitioner’s Annual Certificate of Pensionable Profits, in the standard format provided nationally; and

(b) no later than one month from the date on which the GP was required to submit the HM Revenue & Customs return on which the certificates must be based.
20.12 Seniority payments have to be separately identifiable in the certificate for the purposes of the calculation of Average Adjusted Superannuable Income, which is necessary for the determination of the amount of GP providers’ Seniority payments. Seniority Payment figures in the certificates forwarded to the LHB will necessarily be provisional (unless they are submitted too late for the information they contain to be included in the national calculation of Average Adjusted Superannuable Income), but the forwarding of certificates must not be delayed simply because of this. Pension Scheme Contributors who are not members of the NHS Pension Scheme but in respect of whom a claim for a Quarterly Seniority Payment is to be made must nevertheless prepare, sign and forward the certificate to the LHB so that the correct amount of their Seniority Payments may be determined.

20.13 Once a contractor’s Pension Scheme Contributor’s superannuable earnings in respect of a financial year have been agreed, the LHB must—

(a) if its deductions from the contractor’s Payable GSMPs during that financial year relating to the superannuation contributions in respect of those earnings—

(i).did not cover the cost of all the employer’s and employee’s superannuation contribution that are payable by the contractor or the Pension Scheme Contributors in respect of those earnings—

(aa).deduct the amount outstanding from any payment payable to the contractor under its GMS contract pursuant to this SFE (and for all purposes the amount that is payable in respect of that payment is to be reduced accordingly); or

(bb).obtain payment (where no such deduction can be made) from the contractor of the amount outstanding, and it is a condition of the payments made pursuant to this SFE that a contractor that is an employing authority of a Pension Scheme Contributor must pay to the LHB the amount outstanding; or

(ii).were in excess of the amount payable by the contractor and the Pension Scheme Contributor to the NHSPD or a relevant Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider in respect of those earnings, repay the excess amount to the contractor promptly (unless, in the case of an excess amount in respect of Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions, the Contributor elects for that amount to be a further contribution and he is entitled to so elect); and

(b) forward any outstanding employer’s and employee’s superannuation contributions due in respect of those earnings to the NHSPD or any relevant Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider (having regard to the payments it has already made on account in respect of those Pension Scheme Contributors for that financial year).

Locum practitioners

20.14 Under the NHS Pensions Schemes Regulations, locum practitioners must pay employee’s superannuation contributions to the LHB in respect of pensionable locum work undertaken.

20.15 Where contributions are payable by a locum practitioner under paragraph 20.14 in respect of pensionable locum work carried out for an employing authority, that employing authority (within the meaning of the Pension Schemes Regulations) must pay employer’s superannuation contributions in respect of that work.

20.16 Where employer’s superannuation contributions are payable in respect of a locum practitioner under paragraph 20.15, those contributions must be paid to the LHB.

20.17 It is to be assumed that a GMS contractor who enters into an arrangement with a locum practitioner which give rise to pensionable earnings for the purposes of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations will have included provision in that arrangement for all the payable superannuation contributions in respect of that locum practitioner in the contract price.
Recovery of unpaid contributions

20.18 Paragraph 20.19 applies where, despite the provisions of this section—
(a) a Pension Scheme Contributor or locum practitioner has failed to pay employee’s superannuation contributions;
(b) a Pension Scheme Contributor has failed to pay employer’s superannuation contributions; or
(c) an employing authority has failed to deduct employee’s superannuation contributions.

20.19 The LHB may recover the amount of any unpaid contributions referred to in paragraph 20.18—
(a) where an employing authority has ceased to exist and paragraph 20.18(a) applies, by adding the amount of those unpaid contributions to the amount of employee’s superannuation contributions the Pension Scheme Contributor or locum practitioner in question is due to pay the LHB: that Pension Scheme Contributor is to record that amount of those unpaid contributions in a certificate referred to in paragraph 23 of Schedule 2 to the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 1995 or regulation 2.J.14 of the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2008; or
(b) by deduction from any payment of a benefit to, or in respect of, the member entitled to that benefit, such a deduction must be to the member’s advantage and is subject to the member’s consent.

20.20 The provisions of paragraph 20.19 are without prejudice to any other method of recovery the Secretary of State may have.

PART 6 - TRANSITIONAL, REVOCATION AND SAVING PROVISIONS

Section 21: Transitional provisions

Transitional provisions

21.1 Where it is necessary for the contractor or the LHB—
(a) to take account of a period of time; or
(b) to calculate a period of time which is required in accordance with this SFE,
any period of time that occurred before 1st April 2013 and which is relevant to the matter under consideration is to be taken into account or used in order to calculate any time period for the purposes of that consideration or applying provisions in this SFE on or after 1st April 2013 only if that period of time could have been taken into account or used in a calculation of a time period in respect of those mirror provisions as in force immediately before 1st April 2013.

Revocations

21.2 Subject to paragraph 21.3, the 2005 SFE and the amendments to the 2005 SFE, as listed in Annex J are revoked,

Savings

21.3 Notwithstanding the revocation provided for in paragraph 21.2, the 2005 SFE and the amendments to those Directions as in force immediately before 1st April 2013—
(a) continue to apply to the extent necessary in respect of establishing entitlement to a Seniority Payment and the calculation of the full annual rate of such a payment as provided for in paragraph 15.13 (calculation of seniority payments for the period until 31st March 2009);
(b) continue to apply to the extent necessary in respect of the application of Annex B; and
(c) continue to apply to the extent necessary to assess any entitlement to payment or recovery of payment arising under the terms of GMS contract.
21.4 For the purposes of paragraph 21.3 and for the resolution of any matter which is pending as at 31st March 2013 the LHB may do or continue to do anything which it could have done in relation to the 2005 SFE.
ANNEX A - GLOSSARY

PART 1 - ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are used in this document:

CFMP – Correction Factor Monthly Payment
CPI – Contractor Population Index
CRP – Contractor Registered Population
FYOIP – Five-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment
GMS – General Medical Services
GSE – Global Sum Equivalent
GSMP – Global Sum Monthly Payment
LHB – Local Health Board
LMC – Local Medical Committee
MPIG – Minimum Practice Income Guarantee
NHS – National Health Service
NHSPD – NHS Pensions Division which is part of the NHS Business Services Authority
PSMP – Practice Support Monthly Payment
QOF – Quality and Outcomes Framework
TYOIP – Two-Year-Olds Immunisation Payment

PART 2 - DEFINITIONS

Unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions used in this SFE and the 2004 Regulations bear the meaning they bear in the 2004 Regulations.

The following words and expressions used in this SFE have, unless the context otherwise requires, the following meaning—

“2006 Act” means the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006(a);
“2004 Regulations” means the National Health Services (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) Regulations 2004(b);
“Achievement Payment” is to be construed in accordance with Section 6;
“Aspiration Payment” is to be construed in accordance with Section 5;
“Aspiration Points Total” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 4.5(b) and 5.11;
“Additional Services”, in the context of the additional services domain, means the following services: cervical screening services, child health surveillance, maternity medical services and contraceptive services. In other contexts, it also includes: minor surgery, childhood vaccines and immunisations including pre-school boosters, and vaccinate and immunisations;

(a) 2006 c. 42.
(b) S.I 2004/478 (W.48) as amended
“Additional or Out of Hours Services” means all the services listed in the definition of Additional Services above, together with out of hours services provided under arrangements made pursuant to regulation 30 of the 2004 Regulations;

“Adjusted Global Sum Equivalent” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4;

“Adjusted Global Sum Monthly Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 2.5 and 2.10.

“Adjusted Practice Disease Factor” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 6.6 and Annex F;

“the LHB” means the Local Health Board;

“Childhood Immunisations” is to be construed as a reference to the Childhood Vaccines and Immunisations additional service referred to in the 2004 Regulations;

“Contractor” means a person entering into, or who has entered into, a GMS contract with the LHB in accordance with section 42 of the 2006 Act;

“Contractor Population Index” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 2.18.

“Contractor Registered Population”, in relation to a contractor, means (subject to any adjustment made in accordance with paragraph 2.18) the number of patients recorded in the Exeter Registration System as being registered with the contractor, initially when its GMS contract takes effect and thereafter at the start of each quarter, when a new number must be established;

“Contractor Weighted Population for the Quarter” is a figure set for each contractor arrived at by the Global Sum Allocation Formula in Part 1 of Annex B;

“Correction Factor Monthly Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 3.9.

“DES Directions” means the Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions 2007 which came into force on 12th December 2007;

“Dispensary Services Quality Payment” is to be construed in accordance with the provisions of Section 16;

“Dispensary Services Quality Scheme” is to be construed in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 and Annex H;

“Drug Tariff” means the publication known as the Drug Tariff which is published by the Secretary of State and which is referred to in section 81(4) (arrangements for additional pharmaceutical services) of the 2006 Act;

“Employing authority” has the same meaning as in the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations.

“Employed or engaged”, in relation to a general practitioner’s relationship with a contractor, includes –

(a) a sole practitioner who is the contractor;

(b) a general practitioner who is a partner in a partnership and that partnership is the contractor; and

(c) general practitioner who is a shareholder in a company limited by shares and that company is the contractor;

“Final Global Sum Equivalent” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 3.4;

“financial year” means the period of 12 months commencing on 1st April and ending on 31st March;

“Full-time” means, in relation to a performer of primary medical services with a contract of employment, a contractual obligation to work for at least 37 ½ hours per normal working week. The hours total may be made up of surgeries, clinics, administrative work in connection with the performance of primary medical services, or management activities and other similar duties which enhance the performance of the contractor as a provider of primary medical services but do not directly relate to the performance of primary medical services;
“General Practitioner” means a medical practitioner whose name is included in the General Practitioner Register kept by the General Medical Council;

“Global Sum Equivalent” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 3.2.

“GMS Contract” means a general medical services contract entered into in accordance with section 42 of the 2006 Act;

“GMS contractor” means a contractor who provides primary medical services under a GMS contract;

“GP performer” means a general practitioner—
(a) whose name is included in the medical performers of a Local Health Board; and
(b) who performs primary medical services under a GMS contract, and who is—
    (i) a contractor (i.e. a sole practitioner);
    (ii) an employee of a contractor; or
    (iii) a partner in a partnership or a shareholder in a company limited by shares and that partnership or, as the case may be, that company is the contractor;

“GP provider” means a GP who is—
(a) a contractor (i.e. a sole practitioner);
(b) a partner in a partnership and that partnership is the contractor; or
(c) a shareholder in a company limited by shares and that company is the contractor;

“GP Registrar” means a medical practitioner who is being trained in general practice by a medical practitioner who is approved under section 34I(1)(c) of the Medical Act 1983 for the purpose of providing training under that Act;

“Historic Opt-Outs Adjustment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7;

“Initial Global Sum Equivalent” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2;

“Initial Global Sum Monthly Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 2.4 and 2.9;

“LHB’s cut-off date for calculating quarterly payments” means the date in the final month of a quarter, determined by the LHB, after which it is not in a position to accept new data in respect of payments to be made at the end of that quarter;

“Locum practitioner” means a general medical practitioner (other than a trainee practitioner)—
(a) who falls within the description of paragraph (a) of the definition of “GP Performer”; and
(b) who is engaged under a contract for services by a GMS contractor to deputise or assist temporarily in the provision of any one or a combination of any of the following—
    (i) essential services;
    (ii) additional services;
    (iii) enhanced services;
    (iv) dispensing services;
    (v) commissioned services; or
    (vi) certification services;

“Medical Performers List” is to be construed in accordance with regulation 3(1) of the Performers Lists Wales Regulations;

“Minimum Practice Income Guarantee” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 3.1;

“Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider” means an insurance company providing what, for the purposes of the National Health Service Pension Scheme (Additional...
“Voluntary Contributions) Regulations 2000(a), is a free-standing additional voluntary contributions scheme;

“Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions” means contributions to a Money Purchase Additional Voluntary Contributions Provider in respect of what, for the purposes of the National Health Service Pension Scheme (Additional Voluntary Contributions) Regulations 2000, is a free-standing additional voluntary contributions scheme;

“Monthly Aspiration Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 5.7 and 5.12;

“’The National Average of Registered Patients (NARP)” is the aggregate CRP of contractors in Wales, as calculated using the number of patients recorded on the Exeter Registration System as being registered with contractors on the 1 January, divided by the number of contractors at the 31 March, in the year immediately before the commencement of the financial year to which the relevant payment relates.”

“NHS Pension Scheme Regulations” means the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 1995(b) and the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2008(c);

“Part-time” means, in relation to a performer of primary medical services with a contract of employment, a contractual obligation to work for less than 37 ½ hours per normal working week. The hours total may be made up of surgeries, clinics, administrative work in connection with the performance of primary medical services, or management activities and other similar duties which enhance the performance of the contractor as a provider of primary medical services but do not directly relate to the performance of primary medical services.

“Performers Lists Regulations” means the National Health Service (Performers Lists) (Wales) Regulations 2004(d);

“PMS agreement” means an agreement entered into in accordance with section 50 of the 2006 Act;

“PMS contractor” means a person who has entered into a PMS agreement;

“Practice Support Monthly Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 3.30-3.34

“ Provisional Unadjusted Achievement Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5;

“Quality and Outcomes Framework” is the framework reproduced at Annex D;

“Quality and Outcomes Framework Uprating Index” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 5.6;

“Quarter” means a quarter of the financial year and quarter period is to be construed as the period of 3 months ending on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September or 31st December;

“Reckonable Service” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 15.3;

“Red Book” means the Statement of Fees and Allowances under regulation 34 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services) Regulations 1992, as it had effect on 31st March 2004;

“Sole practitioner” means an individual GP performer who is also a GMS contractor;

“Suspended”, in relation to a GP performer, means suspended from the medical performers list;

“Target Population Factor is to be construed in accordance with paragraphs E3 and E4;

“Temporary Patients Adjustment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 2.4 and Annex C;

“Time Commitment Fraction” is the fraction produced by dividing a performer of primary medical services’ actual working commitment by 37 ½ hours. The hours total may be made
up of surgeries, clinics, administrative work in connection with the performance of primary medical services, or management activities and other similar duties which enhance the performance of the contractor as a provider of primary medical services but do not directly relate to the performance of primary medical services; and

“Unadjusted Achievement Payment” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 5.4.
ANNEX B - GLOBAL SUM

PART 1 - THE GLOBAL SUM ALLOCATION FORMULA

Introduction

B.1 The global sum will be allocated using the Global Sum Allocation Formula. This formula aims to ensure that resources reflect more accurately the contractor’s workload and the unavoidable costs of delivering high quality care to the local population.

B.2 The formula consists of the following components—
(a) an adjustment for the age and sex structure of the population;
(b) an adjustment for the additional needs of the population, relating to morbidity and mortality;
(c) an adjustment for list turnover;
(d) a nursing and residential homes index; and
(e) adjustments for the unavoidable costs of delivering services to the population, including a Market Forces Factor and rurality index.

Age and sex adjustment

B.3 The analysis supporting the formula estimates the relative workload, weighted by staff input cost, of providing general medical services to males and females of a number of age groups. The table below, based on analysis of the General Practice Research Database, shows these indices (expressed relative to a male patient aged 5-14), including an adjustment for the higher workload of treating patients through home visits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>3.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-44</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>6.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>5.81</td>
<td>6.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+</td>
<td>6.27</td>
<td>6.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B.4 Therefore, each male patient on a contractor’s list aged over 85 will attract 6.27 times the resources for a male patient aged 5-14.

Nursing and Residential Homes

B.5 Patients in nursing and residential homes generate more workload than patients with otherwise similar characteristics who are not in homes. A factor of 1.43 is applied in respect of each patient in a nursing or residential home.

Needs adjustment

B.6 As well as the impact on contractors’ workload generated by differing age and sex groups, the effect of indicators of mortality and morbidity on consultation frequency has been estimated, using the Health Survey for England.

B.7 Of all the variables tested by the supporting analysis, Standardised Limited Long- Standing Illness (SLLI) and the Standardised Mortality Ratio for those aged under 65 (SMR<65) were found to be best at explaining variations in workload.

B.8 The Global Sum Allocation Formula relates these variables to workload by the following formula—

\[
\text{Practice list} \times (48.1198 + (0.26115 \times \text{SLLI}) + (0.23676 \times \text{SMR<65})).
\]
In this formula, as in all other formulae in this Annex B, the symbol “*” is used as the sign for multiplication.

List turnover adjustment

B.9. Areas with high list turnover often have higher workload, as patients in their first year of registration in a practice tend to have more consultations than other patients.

B.10. Analysis of the workload implications revealed 40 – 50% more workload, as measured by aggregate consultation times, within the first year of registration. An average uplift factor, of 1.46, will be applied through the formula in respect of all new registrants in their first year of registration.

Unavoidable costs adjustment

B.11. Contractors are also likely to face differing costs of delivering primary care, particularly caused by geographic location. The global sum allocation formula reflects these costs through an explicit adjustment for ‘market forces’ and rurality. There is also an ‘off-formula’ adjustment for contractors whose qualify for the London adjustment.

Staff Market Forces

B.12. The staff Market Forces Factor has been informed by analysis of the New Earnings Survey, and reflects the geographical variation in contractors’ staff costs. The estimation methodology is the same as that used for general NHS allocations.

B.13. This element of the formula has been given a weighting of 48%, as this is the average proportion of the global sum accounted for by staff expenses.

Rurality

B.14. The cost of delivering services is likely to be affected by the rurality of the area the practice serves. Two measures designed to reflect rurality were used—

(a) population density (as measured by persons per hectare in the wards from which a contractor draws its patients); and

(b) population dispersion (as measured by the average distance from patients to practice). If a practice has more than one surgery, the average distance is assessed from the practice’s principal surgery, which is defined as the surgery which the greatest number of the practice’s patients could reasonably be expected to attend.

B.15. Using analysis of the HM Revenue & Customs information on GP expenses, rurality is linked to cost through the following adjustment to the formula—

\[ \text{Practice List} \times \text{average distance}^{0.05} \times \text{population density}^{0.06} \]

B.16. This adjustment is applied only to the expenses element of GMS expenditure, and therefore given an overall weighting of 58%.

Normalising the adjustments

B.17. At each stage of the calculation, the weighted practice populations are normalized (scaled back) to the LHB normalized weighted population. This is done so that the impact of each of the adjustments is equal, and ensures that one adjustment does not dominate the others.
B.18. Using the age and sex adjustment as an example, the formula for normalising weighted practice populations, for the specific Global Sum Allocation Formula adjustments, is as follows:

\[
\text{age and sex weighted practice population} / \sum \text{LHB age and sex weighted practice populations} \quad \times \quad \text{LHB normalized weighted population}
\]

B.19. The LHB normalized weighted population used above is the LHB’s registered population for the current quarter multiplied by its latest Quarterly LHB Normalising Index. The Quarterly LHB Normalising Index is a quarterly updated index derived by the Exeter System from the data used in the previous quarter’s Global Sum Allocation Formula. Scaling back to this population ensures that the needs and costs of the LHB’s population, relative to the LHB’s in the country, are reflected in its practices’ global sum payments.

B.20. The other five weighted practice populations produced by the other adjustments in the Global Sum Allocation formula are normalized in the same manner as outlined in B.18.

B.21. The normalised weighted practice populations for each adjustment are then divided by the practice’s normalized list size to generate a practice index for each adjustment used in the Global Sum Allocation Formula. The formula for calculating the practice’s normalized list size is as follows—

\[
\text{Practice normalized list size} = \text{CRP} \times \text{Quarterly LHB Normalising Index}
\]

B.22. Using the age and sex adjustment as an example, the formula for then calculating the practice index for each adjustment is as follows—

\[
\text{Practice age and sex index} = \frac{\text{Normalised age and sex weighted practice population}}{\text{Practice normalised list size}}
\]

B.23. Indices are produced for each of the other five adjustments in the Global Sum Allocation Formula in the same manner as outlined in B.22.

Combining the adjustments

B.24 Each of the six indices are then applied simultaneously to the practice’s normalised list size to calculate the overall weighted practice, as follows—

\[
\text{Overall weighted practice population} = \text{Practice normalised list size} \times \text{age and sex index} \times \text{nursing and residential homes index} \times \text{additional needs index} \times \text{MFF index} \times \text{rurality index}
\]

B.25. This overall weighted practice population is then normalised to the national registered population to calculate the Contractor Weighted Population for the Quarter as follows—

\[
\text{Contractors Weighted Population} = \frac{\text{overall weighted practice population}}{\sum \text{LHB overall weighted practice populations}} \times \text{LHB normalized weighted population}
\]
ANNEX C - TEMPORARY PATIENTS ADJUSTMENT

C.1 The need for this arises because of the contractors’ obligations to provide emergency treatment to people who are not registered with their practice and to provide treatment to temporary residents. The Temporary Patients Adjustment will be calculated as follows.

C.2 All contractors are to receive a payment for unregistered patients as an element in their global sum allocation.

C.3 In the case of a contractor in respect of which a Temporary Patients Adjustment was calculated for the financial year prior to the current financial year in respect of which a calculation needs to be made, the Temporary Patients Adjustment for the current financial year will be the same amount as was calculated for the previous financial year.

C.4 However, there may be exceptional cases where a calculation pursuant to paragraph C.3 produces an amount that is clearly inappropriate as the basis for a payment in the financial year to which the payment relates. This may occur, for example, where the practice has faced a significant increase or decrease in the numbers of unregistered patients requiring treatment from it. In these cases, the LHB is instead to determine for the contractor, as the basis for its Temporary Patients Adjustment, a reasonable annual amount which is an appropriate rate for the area where the practice is located. Before making such a determination, the LHB must discuss the matter with the contractor.

C.5 In the case of a contractor in respect of which no Temporary Patients Adjustment was calculated for the financial year prior to the current financial year in respect of which a calculation needs to be made, the LHB is instead to determine for the contractor, as the basis for its Temporary Patients Adjustment for the current financial year, a reasonable annual amount which is an appropriate rate for the area where the practice is located. Before making such a determination, the LHB must discuss the matter with the contractor.

C.6 The amount calculated in accordance with paragraph C.3 to C.5 is the annual amount of the contractor’s Temporary Patients Adjustment, which is the amount to be included in its Initial GSMP calculation.

C.7 Once a Temporary Patients Adjustment has been determined, it remains unchanged for the financial year to which the determination relates.
Section 1: Introduction

General
D.1 The Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) rewards contractors for the provision of quality care and helps to standardise improvements in the delivery of primary medical services. Contractor participation in QOF is voluntary.

D.2 The percentages for the achievement threshold levels for the fraction indicators included in QOF are set out in this Annex.

Glossary of terms used in Annex D

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACE</td>
<td>Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF</td>
<td>Atrial Fibrillation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARB</td>
<td>Angiotensin Receptor Blocker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST</td>
<td>Asthma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>Body Mass Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP</td>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHD</td>
<td>Coronary Heart Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHS</td>
<td>Child Health Surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHADS2</td>
<td>Congestive (HF) Hypertension Age (75 and over) Diabetes Stroke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CKD</td>
<td>Chronic Kidney Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CON</td>
<td>Contraception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Cervical Screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVD</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVD-PP</td>
<td>CVD Primary Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEM</td>
<td>Dementia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEP</td>
<td>Depression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM</td>
<td>Diabetes Mellitus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DXA</td>
<td>Dual-energy X-ray Absorptiometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EP</td>
<td>Epilepsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBC</td>
<td>Full Blood Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEV1</td>
<td>Forced Expiratory Volume in One Second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>General Practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP-PAQ</td>
<td>GP Physical Activity Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HbA1c</td>
<td>Glycated Haemoglobin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF</td>
<td>Heart Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYP</td>
<td>Hypertension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFCC</td>
<td>International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUS</td>
<td>Intrauterine System</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Interpretation of words and expressions used in Annex D

D.3 In this Annex, unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions have the following meaning—

(b) “currently treated” in respect of a patient is to be construed as a patient who has been prescribed a specified medicine within a period of six months which ends on the last day of the financial year to which the achievement payment relates;

“excepted patients” means persons who fall within the description of patients in paragraph D.11 (exception reporting);

“exclusions” means persons who fall within the description of patient in paragraph D.10; and

“financial year” means the period of 12 months commencing on 1 April and ending on 31 March;

Active QOF Indicators

D.4.1 For the purposes of calculating achievement payments, contractor achievement against QOF indicators is measured—

(c) on the last day of the financial year; or

in the case where the contract terminates mid-year, on the last day on which the contract subsists.

D.4.2 For example, for payments relating to a financial year, unless the contract terminates mid-year, achievement is measured on 31 March. If the GMS contract ends on 30 June, achievement is measured on 30 June.

D.4.3 Indicators generally set out the target, intervention or measurement to be recorded within a specified time period to establish eligibility for achievement payments. Unless otherwise stated, time periods referred to mean the period which ends on the last day of the financial year to which the achievement payment relates. For example—

(d) in indicator CAN003W, “the percentage of patients with cancer, diagnosed within the preceding 15 months, who have a patient review recorded as occurring within 6 months of the contractor receiving confirmation of the diagnosis or where clinically appropriate within 3 months”……, the phrase “within the preceding 15 months” means the period of 15 months which ends on 31 March in the financial year to which the achievement payments relate;

in indicator HYP006, “the percentage of patients with hypertension in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 12 months) is 150/90 mmHg or less”, the phrase “in the preceding 12 months” means the period of 12 months which ends on 31 March in the financial year to which the achievement payments relate;

in indicator CS002, “the percentage of women (aged 25 or over and who have not attained the age of 65) whose notes record that a cervical screening test has been performed in the preceding 5 years”, the phrase “in the preceding 5 years” means the period of 5 years which ends on 31 March in the financial year to which the achievement payments relate; and
in indicator FLU001W, “the percentage of the registered population aged 65 years or more who have had influenza immunisation in the preceding 1 August to 31 March”, the phrase “in the preceding 1 August to 31 March” means the period of 8 months which ends on 31 March in the financial year to which the achievement payments relate.

D.4.4 In the case of a contract that has come to an end before 31 March in any relevant financial year, the reference to periods of time must be calculated on the basis that the period ends on 31 March in the financial year to which the achievement payments relate.

Inactive QOF Indicators

D.5 Inactive Clinical QOF are those indicators which contractors’ performance will not be measured for payment. Instead contractors will be entitled to the same Achievement Points total used for payment purposes for those particular indicators in 2016/17. As outlined in the CND, contractors will peer review elements of Inactive Clinical QOF in order to gain assurance on standards. This “light touch” review will be based on data available through the current system and will focus on specific indicators.

D.6 Contractors will engage in peer review through the cluster networks to gain assurance on standards on elements of the inactive QOF. Indicators DM 002, DM 003, DM 007, DM 012, DM 014, COPD 002; COPD 003; and COPD 005 will be subject to peer review during 2017/18 to provide assurance on standards. The peer review will be undertaken through cluster networks which is an element of CND 011W CND. Other indicators designated as “inactive” may also be considered for peer review if specific cause for concern is identified.

Disease registers

D.7 An important feature of the QOF is the establishment of disease registers. These are lists of patients registered with the contractor who have been diagnosed with the disease or risk factor described in the register indicator. While it is recognised that these may not be completely accurate, it is the responsibility of the contractor to demonstrate that it has systems in place to maintain a high-quality register. Verification may involve asking how the register is constructed and maintained. The LHB may compare the reported prevalence with the expected prevalence and ask contractors to explain any reasons for variations.

D.8 For some indicators, there is no disease register, but instead there is a target population group. For example, for cervical screening the target population group is women who have attained the age of 25 years or over and who have not attained the age of 65 years. Indicators in the Clinical Domain are arranged in terms of clinical areas. Most of these areas either relate to a register or to a target population group.

D.9 Some areas in the clinical domain do not have a register indicator, or there may be more than one register to calculate the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor for different indicators within the area. For all relevant areas, the registered population used to calculate the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor are set out in the summary of indicators.

D.10 Indicators in the CND have neither a disease register nor a target population. These are indicators which require a particular activity to be carried out and where the points available are awarded in full if it is carried out or not at all if it is not carried out.

Exception reporting and exclusions

D.11 Exception reporting applies to those indicators in ACD of the QOF where the achievement is determined by the percentage of patients receiving the specified level of care (fraction indicators).

D.12 Some indicators refer to a sub-set of patients on the relevant disease register, or in the target population group. Patients who are on the disease register or target group, but not included in an indicator denominator for the clinical area concerned for definitional reasons are called “exclusions”.

D.13 “Exceptions” relate to registered patients who are in the relevant disease register or target group and would ordinarily be included in the indicator denominator, but who are excepted by the contractor on the basis of one or more of the exception criteria set out below. Patients are removed from the denominator if they have been excepted and also the care specified in the indicators has not been carried out. These patients are referred to as “excluded patients”. If the patient has been excepted but subsequently the care has been carried out in the relevant time period the patient will be included in both the denominator and the numerator.

D.14 Patients may be excepted if they meet the following criteria for exception reporting—

(e) patients who have been recorded as refusing to attend review who have been invited on at least 3 occasions during the financial year to which the achievement payments relate (except in the case of indicator CS002, where the patient should have been invited on at least 3 occasions during the period specified in the indicator during which the achievement is to be measured (i.e. the preceding 5 years ending on 31 March in the financial year to which achievement payments relate); patients for whom it is not appropriate to review the chronic disease parameters due to particular circumstances, for example, a patient who has a terminal illness or is extremely frail;
patients newly diagnosed or who have recently registered with the contractor who should have measurements made within three months and delivery of clinical standards within nine months;
patients who are on maximum tolerated doses of medication whose levels remain sub-optimal;
patients for whom prescribing a medication is not clinically appropriate e.g. those who have an allergy, contraindication or have experienced an adverse reaction;
where a patient has not tolerated medication;
where a patient does not agree to investigation or treatment (informed dissent) and this has been recorded in their patient record following a discussion with the patient;
where the patient has a supervening condition which makes treatment of their condition inappropriate e.g. cholesterol reduction where the patient has liver disease; or
where an investigative service or secondary care service is unavailable.

D.15 In the case of exception reporting on criteria (a) and (b) these patients are removed from the denominator for all indicators in that disease area where the care has not been delivered. However, all patients would be included in the calculation of the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor. This would apply to all relevant indicators for that disease area.

D.16 In addition, contractors may exception report patients from single indicators if they meet criteria in D12. (c)-(i). This would result in the patient being removed from the denominator for that indicator only.

D.17 Contractors should report the number of exceptions for each indicator set and individual indicator. Contractors will not be expected to report why individual patients were exception reported. However, contractors may be called on to explain why they have excepted patients from an indicator and this should be identifiable in the patient record.

Additional guidance on exception reporting is included in the Quality and Outcomes Framework Guidance for the GMS Contract Wales 2015/2016 (“QOF Guidance”) which is published by Welsh Government and can be obtained on www.wales.nhs.uk/GMS.

Verification

D.18 The contractor must ensure that it is able to provide any information that the LHB may reasonably request of it to demonstrate that it is entitled to each achievement point to which it says it is entitled, and the contractor must make that information available to the LHB on request. In verifying that an indicator has been achieved and information correctly recorded, the LHB may choose to inspect the output from a computer search that has been used to provide information on the indicator, or a sample of patient records relevant to the indicator.

D.19 For Inactive QOF indicators, information will be collected from GP clinical systems and sent to CM Web for the purposes of assurance of standards. LHBs will not be verifying achievement as payment will be made to contractors at the same points level used for payment purposes for those particular indicators in 2016/17.
## Section 2: Summary of active clinical indicators

### Atrial fibrillation (AF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with atrial fibrillation.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF006 The percentage of patients with atrial fibrillation in whom stroke risk has been assessed using CHA2DS2-VASc score risk stratification scoring system in the preceding 3 years (excluding those patients with a previous CHADS2 or CHA2DS2-VASc score of 2 or more).</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>50-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF007 In those patients with atrial fibrillation with a record of a CHA2DS2-VASc score of 2 or more, the percentage of patients who are currently treated with anticoagulation drug therapy.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40-70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Secondary prevention of coronary heart disease (CHD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHD001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with coronary heart disease.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Heart failure (HF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with heart failure.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hypertension (HYP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYP001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with established hypertension.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYP006. The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 12 months) is 150/90 mmHg or less.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>45-80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Stroke and transient ischaemic attack (STIA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STIA001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with stroke or TIA.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Diabetes mellitus (DM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DM001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of all patients aged 17 or over with diabetes mellitus, which specifies the type of diabetes where a diagnosis has been confirmed. <em>NICE 2011 menu ID: NM41</em></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Asthma (AST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AST001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with asthma, excluding patients with asthma who have been prescribed no asthma-related drugs in the preceding 12 months.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>(e)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g)</td>
<td><em>NICE 2011 menu ID: NM23</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST003. The percentage of patients with asthma, on the register, who have had an asthma review in the preceding 15 months that includes an assessment of asthma control using the 3 RCP questions.</td>
<td>(h) 0</td>
<td>(i) 5–70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COPD001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with COPD.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dementia (DEM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DEM001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients diagnosed with dementia.

**Ongoing management**

DEM002. The percentage of patients diagnosed with dementia whose care has been reviewed in a face-to-face review in the preceding 15 months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>35–70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mental health (MH)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses and other patients on lithium therapy.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH009. The percentage of patients on lithium therapy with a record of serum creatinine and TSH in the preceding 9 months.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50–90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM21</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH010. The percentage of patients on lithium therapy with a record of lithium levels in the therapeutic range in the preceding 4 months.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50–90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM22</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH011W. The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, Bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a record of blood pressure, BMI and alcohol consumption in the preceding 15 months and in addition for those aged 40 or over, a record of blood glucose or HbA1c in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>45–85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Disease register for mental health**

Due to the way repeat prescribing works in general practice, patients on lithium therapy are defined as patients with a prescription of lithium within the preceding six months.

**Remission from serious mental illness**

Making an accurate diagnosis of remission can be challenging. In the absence of strong evidence of what constitutes ‘remission’ from serious mental illness, clinicians should only consider using the remission codes if the patient has been in remission for at least five years, that is where there is:

- no record of anti-psychotic medication
- no mental health in-patient episodes; and
- no secondary or community care mental health follow-up for at least five years.

Where a patient is recorded as being ‘in remission’ they remain on the MH001 register (in case their condition relapses at a later date) but they are excluded from the denominator for mental health indicator MH011W.

The accuracy of this coding should be reviewed on an annual basis by a clinician. Should a patient who has been coded as ‘in remission’ experience a relapse then this should be recorded as such in their patient record.
In the event that a patient experiences a relapse and is coded as such, they will once again be included in all the associated indicators for schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses.

Where a patient has relapsed after being recorded as being in remission, their care plan should be updated subsequent to the relapse. Care plans dated prior to the date of the relapse will not be acceptable for QOF purposes.

### Cancer (CAN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of all cancer patients defined as a ‘register of patients with a diagnosis of cancer excluding non-melanotic skin cancers diagnosed on or after 1 April 2003’.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ongoing management**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAN003W. The percentage of patients with cancer, diagnosed within the preceding 15 months, who have a patient review recorded as occurring within 6 months of the contractor receiving confirmation of the diagnosis, or where clinically appropriate within 3 months. This patient review can be undertaken via a telephone consultation but with an offer of a face to face appointment.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50–90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Epilepsy (EP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EP001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients aged 18 or over receiving drug treatment for epilepsy.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Learning disability (LD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients with learning disabilities.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Osteoporosis: secondary prevention of fragility fractures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OST001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients: 1. Aged 50 or over and who have not attained the age of 75 with a record of a fragility fracture on or after 1 April 2012 and a diagnosis of osteoporosis confirmed on DXA scan, and</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Aged 75 or over with a record of a fragility fracture on or after 1 April 2012.  
*NICE 2011 menu ID: NM29*

**Disease register for osteoporosis**

Although the register indicator OST001 defines two separate registers, the disease register for the purpose of calculating the APDF is defined as the sum of the number of patients on both registers.

**Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RA001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients aged 16 or over with rheumatoid arthritis.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NICE 2012 menu ID: NM55*

**Palliative care (PC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PC001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of all patients in need of palliative care/support irrespective of age.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Disease register for palliative care**

There is no APDF calculation in respect of the palliative care indicators. In the rare case of a nil register at year end, if a contractor can demonstrate that it established and maintained a register during the financial year then they will be eligible for payment for PC001.

**Obesity (OB)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OB001. The contractor establishes and maintains a register of patients aged 16 or over with a BMI ≥30 in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cervical screening (CS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CS001. The contractor has a protocol that is in line with national guidance agreed with the LHB for the management of cervical screening, which includes staff training, management of patient call/recall, exception reporting and the regular monitoring of inadequate sample rates.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS002. The percentage of women aged 25 or over and who have not attained the age of 65 whose notes record that a cervical screening test has been performed in the preceding 5 years.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>45–80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza (FLU)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indicator</strong></td>
<td><strong>Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>Achievement thresholds</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLU001W. The percentage of the registered population aged 65 years of more who have had influenza immunisation in the preceding 1 August to 31 March.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>55–75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLU002W. The percentage of patients aged under 65 years included in (any of) the registers for CHD, COPD, Diabetes or Stroke who have had influenza immunisation in the preceding 1 August to 31 March.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>45–65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Medicines management</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indicator</strong></td>
<td><strong>Points</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED006W. The contractor meets the LHB prescribing advisor at least annually, has agreed up to three actions related to prescribing and subsequently provided evidence of change.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED007W. A medication review is recorded in the notes in the preceding 15 months for all patients being prescribed 4 or more repeat medicines. Standard 80%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total active clinical QOF** | **202** |
### Section 3: Summary of inactive clinical indicators

#### Diabetes mellitus (DM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM002. The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 15 months) is 150/90 mmHg or less.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM01</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM003. The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 15 months) is 140/80 mmHg or less.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM02</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM007. The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 59 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM14</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM 012. The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, with a record of a foot examination and risk classification; 1) low risk (normal sensation, palpable pulse), 2) increased risk (neuropathy or absent pulses), 3) high risk (neuropathy or absent pulses plus deformity or skin changes in previous ulcer) or 4) ulcerated foot within the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2010 menu ID: NM13</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM 014. The percentage of patients newly diagnosed with diabetes, on the register, in the preceding 1 April to 31 March who have a record of being referred to a structured education programme within 9 months after entry onto the diabetes register.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICE 2011 menu ID: NM27</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Asthma (AST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(j) AST004. The percentage of patients with asthma aged 14 or over and who have not attained the age of 20, on the register, in whom there is a record of smoking status in the preceding 15 months</td>
<td></td>
<td>(k) (l)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Initial diagnosis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD002. The percentage of patients with COPD (diagnosed on or after 1 April 2011) in whom the diagnosis has been confirmed by post bronchodilator spirometry between 3 months before and 12 months after entering on to the register.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD003. The percentage of patients with COPD who have had a review, undertaken by a healthcare professional, including an assessment of breathlessness using the Medical Research Council dyspnoea scale in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD005. The percentage of patients with COPD and Medical Research Council dyspnoea grade ≥3 at any time in the preceding 15 months, with a record of oxygen saturation value within the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mental health (MH)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH002. The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a comprehensive care plan documented in the record, in the preceding 15 months, agreed between individuals, their family and/or carers as appropriate.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH007. The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a record of alcohol consumption in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Epilepsy (EP)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EP003W. The percentage of women with epilepsy aged 18 or over and who have not attained the age of 55 who are taking antiepileptic drugs who have a record of being given information and advice about pregnancy or conception, or contraception tailored to their pregnancy and contraceptive intentions recorded in the preceding 3 years.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Achievement thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RA002. The percentage of patients with rheumatoid arthritis, on the register, who have had a face-to-face review in the preceding 15 months.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Palliative care (PC)**
Ongoing management

PC002W. The contractor has regular (at least 2 monthly) multi-disciplinary case review meetings where all patients on the palliative care register are discussed.

6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smoking (SMOK)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMOK002. The percentage of patients with any or any combination of the following conditions: CHD, stroke or TIA, hypertension, diabetes, COPD, CKD, asthma, schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses whose notes record smoking status in the preceding 15 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NICE 2011 menu ID: NM38

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ongoing management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMOK004. The percentage of patients aged 15 or over who are recorded as current smokers who have a record of an offer of support and treatment within the preceding 27 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NICE 2011 menu ID: NM40

| SMOK005. The percentage of patients with any or any combination of the following conditions: CHD, stroke or TIA, hypertension, diabetes, COPD, asthma, schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses who are recorded as current smokers who have a record of an offer of support and treatment within the preceding 15 months.  |
|                |        | 25 |

NICE 2011 menu ID: NM39

| Total inactive clinical QOF | 165 |
Section 4: Cluster Network Domain

Strategic background

Delivery of more care in the community and closer to home through primary care clusters is a key element of the Plan for a Primary Care Service for Wales.

The primary care plan is predicated on the changing role of the GP where they are providing services for the more complex patients and coordinating a wider primary care team as part of a wider more integrated multi-professional service in the local community.

Cluster Network Development Programme: 2014/15 to 2016/17

A Cluster Network Development Programme has been in place since 2014/15. The programme has been successful in developing and strengthening multi-professional team working and in the coordination to improve the quality of care through more effective collaboration with wider community services.

The programme has also been effective in improving systems of clinical governance through the Clinical Governance Self Assessment Tool, together with delivering quality improvement through work in three national priority areas covering prevention and early diagnosis of cancer; end of life; minimizing the harms of polypharmacy.

Cluster Network Programme 2017/18

The Cluster Network Programme for 2017/18, which builds on the previous three year development programme, aims to:

(a) strengthen the sustainability of core services through completion of the sustainability assessment framework and longer term business planning for Practice Development Plans and Cluster Network Plans;

(b) strengthen the focus on access to services; winter preparedness and emergency planning; and improved service development;

(c) strengthen quality assurance in relation to clinical governance and assurance on specific indicators designated as “Inactive” QOF.

(d) develop more effective collaboration working with community services, including nursing, local authority and third sector to improve the quality of care; and

(e) encourage the development of new models of care, including federations, practice mergers, shared practice support.
**Indicator**

**Develop a three year Practice Development Plan and complete a Practice Sustainability Assessment**

CND 001W

The contractor reviews and updates the previous year’s Practice Development Plan to assist practice analyses and planning and to inform discussions at cluster network meetings with consideration given to three year business planning.

The practice completes the risk matrix element of the GP Sustainability Assessment Framework. The outcomes (minus financial information) to be shared with the cluster network to inform cluster sustainability planning. Local Health Boards are expected to make available to practices the pre-populated GP Sustainability Assessment Framework risk matrix by 30 April 2017.

The three year Practice Development Plan and the completed GP Sustainability Assessment Framework (minus financial information) to be completed and shared with the Local Health Board by 31 May 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Develop a three year Cluster Network Action Plan and monitor cluster network activity**

CND 009W

The contractor reviews and updates the previous year's Cluster Network Action Plan giving due consideration to local population needs and service development for the population served by cluster network for the next three years. Practice Development Plans and the GP Sustainability Assessment Framework will inform the development of a three year Cluster Network Action Plans.

The three year Cluster Network Action Plan will have a focus on:
(a) Winter preparedness and emergency planning.
(b) Access to services, including patient flows, models of GP access engagement with wider community stakeholders to improve capacity and patient communication.
(c) Service development and liaising with secondary care leads as appropriate.
(d) Review of quality assurance of Clinical Governance Practice Self Assessment Toolkit (CGSAT) and inactive QOF indicator peer review.

The development and implementation of the three year Cluster Network Action Plan is underpinned by attendance at four cluster network meetings.

The three year Cluster Network Action Plan to be agreed and shared with the Local Health Board by 31 July 2017.

The three year Cluster Network Action Plan is a dynamic plan and will be updated to reflect outcomes of each cluster meeting.

The contractor will demonstrate to the Local Health Board the work undertaken outside of cluster meetings to progress and implement the Cluster Network Action Plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Agree a Cluster Network Annual Report**

CND 010W.

The contractor participates in one cluster network meeting to develop and agree a Cluster Network Annual Report and to be shared with the Local Health Board by 31 March 2018.

The Cluster Network Annual Report will include reference to outcomes of the review of quality assurance; winter preparedness and emergency planning; access to services and service development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Quality Assurance - Clinical & Information Governance and peer review of inactive QOF**
**indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CND 011W.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The contractor updates the Clinical Governance Practice Self-Assessment Toolkit, completes the Information Governance Self Assessment Toolkit and utilises learning / outcomes from same in peer review at cluster meeting. Contractor agrees to peer review the designate inactive QOF indicators within the practice at a designated cluster meeting mid way through year and at the end of the year. The outcome of the inactive QOF peer review to be completed and shared with the Local Health Board by 31 March 2018. The contractor will include appropriate actions resulting from this analysis within the Practice Development Plan and will consider whether any issues need to be discussed at cluster network meetings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participate in General Practice National Priority Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CND 012W:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The cluster network will discuss and agree to participate in three clinical priority pathway areas. Two of the clinical priority pathway areas must be chosen from the following basket of five clinical pathway areas (a) cancer (b) dementia (c) improved mental health and well being (d) COPD (e) Liver disease. One clinical priority pathway area will be agreed locally, in discussion with the cluster network. A quality improvement approach will be adopted, using data and small tests of change (PDSA cycles) where appropriate, to support clinicians and practices to enhance their care in these clinical priority pathway areas. The contractor will, by the 31 March 2018:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Engage with the clinical priority work at a practice and cluster level,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Discuss any data provided to the practice or cluster,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Agree small steps of change to test out any new ways of working in the practice or cluster,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Share the results of small tests of change with peers in the cluster (whether positive or negative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each contractor should aim to apply three small tests of change for each pathway by 31 March 2018.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX E - CALCULATION OF THE CERVICAL SCREENING ADDITIONAL SERVICES WITHIN THE ACD

Achievement points

E.1 The additional service indicators do not apply to all of the contractor’s registered population. Assessment of achievement is carried out in relation to the target population. The relevant target populations for cervical screening is—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional service</th>
<th>Target Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cervical screening services</td>
<td>Females who have attained the age of 25 years but not yet attained the age of 65 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E.2. For example, to meet the requirement of the cervical screening indicator, cervical screening will only need to be offered to the practice’s registered population of females who have attained the age of 25 years but not yet attained the age of 65 years.

E.3. For the cervical screening additional service a Target Population Factor is to be calculated as follows—

(i) first the number of patients registered with the contractor in the relevant target population at the relevant date (A) is to be divided by the contractor’s CRP at the relevant date (B);

(ii) then the average number of patients registered with all contractors in Wales in the relevant target population at the relevant date (C) is to be divided by the average CRP for Wales (according to the Exeter Registration System) at the relevant date (D); and

(iii) the number produced by the calculation in paragraph (a) is then to be divided by the number produced by the calculation in paragraph (b) to produce the Target Population Factor for the cervical screening additional service.

E4. For the purposes of paragraph E.3, the “relevant date” is the date in respect of which the value of the contractors CPI that is being used to calculate its Achievement Payment is established. Generally this is the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates, but see paragraph 6.9.

E.5. The Target Population Factor for the cervical screening additional service is to be multiplied by £167.96 and by the Achievement Points obtained in respect of the cervical screening additional service (E) to produce the cash total in respect of the additional service (F).

E.6. This calculation could be expressed as —

\[
\frac{(A÷B) x £167.96 x E}{(C÷D)} = F
\]

E.7. If the contractor has not been under an obligation to provide the additional service for any period during the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates, the adjusted total for that particular additional service is to be further adjusted by the fraction produced by dividing—

(i) the number of days in the financial year during which its GMS contract had effect and the contractor was under no obligation to provide the additional service; by

(ii) the number of days in the financial year during which the contract had effect.
E.8 The resulting cash amount, for the additional service, is the total amount in respect of the additional service domain.
ANNEX F - ADJUSTED PRACTICE DISEASE FACTOR CALCULATIONS

ADJUSTED PRACTICE DISEASE FACTOR

Calculations

F.1 The calculation involves three steps—

(a) the calculation of the contractor’s Raw Practice Disease Prevalence. There will be a Raw Practice Disease Prevalence in respect of each indicator in the ACD (other than the Cervical Screening Additional Service sub-domain where achievement is calculated in accordance with Annex E and the indicator for palliative care;

(b) making an adjustment to give an Adjusted Practice Disease Factor; and

(c) applying the factor to the pounds per point figure for each disease area (other than the area relating to palliative care).

F.2 The above three steps are explained below. The register to be used to calculate the Raw Practice Disease Prevalence is usually the register as defined in the first indicator for the indicator area concerned (“the register indicator”) in the summary of indicators set out in Section 2 of Annex D, except in a case where there is no register indicator or where the register to be used is not the register indicator to be used to calculate the Raw Practice Disease Prevalence. In the case where there is no register indicator or the register indicator is not the register to be used in respect of a specific disease area or indicator, the applicable register in respect of that specific disease area or indicator is specified in the relevant part of Section 2 relating to that disease.

F.3 The Raw Practice Disease Prevalence is calculated by dividing the number of patients on the relevant disease register at 31st March in the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates by the contractor’s CRP for the relevant date. For these purposes, the “relevant date” is the date in respect of which the value of the contractor’s CPI that is being used to calculate its Achievement Payment is established. Generally this is the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates, but see paragraph 6.9 (calculation of Achievement Payments).

F.4.1 The Adjusted Practice Disease Factor is calculated by—

(a) the calculation of the contractor’s Raw Practice Disease Prevalence. There will be a Raw Practice Disease Prevalence in respect of each indicator in the ACD (other than the Cervical Screening Additional Service where achievement is calculated in accordance with Annex E and the indicator for palliative care;

(b) re-basing the contractor figures around the new national Welsh mean (available at the end of each month) to give the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor (APDF). For example, an APDF of 1.2 indicates a 20% greater prevalence than the mean, in the adjusted distribution. The re-basing ensures that in the relevant year, the average contractor (that is a contractor with an APDF of 1.00) would receive, after adjustment, an amount per point equal to the amount specified in paragraph 6.8 of this SFE as in force on the 1st April in that relevant year;

(c) thus, adjusting via the factor the contractor’s average pounds per point for each disease, rather than the contractor’s points score. For example, a contractor with an APDF of 1.2 for AF in the period commencing 1 April 2016 and ending on 31 March 2017 would receive £201.55 per point scored on the AF indicators.

F.4.2 “Relevant year” in paragraph F.4.1(b) means the financial year to which the calculation of Achievement Payments relates.

F.5 As a result of the calculation in F.1, each contractor will have a different “pounds per point” figure for each indicator area with a disease register (other than the area relating to palliative care), or may have a different “pounds per point” for individual indicators within an area (if more than
one register is used for the area). It will then be possible to use these figures to calculate a cash
total in relation to the points scored for each area (other than the area relating to palliative care).

F.6 This national prevalence figure and range of practice prevalence will be calculated on an
Wales-only basis.

F.7 If the contractor’s GMS contract terminates before 1st January in the financial year to which
the Achievement Payment relates, the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor to be used in calculating
the contractor’s Achievement Payment should be the Adjusted Practice Disease Factor calculated
for the contractor for the previous financial year.

F.8 If the contractor did not have an Adjusted Practice Disease Factor calculation for the previous
financial year, then no Adjusted Practice Disease Factor should be used in calculating the
contractor’s Achievement Payment for that year.

F.9 Unless paragraph F.10 applies, if the contractor’s GMS contract terminates on or after 1st
January and before the end of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates—
(a) the CRP to be used to calculate the Raw Practice Disease Prevalence is the CRP on 1st
January; and
(b) the number of patients on the disease register is to be taken to be the number of patients on
the register on the date nearest to the date on which the contract ends and on which there can
be a calculation.

F.10 If the contractor’s GMS contract commences after 1st January and terminates before the end
of the financial year in which the GMS contract commences, no Adjusted Practice Disease Factor
is to be calculated for the contractor’s Achievement Payment in respect of the period during which
the contract subsisted.
ANNEX G - DISPENSING PAYMENTS

PART 1
DISCOUNT SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total basic price per month of the prescriptions submitted by the contractor - £ bandwidth</th>
<th>New discount rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2000</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 4000</td>
<td>5.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4001 – 6000</td>
<td>7.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6001 – 8000</td>
<td>8.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8001 – 10 000</td>
<td>8.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 001 – 12 000</td>
<td>9.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 001 – 14 000</td>
<td>9.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 001 – 16 000</td>
<td>9.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 001 – 18 000</td>
<td>10.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 001 – 20 000</td>
<td>10.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 001 – 22 000</td>
<td>10.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 001 – 24 000</td>
<td>11.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 001 and above</td>
<td>11.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART 2
DISPENSING FEESCALE FOR CONTRACTORS THAT ARE AUTHORISED OR REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DISPENSING SERVICES

To apply from 1 April 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total prescriptions calculated separately for each individual dispensing practitioner, in bands</th>
<th>Prices per prescription in pence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 457</td>
<td>222.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>458 – 571</td>
<td>218.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>572 – 687</td>
<td>216.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>688 – 800</td>
<td>213.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>801 – 916</td>
<td>210.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>917 – 1029</td>
<td>208.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030 – 1430</td>
<td>206.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1431 – 2001</td>
<td>204.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002 – 2287</td>
<td>202.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2288 – 2859</td>
<td>201.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2860 – 3430</td>
<td>199.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3431 – 4002</td>
<td>198.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4003 – 4572</td>
<td>197.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4573 and over</td>
<td>196.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PART 3**

**DISPENSING FEESCALE FOR CONTRACTORS THAT ARE NOT AUTHORISED OR REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DISPENSING SERVICES**

To apply from 1 April 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total prescriptions calculated separately for each individual dispensing practitioner, in bands</th>
<th>Prices per prescription in pence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 457</td>
<td>231.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>458 – 571</td>
<td>228.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>572 – 687</td>
<td>225.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>688 – 800</td>
<td>222.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>801 – 916</td>
<td>220.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>917 – 1029</td>
<td>217.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030 – 1430</td>
<td>215.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1431 – 2001</td>
<td>213.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002 – 2287</td>
<td>211.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2288 – 2859</td>
<td>210.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2860 – 3430</td>
<td>208.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3431 – 4002</td>
<td>207.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4003 – 4572</td>
<td>206.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4573 and over</td>
<td>206.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX H - DISPENSARY SERVICES QUALITY SCHEME

Governance of dispensary services

SOPs, clinical audit and risk management

H.1.1 The contractor must ensure that Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are in place and reflect both good professional practice, as well as the procedures that are actually performed by the practice. SOPs should be followed routinely for all dispensing related activities. SOPs should be specific to the practice and should set out in writing what should be done, where, when and by whom.

H.1.2 Standard Operating Procedures must be reviewed and updated at least once every 12 months and whenever dispensing procedures are amended. A written audit trail of amendments should be maintained.

H.1.3 The contractor must participate in contractor lead clinical audit of dispensing services. Clinical audit seeks to improve patient care and outcomes through the systematic review of care against explicit criteria and the implementation of change. Audit of dispensing services should include arrangements to assess the nature and quality of the advice provided to patients as part of the dispensing service.

H.1.4 The contractor must have a written policy for managing risks in providing dispensing services and must ensure that this policy is understood, and put into practice, by all staff involved in dispensing.

H.1.5 The contractor must ensure that all serious untoward incidents relating to dispensing are reported to the LHB for the purpose of reviewing and learning from incidents.

Information

H.2.1 The contractor must provide information to their patients on—

(a) the dispensing services provided by the contractor; and

(b) how to obtain medicines urgently.

H.2.2 The contractor must inform their LHB (who will inform NHS Direct as for pharmacies) of the hours of availability of dispensing services provided by the contractor. The contractor must ensure that opening times are displayed prominently on the premises from which they carry out dispensing and that they are legible from outside the premises when they are shut.

Dispensing Staff

H.3.1 The training and experience required in respect of dispensing staff is as follows.

H.3.2 The Standard Operating Procedures for each dispensary must indicate the level of competency expected for each function performed by dispensers or staff working as dispensary assistants.

H.3.3 For staff employed by the contractor who are not doctors and whose normal working patterns do not involve dispensing but who are involved in dispensing on an occasional or limited basis, a flexible approach to the minimum competence requirement for dispensing assistants can be adopted. The contractor must identify such staff to the LHB, which should agree that the staff member concerned only has an occasional or limited role in dispensing. However, the contractor also needs to demonstrate that all staff who are working in the dispensary have evidence that they have the knowledge and competencies to perform the tasks and roles assigned to them, and staff who only have an occasional or limited role in dispensing are still required to have a certificate of competency signed by the practice manager (if any) and accountable GP in respect of the roles they occasionally undertake.
H.3.4 The contractor must have a written record of the qualifications of all staff engaged in dispensing and ensure that staff engaged in dispensing undertake continuing professional development. The contractor must carry out and complete a written record of an appraisal of all dispensing staff, and assess their competence in performing dispensary tasks at least annually.

H.3.5 Regarding existing staff employed by the practice on the date of the practice’s first written undertaking to provide the service trainee dispensers—;
(a) must be competent in the area in which they are working to a minimum standard equivalent to the Pharmacy Services Scottish/National Vocational Qualification (S/NVQ) level 2, or undertaking training towards this, or enrol in this training within three months of the practice’s written undertaking towards this; and
(b) must not work unsupervised until they have completed 1,000 hours work experience in the dispensary and have a certificate of competency signed by the practice manager (if any) and accountable GP. (A trained dispenser should supervise dispensing assistants until they have completed the work experience).

H.3.6 Other existing dispensing staff that work independently in the practice dispensary—
(a) must have minimum work experience of 1,000 hours over the past five years in a GP dispensary or community pharmacy; and
(b) must be competent in the area in which they are working to a minimum standard equivalent to the Pharmacy Services S/NVQ level 2, or undertaking training towards this, or enrol in this training within three months of the practice’s written undertaking to provide the service.

H.3.7 However where an experienced dispenser’s residual term of employment is not commensurate with the timeframe requirement of the specified course, the dispenser must have their knowledge and competence assessed and hold a certificate of competency signed by the practice manager (if any) and the accountable GP.

H.3.8 New dispensing staff employed by the practice after the date of the practice’s first written undertaking to provide the service:
(a) must be competent in the area which they are working, to a minimum standard equivalent to the Pharmacy Services S/NVQ level 2 qualification or enrol in training towards this within three months of the commencement of their employment; and
(b) must have completed 1,000 hours of work experience in a GP dispensary or community pharmacy within the past five years before being able to work unsupervised. (A trained dispensing staff member should supervise new staff until they have completed the work experience).

H.3.9 Where a dispenser is expected to enrol on a course, the relevant qualification should be completed within three years, although the LHB has discretion to allow for additional time in the case of absence due, for example, to sickness or maternity leave.

Minimum level of staff hours

H.4.1 The contractor must ensure that a minimum level of staff hours is dedicated to dispensary services to ensure that patients’ needs for dispensing services, and the time required to complete the underpinning systems and processes, can reasonably expected to safeguard patient safety.

H.4.2 The contractor must assure a level of staffing that reflects that practice’s dispensary’s configuration and hours of opening, as agreed with the LHB.

Duty of confidentiality

H.5 All employee contracts for dispensing staff must include a duty of patient confidentiality as a specific requirement, with disciplinary procedures set out for non-compliance.
Review with patients of compliance and concordance with use of medicines

H.6.1 A face-to-face review with patients (and, where appropriate, their carers) of compliance and concordance shall be carried out and recorded in the patient’s medical record at least once in each financial year for at least 10% of the contractor’s dispensing patients. Where the contractor is entitled to less than a full year’s Dispensary Services Quality Payment in any financial year the figure of 10% shall be reduced by an appropriate percentage. The practice should agree with the LHB the types of patients that should be targeted for the review as part of their undertaking to carry out the services specified.

H.6.2 The review should normally be carried out by trained dispensing staff or by a registered health professional with appropriate competencies in review of medicines.

H.6.3 Arrangements must be in place to ensure that patients reviewed will be referred appropriately and in a timely manner to a doctor, nurse, pharmacist or other appropriate health professional working with the contractor, whenever clinically appropriate.

H.6.4 The reviewer should—

(a) establish the patient’s actual use, understanding and experience of taking medicines: referring potential side effects or adverse effects reported by patients;
(b) identify discuss and resolve or refer poor or ineffective use of their medicines;
(c) improve the clinical and cost effectiveness of prescribed medicines, referring where appropriate, and initiating appropriate action by using information from patients to recommend improvements in repeat dispensing and so reduce medicine wastage.
ANNEX I - Routine childhood vaccines and immunisations

The Routine Childhood Immunisation Programme

Background

I.1 Guidance and information on routine childhood vaccines and immunisations are set out in “Immunisation against infectious diseases – The Green Book which is published by the Department of Health.

Routine Childhood Immunisation Schedule

I.2 All children starting the immunisation programme at 2 months of age will follow the schedule (often referred to as the “Childhood Immunisation Schedule”) below as set out in the Table.

I.3 The latest information and guidance on vaccines and vaccine procedures for all the vaccines referred to in the Table, including completing the schedule of vaccines in the case of children with interrupted, incomplete or unknown immunisation status or in relation to premature infants is contained in the “Immunisations against infectious diseases – The Green Book”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When to immunise</th>
<th>What vaccine is given</th>
<th>How it is given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two months old</td>
<td>Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio and <em>Haemophilus influenzae</em> type b (DTaP/IPV/HiB)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rotavirus (Rota)</td>
<td>One oral dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three months old</td>
<td>Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) polio and <em>Haemophilus influenzae</em> type b (DTaP/IPV/HiB)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rotavirus (Rota)</td>
<td>One oral dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four months old</td>
<td>Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) polio and <em>Haemophilus influenzae</em> type b (DTaP/IPV/HiB)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around twelve months</td>
<td><em>Haemophilus influenzae</em> type b, Men C (Hib/MenC)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pneumococcal (PCV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three years four months to five years old</td>
<td>Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) and polio (dTaP/IPV or DTaP/IPV)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)</td>
<td>One injection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX J - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013 which came into force on 11 June 2013

(a) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2013 (2013 No.60), which were made on 30 September 2013.

(b) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2014 (2014 No.3), which were made on 16 June 2014.

(c) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2014 (2014 No.17), which were made on 27 June 2014.

(d) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2014 (2014 No.24), which were made on 30 September 2014.

(e) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2015 (2015 No.7), which were made on 31 March 2015.

(f) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 2) Directions 2015 (2015 No.14), which were made on 01 April 2015.

(g) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 3) Directions 2015 (2015 No.15), which were made on 20 April 2015.

(h) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 4) Directions 2015 (2015 No.19), which were made on 25 June 2015.

(i) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.5) Directions 2015, which were made on 30 September 2015.

(j) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2016, which were made on 30 March 2016.

(k) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2016, which were made on 11 April 2016.

(l) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2016, which were made on 13 July 2016.

(m) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 4) Directions 2016 (2016 No.19), which were made on 16 August 2016.

(n) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 5) Directions 2016 which were made on 15 December 2016; and

(o) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 6) Directions 2017 which were made on 31 January 2017.

(p) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2017 which were made on 27 April 2017.