

# GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (PAYMENTS) BOARD

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FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS  
OF CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS - 1997

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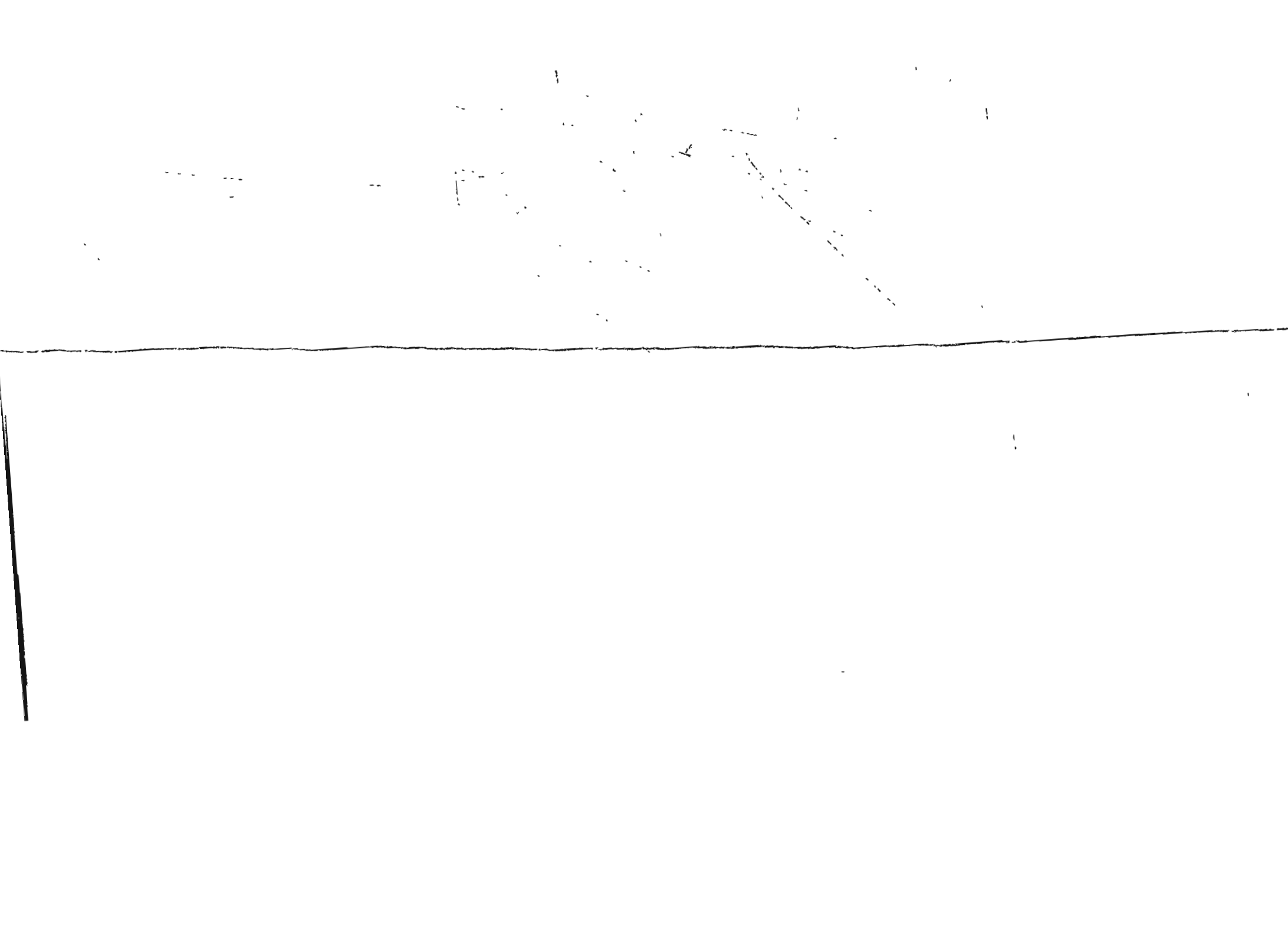
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## **GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (PAYMENTS) BOARD**

The General Medical Services (Payments) Board is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal constituted by Order of the Minister for Health under Section 11 of the Health Act 1970.

The Board on behalf of Health Boards performs the following functions in relation to the provision of services by General Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists under Sections 58, 59 and 67 (i) of the Health Act 1970:

- (a) the calculation of payments to be made for such services;
- (b) the making of such payments;
- (c) the verification of the accuracy and reasonableness of claims in relation to such services;
- (d) the compilation of statistics and other information in relation to such services.

Among the categories of claims processed for payment claims by Doctors and Pharmacists under the G.M.S. Scheme

account for the largest part of the claims processing and payment functions of the Board.

The following is a brief description of the schemes under which claims are processed for payment:-

### **GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES SCHEME**

Persons who are unable without undue hardship to arrange general practitioner medical and surgical services for themselves and their dependants receive a free general medical service.

A person eligible to receive free general practitioner services for him/herself and dependants registers with the doctor of his/her choice, from among the list of named doctors who have entered into agreements with Health Boards, and who is prepared to accept the patient on to his/her panel. Except in certain circumstances, the doctor chosen must not live more than seven miles from the person nor have already a panel of the maximum number allowed. Where an eligible person does not succeed in obtaining registration the health

board arranges to have him/her entered on a doctor's panel.

Drugs, medicines and appliances supplied under the Scheme are provided through retail pharmacies. In most cases the doctor gives the completed prescription form to the person, who takes it to any pharmacy that has an agreement with a health board to dispense G.M.S. prescription forms. In rural areas, where a doctor has a centre of practice three miles or more from the nearest retail pharmacy participating in the Scheme the doctor dispenses for those persons served from that centre who opt to have their medicines dispensed by him/her. The doctor is paid a dispensing fee for each of these persons. The medicines he/she dispenses are obtained through a stock order given to a retail pharmacy participating in the Scheme, located in the doctor's normal area of practice.

### **DRUG COST SUBSIDISATION SCHEME**

A Scheme, known as the Drug Cost Subsidisation Scheme (D.C.S.S.) was introduced in 1990 for the benefit of persons who do not have a medical card

and who are certified as having a regular and on-going requirement for prescribed medicines costing in excess of a specified amount per month, currently £32, for a medical condition not covered by the long term illness scheme. Under the terms of the scheme such persons, on authorisation by a health board, do not have to pay more than the specified amount to their pharmacist in a month. The balance due to the pharmacist is paid by the General Medical Services (Payments) Board.

#### **LONG TERM ILLNESS SCHEME**

On approval by health boards persons who suffer from one or more of a schedule of illnesses are entitled to obtain, without charge, irrespective of income, necessary drugs/medicines and/or appliances under the L.T.I. Scheme. The Board makes payments on behalf of health boards for L.T.I. claims submitted by pharmacies.

#### **SCHEME FOR PROVISION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES IN EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES TO VISITORS FROM OTHER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA**

Visitors from one of the other states of the European Economic Area, with established eligibility, who require emergency general practitioner services while on a temporary visit to the State are entitled to receive from a General Practitioner a G.M.S. prescription form for necessary medication and to have such medication dispensed in a Pharmacy that has entered into an agreement with a Health Board within the State - pharmacies submit such forms, completed as necessary, to the Board for payment.

#### **DENTAL TREATMENT SERVICES SCHEME**

Under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (D.T.S.S.) introduced in November 1994 G.M.S. eligible adults have access to a range of treatments and clinical procedures which comprise three

separate elements of the Scheme:  
(i) Emergency Treatment for the relief of pain (ii) Routine Treatment and (iii) Full Upper and Lower Dentures.

Implementation of the Scheme is on a phased age cohort basis. Emergency Treatment and a full denture Service is available for all qualified persons. Routine Treatments are available for those in the approved age cohorts. Dentists may prescribe a range of medicines to eligible persons.

#### **HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ACT 1996**

The Health (Amendment) Act 1996 was brought into force in September 1996 under which certain health services are made available without charge to persons who have contracted Hepatitis C directly or indirectly from the use of Human Immunoglobulin - Anti D or the receipt within the state of another blood product or blood transfusion. General Practitioner services provided under the act are paid for by the Board.



### **HIGH TECH MEDICINES SCHEME**

New arrangements were introduced in November 1996 for the supply and dispensing of high-tech medicines through community pharmacies. Such medicines which heretofore were supplied in the main by hospitals or health boards are generally only prescribed or initiated in hospital and would include items such as anti-rejection drugs for transplant patients or medicines used in conjunction with chemotherapy or growth hormones. The medicines are purchased by the health boards and supplied through community pharmacies for which pharmacies are paid a patient care fee by the Board each month.

### **NATIONAL PRIMARY CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION SCHEME**

A National Primary Childhood Immunisation Scheme was launched in December 1995 to provide for immunisation of the total child population with the aim of eliminating, as far as possible, such conditions as Diphtheria, Polio, Measles, Mumps and Rubella. The Board's involvement at this stage is to

support the receipt of immunisation payment details from each of the participating health boards and to calculate and make payments to general practitioners.

### **METHADONE PILOT PROJECT**

A Pilot Project under which Methadone is prescribed and dispensed by doctors and pharmacists for clients approved by the Eastern Health Board was initiated in March 1996 - capitation fees under this project are paid by the health board to participating doctors and community pharmacists - claims by pharmacies for the ingredient cost of the Methadone dispensed and the associated dispensing fees are processed and paid by the Board.

### **EMERGENCY SUPPLY OF MEDICINES ON HOSPITAL PRESCRIPTIONS**

In July 1996 arrangements were made with Community Pharmacies for the dispensing of an emergency supply of an urgently required medicine prescribed for a GMS eligible person on discharge from a general

hospital in circumstances where the patient could not without undue hardship attend his/her own G.P. to have the hospital prescription transcribed onto a GMS form.

**Table 1 G.M.S. : Summary of Statistical Information for each of the five years 1993-1997**

Year ended December:-	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	Year ended December:-	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Number of Eligible Persons in December	1,219,852	1,252,385	1,277,055	1,286,813	1,274,621	Number of Doctor Contracts	1,641	1,647	1,652	1,666	1,645
						Number of Pharmacist Contracts	1,186	1,153	1,151	1,135	1,107
<b>DOCTORS</b>	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)		(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£100,769</b>	<b>£95,169</b>	<b>£91,903</b>	<b>£89,446</b>	<b>£86,234</b>	<b>Total Cost of Stock Orders</b>	<b>£6,640</b>	<b>£6,509</b>	<b>£6,373</b>	<b>£6,446</b>	<b>£6,328</b>
						Ingredient Cost	£5,107	£4,998	£4,902	£4,961	£4,867
<b>Doctors Payment per Person</b>	<b>£81.07</b>	<b>£72.91</b>	<b>£69.24</b>	<b>£67.48</b>	<b>£65.99</b>	Pharmacy Fees	£1,278	£1,250	£1,226	£1,240	£1,217
						VAT	£255	£261	£245	£245	£244
<b>PHARMACIES</b>											
<b>Total Cost of Prescriptions</b>	<b>£176,005</b>	<b>£162,471</b>	<b>£153,239</b>	<b>£141,012</b>	<b>£133,274</b>	<b>Overall Cost of Medicines</b>	<b>£182,646</b>	<b>£168,980</b>	<b>£159,612</b>	<b>£147,458</b>	<b>£139,602</b>
Ingredient Cost	£135,972	£125,337	£117,623	£108,072	£102,038	<b>Pharmacy Payment per Person</b>	<b>£146.94</b>	<b>£133.72</b>	<b>£124.32</b>	<b>£115.01</b>	<b>£110.47</b>
Dispensing Fee	£36,364	£33,268	£31,926	£29,494	£28,119						
VAT	£3,669	£3,866	£3,690	£3,446	£3,117						
Number of Forms	9,356	9,160	9,191	8,740	8,465						
Number of Items	19,944	19,131	18,879	17,906	17,252	<b>Overall Payments</b>	<b>£283,415</b>	<b>£264,149</b>	<b>£251,515</b>	<b>£236,904</b>	<b>£225,836</b>
Cost per Form	£18.81	£17.74	£16.67	£16.13	£15.74	<b>Overall Payment per Person</b>	<b>£288.01</b>	<b>£206.63</b>	<b>£193.56</b>	<b>£182.49</b>	<b>£176.46</b>
Cost per Item	£8.82	£8.49	£8.12	£7.88	£7.72						
Ingredient Cost per Item	£6.82	£6.55	£6.23	£6.04	£5.91						
Items per Form	2.13	2.09	2.05	2.05	2.04						

Note: Doctors payment per person is exclusive of superannuation paid to retired D.M.O.'s

**Table 1.1 DCS/LTI. : Summary of Statistical Information for each of the five years 1993-1997**

Year ended December:-	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	Year ended December:-	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
<b><u>D.C.S. Scheme</u></b>						<b><u>L.T.I. Scheme</u></b>					
Number of Eligible Persons in December	* 57,221	71,660	60,111	46,926	39,023	Number of Eligible Persons in December	66,696	64,205	60,754	57,137	53,728
Average Number of Claimants	38,816	31,843	26,287	21,056	17,039	Average Number of Claimants	24,124	22,815	21,741	20,693	19,454
	(000's)	(000)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)		(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Number of Items	2,512	2,053	1,690	1,340	1,089	Number of Items	771	726	691	653	615
Gross Cost	£48,788	£39,282	£31,223	£24,018	£18,745	Total Cost	£19,722	£17,633	£16,273	£14,649	£13,106
Net Cost	£35,859	£28,689	£22,527	£17,082	£13,064	Cost per Item	£25.59	£24.27	£23.55	£22.41	£21.31
Gross Cost per Item	£19.42	£19.14	£18.47	£19.92	£17.21						
Gross Cost per Claimant	£1,256.93	£1,233.62	£1,187.75	£1,140.70	£1,100.13	Cost per Claimant	£817.53	£772.87	£748.56	£694.58	£673.70
Net Cost per Claimant	£923.83	£900.93	£856.96	£811.30	£766.69	Cost per Person	£299.74	£281.47	£275.21	£262.83	£249.51
Net Cost per Person	£633.27	£433.58	£415.25	£408.62	£404.23						
* Ineligible persons on eligible D.C.S. cards were excluded in 1997.											

**Table 2 Number of Agreements**

Health Board	Doctors		Pharmacists		Dentists	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996
Eastern	513	518	398	381	312	296
Midland	100	99	65	65	75	56
Mid-Western	140	141	110	109	72	67
North Eastern	130	125	99	100	103	100
North Western	111	111	65	62	54	43
South Eastern	186	189	132	130	122	116
Southern	265	268	194	184	236	215
Western	196	196	123	122	73	70
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>1641</b>	<b>1647</b>	<b>1186</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>1047</b>	<b>963</b>

- (i) Where doctors have panels numbers drawn from more than one Health Board the board wherein the majority of such persons reside is deemed to be the doctors Health Board.
- (ii) 169 Doctors who do not have agreements under the GMS Scheme and who provide services under the Primary Childhood Immunisation Scheme and the Health (Amendment) Act 1996 are not included above.
- (iii) 255 Dentists (249-1996) who are employees of Health Boards and who provide services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme are included above.
- (iv) Above figures relate to the position as at 31st December 1997.

**Table 3 G.M.S. : Payments to Doctors**

		1997	1996
		£	£
<b>FEES</b>	- Item of Service Contract	1,689,688	1,624,365
	- Capitation	55,575,731	54,984,236
	- Special Claims/Services	4,026,930	3,731,128
	- Out-of-Hours	4,638,654	2,109,247
	- Dispensing	601,928	600,554
<b>ALLOWANCES</b>	- Annual Leave	2,663,738	2,552,175
	- Locum and Practice Expenses	25,698	27,730
	- Sick Leave	475,595	382,305
	- Maternity Leave	71,246	28,005
	- Rural Practice	1,385,915	1,312,085
	- Secretarial/Nursing	9,506,987	8,256,611
	- Study Leave	454,137	608,446
	- Medical Indemnity Insurance	1,055,701	977,833
	- Rostering/Out of Hours	4,754,791	4,616,712
	- Practice Development	3,170,165	3,077,506
	- Practice Support Grant	1,529,798	1,363,641
<b>SALARIES</b>	- Former District Medical Officers	520,999	448,339
	- Benefits to retired DMO'S and their dependants	3,048,205	3,042,775
<b>SUPERANNUATION FUND</b>	- Contribution	5,573,577	5,425,309
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£100,769,483</b>	<b>£95,169,002</b>

**Table 4 G.M.S. : Cost of Prescriptions**

Health Board	Ingredient Cost		Dispensing Fee		V.A.T.		TOTAL	
	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £
Eastern	41,569,838	38,440,867	10,903,297	10,040,585	1,135,003	1,175,115	53,608,138	49,656,567
Midland	8,962,133	8,117,488	2,427,831	2,201,869	232,279	232,117	11,622,243	10,551,474
Mid-Western	12,459,253	11,325,951	3,354,744	3,045,635	343,602	359,086	16,157,599	14,730,672
North Eastern	13,422,495	12,545,375	3,426,340	3,158,981	319,082	335,908	17,167,917	16,040,264
North Western	9,298,353	8,551,911	2,365,653	2,130,919	237,893	255,506	11,901,899	10,938,336
South Eastern	14,388,519	13,206,869	4,050,506	3,691,877	417,193	445,769	18,856,218	17,344,515
Southern	20,580,371	18,955,185	5,931,802	5,414,583	591,882	632,161	27,104,055	25,001,929
Western	15,291,119	14,193,429	3,903,856	3,583,183	392,053	430,366	19,587,028	18,206,978
NATIONAL	£135,972,081	£125,337,075	£36,364,029	£33,267,632	£3,668,987	£3,866,028	£176,005,097	£162,470,735

*Note: Cost of medicines supplied by pharmacies to dispensing doctors is given in Table 5.*

**Table 5 G.M.S. : Cost of Stock Order Forms**

Health Board	Ingredient Cost		* Pharmacy Fee		V.A.T.		TOTAL	
	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £
Eastern	157,804	146,680	39,462	36,671	28,625	26,202	225,891	209,553
Midland	372,130	370,450	93,093	92,621	16,448	18,404	481,671	481,475
Mid-Western	429,970	394,353	107,608	98,586	27,382	26,557	564,960	519,496
North Eastern	506,063	531,218	126,653	132,815	26,612	29,511	659,328	693,544
North Western	1,143,254	1,116,292	286,128	279,093	40,357	45,573	1,469,739	1,440,958
South Eastern	862,308	893,387	215,837	223,374	35,825	36,442	1,113,970	1,153,203
Southern	185,251	177,721	46,341	44,420	24,661	22,697	256,253	244,838
Western	1,450,613	1,368,389	363,035	342,141	54,958	55,547	1,868,606	1,766,077
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£5,107,393</b>	<b>£4,998,490</b>	<b>£1,278,157</b>	<b>£1,249,721</b>	<b>£254,868</b>	<b>£260,933</b>	<b>£6,640,418</b>	<b>£6,509,144</b>

Note: (i) Stock Order Forms are provided by Health Boards for the use of dispensing doctors to obtain Medicines and Appliances from retail pharmacies for dispensing to persons who are entitled to be dispensed to.

(ii) \* Pharmacies are reimbursed for stock order items on the basis of the basic trade price, with the addition of 25% on cost.

(iii) The above figures include needles, syringes and dressings which are available for doctors use.

Table 6

## D.T.S.: Payments to Dentists

Health Board	Emergency £	Above the Line £	Below the Line £	Dentures £	Total £
Eastern	1,146,004	657,714	217,964	338,091	2,359,773
Midland	336,217	271,398	93,030	162,443	863,088
Mid-Western	427,152	322,320	131,232	320,296	1,201,000
North Eastern	367,097	430,949	168,801	340,013	1,306,860
North Western	246,885	185,340	69,145	174,908	676,278
South Eastern	540,840	459,285	224,208	341,305	1,565,638
Southern	811,116	688,415	253,884	427,643	2,181,058
Western	411,715	616,276	202,679	371,499	1,602,169
NATIONAL 1997	4,287,026	3,631,697	1,360,943	2,476,198	11,755,864
NATIONAL 1996	5,006,517	1,080,471	842,113	1,683,989	8,613,090

*Dentists were also paid an amount of £41,679 in 1997 in respect of fees under Health (Amendment) Act 1996.*



**Table 7 G.M.S. : Payment per eligible person**

Health Board	1997			1996		
	Doctors £	Pharmacies £	Total £	Doctors £	Pharmacies £	Total £
Eastern	72.87	152.77	225.64	64.85	138.23	203.08
Midland	86.52	151.56	238.08	77.40	135.88	213.28
Mid-Western	82.55	159.23	241.78	75.09	141.83	216.92
North Eastern	78.22	146.87	225.09	69.86	133.99	203.85
North Western	87.32	132.58	219.90	78.05	120.23	198.28
South Eastern	83.89	137.03	220.92	76.20	125.58	201.78
Southern	84.49	147.85	232.34	76.14	135.64	211.78
Western	87.20	140.49	227.69	79.88	130.62	210.50
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£81.07</b>	<b>£146.94</b>	<b>£228.01</b>	<b>£72.91</b>	<b>£133.72</b>	<b>£206.63</b>

*Note: The payment per eligible person is inclusive of total payments to doctors (Table 3) excluding superannuation benefits to retired D.M.O.'s and their dependants and total payments to pharmacies (Tables 4 and 5) in respect of the average number of persons covered each month (1,243,017)*

**Table 8 G.M.S. : Number of Doctors in eligible person cost categories**

1997 (1996 in brackets).

Number of Doctors with an annual cost per eligible person of:-												
Health Board	Up to £100	£100<£120	£120<£140	£140<£160	£160<£180	£180<£200	£200<£220	£220<£240	£240<£260	£260<£280	£280 and over	
Eastern	5 (5)	11 (12)	18 (27)	26 (47)	45 (61)	45 (74)	90 (87)	60 (60)	56 (47)	52 (27)	89 (53)	
Midland	- (1)	-	- (3)	3 (4)	9 (10)	9 (19)	15 (23)	24 (18)	15 (9)	9 (4)	11 (3)	
Mid-Western	-	1 (-)	- (2)	1 (7)	10 (16)	10 (22)	28 (37)	18 (22)	29 (13)	17 (6)	21 (14)	
North Eastern	-	- (1)	1 (1)	2 (5)	14 (27)	23 (27)	18 (24)	24 (12)	16 (11)	6 (3)	11 (4)	
North Western	-	-	- (3)	6 (11)	12 (18)	18 (25)	21 (20)	15 (11)	19 (7)	8 (5)	7 (2)	
South Eastern	- (1)	-	4 (6)	5 (18)	21 (35)	33 (37)	36 (38)	38 (19)	17 (10)	7 (6)	19 (10)	
Southern	1 -	1 (1)	1 (2)	7 (15)	21 (44)	34 (55)	55 (53)	54 (38)	34 (24)	24 (13)	26 (15)	
Western	-	-	3 (5)	7 (7)	11 (23)	30 (47)	36 (39)	42 (32)	34 (18)	13 (5)	16 (8)	
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>6 (7)</b>	<b>13 (14)</b>	<b>27 (49)</b>	<b>57 (114)</b>	<b>143 (234)</b>	<b>202 (306)</b>	<b>299 (321)</b>	<b>275 (212)</b>	<b>220 (139)</b>	<b>136 (69)</b>	<b>200 (109)</b>	

Note: (i) Doctors not in the G.M.S. Scheme for the full year have been excluded from this table.

(ii) The annual cost per eligible person is the total payment for the doctor and the total prescribing/dispensing costs in respect of the average number of persons on the panel.

**Table 9 G.M.S. : Number of eligible persons**

Health Board	Number of persons (including dependants) and % of population* eligible in				Health Board	Number of persons (including dependants) and % of population* eligible in			
	December 1997		December 1996			December 1997		December 1996	
	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%
EASTERN					NORTH WESTERN				
Dublin	270,447	25.56	282,872	26.77	Donegal	67,253	51.74	69,524	53.71
Wicklow	34,093	33.20	35,068	34.24	Leitrim	12,246	46.50	12,430	47.24
Kildare	33,485	24.81	35,004	25.95	Sligo	19,805	35.48	20,615	37.05
TOTAL	338,025	26.08	352,944	27.28	TOTAL	99,304	46.81	102,569	48.52
MIDLAND					SOUTH EASTERN				
Longford	12,880	42.70	12,957	42.99	Carlow	17,026	40.91	17,061	41.07
Westmeath	21,889	34.57	22,338	35.32	Kilkenny	21,967	36.11	22,159	36.49
Offaly	22,746	38.48	23,634	40.00	Tipperary S.R.	27,428	34.02	27,309	33.94
Laois	21,005	39.67	21,518	40.76	Waterford	37,787	36.31	39,508	37.98
TOTAL	78,520	38.20	80,447	39.19	Wexford	40,052	38.37	40,799	39.11
MID-WESTERN					TOTAL	144,260	36.85	146,836	37.55
Clare	30,827	32.79	30,962	32.97	SOUTHERN				
Limerick	51,253	31.05	55,177	33.44	Cork	137,679	32.74	139,370	33.16
Tipperary N.R.	19,555	33.70	20,822	35.93	Kerry	45,395	35.99	46,993	37.41
TOTAL	101,635	32.05	106,961	33.75	TOTAL	183,074	33.49	186,363	34.12
NORTH EASTERN					WESTERN				
Cavan	21,144	40.93	22,030	42.67	Galway	73,952	39.16	73,724	39.09
Louth	40,696	44.16	39,821	43.21	Mayo	56,384	50.56	55,910	50.19
Meath	37,236	33.93	38,645	33.33	Roscommon	23,629	45.46	23,638	45.56
Monaghan	21,993	42.86	22,497	43.88	TOTAL	153,965	43.70	153,272	43.56
TOTAL	121,069	39.71	122,993	40.40	TOTAL	1,219,852	33.64%	1,252,385	34.54%
					NATIONAL				

Note: (i) \*The population figures for each county are taken from the Census of Population 1996. The national figure was 3,626,087.

(ii) Average number of eligible persons in 1997 was 1,243,017 on 751,068 Medical Cards. (Average number of persons on a Medical Card was 1.65).

**Table 9.1 G.M.S. : Number of eligible persons by gender within age groups**

Health Board	Age Classification																	
	As at December 1997.																	
	Under 5 Years			5-15 Years			16-44 Years			45-64 Years			65 Years and over			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Eastern	14,325	13,618	27,943	31,906	30,630	62,536	43,948	63,051	106,999	27,823	34,235	62,058	26,716	51,773	78,489	144,718	193,307	338,025
Midland	2,812	2,708	5,520	7,430	7,134	14,564	11,684	14,017	25,701	6,696	7,654	14,350	7,443	10,942	18,385	36,065	42,455	78,520
Mid-Western	3,459	3,364	6,823	9,088	8,599	17,687	13,531	16,321	29,852	9,360	10,326	19,686	10,856	16,731	27,587	46,294	55,341	101,635
North Eastern	4,209	3,977	8,186	11,333	11,106	22,439	18,879	22,131	41,010	10,395	11,722	22,117	11,024	16,293	27,317	55,840	65,229	121,069
North Western	3,386	3,067	6,453	9,963	9,428	19,391	13,925	15,576	29,501	10,056	9,961	20,017	10,243	13,699	23,942	47,573	51,731	99,304
South Eastern	5,249	4,835	10,084	13,399	12,973	26,372	21,387	26,383	47,770	13,359	14,642	28,001	12,878	19,155	32,033	66,272	77,988	144,260
Southern	5,979	5,882	11,861	15,415	14,759	30,174	26,146	31,841	57,987	16,452	18,728	35,180	18,481	29,391	47,872	82,473	100,601	183,074
Western	4,811	4,655	9,466	14,061	13,261	27,322	22,645	25,953	48,598	14,789	14,889	29,678	16,418	22,483	38,901	72,724	81,241	153,965

NATIONAL	44,230	42,106	86,336	112,595	107,890	220,485	172,145	215,273	387,418	108,930	122,157	231,087	114,059	180,467	294,526	551,959	667,893	1,219,852
% OF ELIGIBLE PERSONS	3.6%	3.5%	7.1%	9.2%	8.8%	18.1%	14.1%	17.6%	31.8%	8.9%	10.0%	18.9%	9.4%	14.8%	24.1%	45.2%	54.8%	100.00%

**Table 10 G.M.S. : Size of panels of Doctors**

As at 31st December 1997 (1996 in brackets).

Health Board	Number of Doctors with panels of:-					
	Up to 250	251 - 500	501 - 1,000	1,001 - 1,500	1,501 - 2,000	2,001 - 2,500
Eastern	120 (114)	110 (110)	169 (170)	80 (79)	32 (41)	2 (4)
Midland	12 (11)	16 (16)	35 (32)	31 (33)	6 (7)	- -
Mid-Western	14 (14)	24 (23)	72 (71)	23 (27)	7 (6)	- -
North Eastern	8 (9)	12 (12)	44 (39)	53 (52)	13 (13)	- -
North Western	10 (10)	13 (10)	43 (44)	33 (30)	12 (16)	- (1)
South Eastern	13 (19)	32 (30)	97 (93)	30 (31)	14 (16)	- -
Southern	40 (40)	54 (56)	113 (116)	47 (45)	11 (10)	- (1)
Western	26 (24)	29 (36)	78 (80)	53 (48)	9 (6)	1 (2)
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>243 (241)</b>	<b>290 (293)</b>	<b>651 (645)</b>	<b>350 (345)</b>	<b>104 (115)</b>	<b>3 (8)</b>

**Table 11 G.M.S. : Payments to Doctors in each Health Board area**

Health Board	1997	1996
	£	£
Eastern	25,711,837	24,167,977
Midland	6,909,562	6,492,048
Mid-Western	8,669,602	8,340,897
North Eastern	9,494,601	9,012,886
North Western	8,806,447	8,301,878
South Eastern	12,225,958	11,595,106
Southern	15,634,688	14,640,799
Western	13,316,788	12,617,411
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£100,769,483</b>	<b>£95,169,002</b>

**Table 12 G.M.S. : Number of Special Type Consultations and Out-of-Hours claims**

Health Board	No. of Temporary Resident Claims		No. of E.E.A. Visitor Claims		No. of Emergency Claims		No. of Out-of -Hours Claims		Total No. of Claims	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996
Eastern	13,033	19,906	11,285	11,125	7,206	5,376	43,320	24,369	74,844	60,776
Midland	6,417	6,643	2,806	2,387	4,913	3,111	15,987	7,038	30,123	19,179
Mid-Western	8,437	8,001	5,097	4,139	1,892	2,045	14,358	5,832	29,784	20,017
North Eastern	4,133	4,297	4,183	3,636	2,935	2,918	15,347	5,106	26,598	15,957
North Western	4,721	4,348	10,051	9,699	1,896	1,935	18,790	8,313	35,458	24,295
South Eastern	7,749	7,686	6,474	5,705	3,331	2,819	24,734	11,902	42,288	28,112
Southern	11,269	11,200	12,720	11,803	3,017	2,497	37,876	16,673	64,882	42,173
Western	12,999	12,732	9,529	8,650	2,853	2,454	27,479	10,795	52,860	34,631
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>68,758</b>	<b>74,813</b>	<b>62,145</b>	<b>57,144</b>	<b>28,043</b>	<b>23,155</b>	<b>197,891</b>	<b>90,028</b>	<b>356,837</b>	<b>245,140</b>

**Table 12.1 G.M.S. : Payment to Doctors for Special Type Consultations and Out-of-Hours claims**

Health Board	Cost of Temporary Resident Claims		Cost of E.E.A. Visitor Claims		Cost of Emergency Claims		Cost of Out-of -Hours Claims		Total Cost of Claims	
	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £
Eastern	89,500	132,031	151,258	145,717	101,590	78,898	972,341	536,747	1,314,689	893,393
Midland	43,982	44,700	37,253	31,142	71,058	44,036	374,860	167,040	527,153	286,918
Mid-Western	68,701	61,582	67,655	54,452	29,816	31,527	340,554	139,766	506,726	287,327
North Eastern	32,452	32,706	56,054	48,159	45,688	43,207	352,848	120,313	487,042	244,385
North Western	33,434	29,218	136,160	129,211	30,090	29,684	457,763	205,656	657,447	393,769
South Eastern	55,663	53,791	88,104	74,845	49,622	42,549	582,900	278,588	776,289	449,773
Southern	86,306	81,292	172,949	155,555	44,628	36,905	898,911	395,711	1,202,794	669,463
Western	98,017	91,350	127,861	113,717	42,807	36,777	658,477	265,426	927,162	507,270
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£508,055</b>	<b>£526,670</b>	<b>£837,294</b>	<b>£752,798</b>	<b>£415,299</b>	<b>£343,583</b>	<b>£4,638,654</b>	<b>£2,109,247</b>	<b>£6,399,302</b>	<b>£3,732,298</b>



**Table 13 G.M.S. : Analysis of Special Items of Service**

Type of Service	Number of Claims		Cost of Claims	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
			£	£
(i) Excisions:            Warts, Verruca etc.	43,722	42,334	630,227	593,178
(ii) Suturing:            Cuts and Lacerations	21,590	20,808	311,145	291,643
(iii) Hydroceles:        Draining of	784	806	11,299	11,296
(iv) Haemorrhages:     Dental/Nasal	1,257	1,285	18,120	18,031
(v) Veins:                Recognised treatment	292	215	4,209	3,021
(vi) E.C.G.:              Tests and interpretation	20,765	19,817	299,303	277,462
(vii) Diaphragm:        Instruction in the fitting of	742	615	10,688	8,619
(viii) Eye:                Removal of Adherent foreign body	5,138	4,750	74,050	66,619
(ix) Ear/Nose/Throat:   Removal of foreign body	5,930	5,111	85,470	71,687
(x) Nebuliser:            Treatment in the case of acute asthmatic attack	33,963	32,739	734,239	686,271
(xi) Bladder:             Catheterization	3,405	3,149	73,586	66,206
(xii) Case Conference:   Convened by Health Board D.C.C	278	458	9,991	14,044
(xiii) Diaphragm:        Advice and Fitting of	37	-	925	-
(xiv) I.U.C.D.            Counselling and Fitting of	76	-	3,040	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137,979</b>	<b>132,087</b>	<b>£2,266,292</b>	<b>£2,108,077</b>

**Table 14 G.M.S. : Visiting rate categories for Doctors on Fee-Per-Item of service**

NATIONAL													
1997 (1996 in brackets).													
Doctors with panels of:-	Visiting Rate:-*												
	6 - 6.9		7 - 7.9		8 - 8.9		9 - 9.9		10 - 10.9		11 - 11.9		12 and Over
100-249	1	-	(1)	-	-	-	(1)	2	-	(1)			
250-499	-	1	(1)	1	-	7	(5)	(2)	(1)	-			
500-999	-	2	(1)	4	(5)	1	(3)	5	(4)	2	(1)	-	
1000-1499	-	1	(1)	-	-	2	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	
1500-1999	1	(2)	(1)	1	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	-	-	
2000-2499	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2500 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(1)</b>

Note: (i) The overall visiting rate in 1997 of the doctors who continued on a fee-per-item of service contract was 8.91 (Surgery: 7.94 Domiciliary: 0.97):  
(1996 - Total : 10.15 Surgery : 9.03 Domiciliary 1.12).

(ii) Only doctors with panels of 100 persons or over are included in the above table.

(iii) \* Visiting Rate is the total number of consultations divided by the total number of persons on panel.

**Table 15 G.M.S. : Cost of Medicines by gender within age groups**

Health Board	Age Classification																	
	Under 5 Years			5-15 Years			16-44 Years			45-64 Years			65 Years and over			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Eastern	30.70	29.89	30.31	27.26	26.58	26.93	107.77	106.20	106.84	251.59	220.89	234.65	313.87	284.51	294.50	148.09	156.28	152.77
Midland	36.04	34.36	35.22	31.13	31.15	31.14	87.93	96.13	92.40	233.36	209.30	220.53	323.31	302.25	310.77	147.76	154.80	151.56
Mid-Western	38.94	37.83	38.39	32.84	32.17	32.51	102.50	104.91	103.82	229.62	212.30	220.53	298.56	278.78	286.56	155.75	162.13	159.23
North Eastern	34.43	31.86	33.18	26.70	28.01	27.35	78.79	88.62	84.10	225.96	210.41	217.72	325.74	309.42	316.01	141.03	151.88	146.87
North Western	30.53	29.47	30.03	23.56	20.74	22.19	73.33	80.31	77.01	179.44	176.06	177.76	286.25	275.89	280.32	128.14	136.67	132.58
South Eastern	38.05	33.49	35.86	28.50	28.08	28.29	80.53	89.20	85.32	203.49	195.68	199.41	291.95	273.64	281.00	132.51	140.87	137.03
Southern	41.76	36.58	39.19	31.47	31.89	31.68	87.45	94.78	91.47	220.15	206.45	212.85	279.89	261.35	268.51	143.27	151.60	147.85
Western	41.19	38.03	39.64	29.54	27.75	28.67	82.37	87.69	85.21	192.18	183.27	187.71	275.31	277.53	276.60	135.32	145.12	140.49

NATIONAL	£35.54	£33.25	£34.42	£28.58	£28.03	£28.31	£90.36	£96.02	£93.51	£220.90	£205.35	£212.68	£297.54	£281.02	£287.42	£141.94	£151.07	£146.94
% OF NATIONAL AVERAGE	24.19%	22.63%	23.42%	19.45%	19.08%	19.27%	61.49%	65.35%	63.64%	150.33%	139.75%	144.74%	202.49%	191.25%	195.60%	96.60%	102.81%	100.00%

**Table 16 G.M.S. : Number of Prescription Forms and Items**

Health Board	Number of Forms		Number of Items		Items Per Form	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996
Eastern	2,754,336	2,714,382	5,953,294	5,750,727	2.16	2.12
Midland	628,878	611,366	1,327,620	1,261,660	2.11	2.06
Mid-Western	839,385	819,323	1,856,673	1,764,381	2.21	2.15
North Eastern	877,263	863,073	1,879,451	1,815,442	2.14	2.10
North Western	618,201	599,363	1,291,272	1,224,034	2.09	2.04
South Eastern	1,090,027	1,062,220	2,224,578	2,118,487	2.04	1.99
Southern	1,525,586	1,489,961	3,258,543	3,121,164	2.14	2.09
Western	1,022,309	1,000,615	2,152,901	2,074,818	2.11	2.07
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>9,355,985</b>	<b>9,160,303</b>	<b>19,944,332</b>	<b>19,130,713</b>	<b>2.13</b>	<b>2.09</b>

**Table 16.1 G.M.S. : Payment to Pharmacists in respect of prescriptions**

Health Board	Cost		Cost per Form		Cost per Item		Ingredient Cost per Item	
	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £	1997 £	1996 £
Eastern	53,608,138	49,656,567	19.46	18.29	9.00	8.63	6.98	6.68
Midland	11,622,243	10,551,474	18.48	17.26	8.75	8.36	6.75	6.43
Mid-Western	16,157,599	14,730,672	19.25	17.98	8.70	8.35	6.71	6.42
North Eastern	17,167,917	16,040,264	19.57	18.59	9.13	8.84	7.14	6.91
North Western	11,901,899	10,938,336	19.25	18.25	9.22	8.94	7.20	6.99
South Eastern	18,856,218	17,344,515	17.30	16.33	8.48	8.19	6.47	6.23
Southern	27,104,055	25,001,929	17.77	16.78	8.32	8.01	6.32	6.07
Western	19,587,028	18,206,978	19.16	18.20	9.10	8.78	7.10	6.84
NATIONAL	£176,005,097	£162,470,735	£18.81	£17.74	£8.82	£8.49	£6.82	£6.55

**Table 16.2 G.M.S. : Number of Items on Prescription Forms**

Prescription forms having:-	1997		1996	
	No of Forms	% of Total	No of Forms	% of Total
One Item	4,523,596	48.35%	4,497,924	49.10%
Two Items	2,222,979	23.76%	2,202,539	24.04%
Three Items	1,128,899	12.07%	1,098,175	11.99%
Four Items	638,456	6.82%	605,124	6.61%
Five Items	375,701	4.02%	347,663	3.80%
Six Items	238,680	2.55%	207,255	2.26%
Seven Items	144,886	1.55%	112,389	1.23%
Eight or more Items	82,788	0.88%	89,234	0.97%

**Table 17 G.M.S. : Number of Dispensing Doctors\* and Persons for whom they dispense**

Health Board	1997		1996	
	No. of Doctors	No. of Persons	No. of Doctors	No. of Persons
Eastern	2	550	2	553
Midland	21	6,301	20	7,182
Mid-Western	22	7,700	22	7,689
North Eastern	26	6,700	22	6,601
North Western	49	29,729	48	26,785
South Eastern	41	14,903	41	16,159
Southern	24	3,080	24	3,076
Western	45	26,220	45	26,224
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>95,183</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>94,269</b>

*\* In rural areas where a doctor has a centre of practice 3 miles or more from the nearest retail pharmacy the doctor dispenses for persons served from that centre who opt to be dispensed to. The doctor is paid a dispensing fee for each such person. A doctor's medicine requirements are obtained on a Stock Order from a retail pharmacy - the stock ordered is approved in advance by a Health Board.*

**Table 18 G.M.S. : Advance Payments\* to Pharmacists**

Health Board	Amount advanced to Pharmacists as at 31st December:-	
	1997	1996
	£	£
Eastern	3,260,150	2,980,858
Midland	671,230	616,002
Mid-Western	949,515	895,896
North Eastern	1,005,905	929,452
North Western	729,228	626,121
South Eastern	1,117,574	1,048,306
Southern	1,599,011	1,470,598
Western	1,174,986	1,096,000
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£10,507,599</b>	<b>£9,663,233</b>

*\* An advance payment is made to each pharmacy on entry to the Scheme primarily to cover the cost of stock holding for the purposes of the Scheme. It is calculated on the estimated number of prescription items submitted in the first claim. It is adjusted, where necessary, at the end of the first six months to equate to the average monthly ingredient cost of prescription forms dispensed over the period and is reviewed annually thereafter.*



**Table 19 G.M.S. : Notes on some of the more commonly prescribed products**

<b>AMOXYCILLIN AND AMPICILLIN</b>	Amoxycillin and Ampicillin are broad spectrum Penicillin antibiotics indicated for the treatment of a wide range of bacterial infections.	<b>BECLOMETHASONE</b>	Beclomethasone is a potent steroid having an anti-inflammatory action within the lungs. It is used mainly by inhalation for the treatment of bronchial asthma.
<b>SALBUTAMOL</b>	Salbutamol is a beta-adrenergic stimulant used mainly in the treatment of chronic asthma and chronic bronchitis.	<b>NIFEDIPINE</b>	Nifedipine is a calcium - channel blocker with peripheral and coronary vasodilator properties. It is given by mouth in the management of hypertension and of angina pectoris.
<b>DICLOFENAC AND MEFENAMIC ACID</b>	These are members of the Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug (NSAID) class and are mainly used to treat pain and inflammation associated with muscular conditions and rheumatoid arthritis.	<b>ERYTHROMYCIN</b>	This is a broad spectrum antibiotic used mainly for upper and lower respiratory tract infections and skin and soft tissue infections. It is an important antibiotic for those patients who are allergic to Penicillins.
<b>DIAZEPAM</b>	Diazepam is a benzodiazepine used for its sedative, hypnotic and anticonvulsant effects.	<b>ATENOLOL</b>	Atenolol is a beta blocker. Members of this class of drugs are used in the treatment of hypertension, angina pectoris and cardiac arrhythmias.
<b>CIMETIDINE AND RANITIDINE</b>	These drugs are Histamine H <sub>2</sub> - receptor antagonists used to treat peptic ulcers.	<b>OMEPRAZOLE</b>	Omeprazole is a proton pump inhibitor which prevents secretion of gastric acid. It is used in the treatment of reflux oesophagitis and peptic ulceration.

**Table 19.1 G.M.S. : The most commonly prescribed products in the order of their prescribing frequency**

Name	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
1 Salbutamol (Inhaled)	550,808	2.74	2,615,217	1.85
2 Amoxicillin	540,378	2.69	1,769,941	1.25
3 Aspirin (Anti-inflammatory)	513,431	2.56	487,159	0.35
4 Diazepam	328,151	1.63	222,175	0.16
5 Diclofenac (Systemic)	309,147	1.54	2,767,513	1.96
6 Prednisolone (Systemic)	301,695	1.50	203,754	0.14
7 Digoxin	298,728	1.49	206,208	0.15
8 Beclomethasone (Inhaled)	284,380	1.42	4,110,351	2.91
9 Mefenamic Acid	267,494	1.33	874,737	0.62
10 Amoxicillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	266,388	1.33	1,944,040	1.38
11 Frusemide with K -Sparing Agents	265,693	1.32	1,105,845	0.78
12 Atenolol	262,920	1.31	1,366,947	0.97
13 Dextropropoxyphene Comb excl Psycholeptics	253,258	1.26	327,567	0.23
14 Frusemide	232,707	1.16	236,932	0.17
15 Aspirin (Antithrombotic)	215,718	1.07	437,960	0.31
16 Captopril	214,243	1.07	3,055,331	2.17
17 Temazepam	210,697	1.05	426,294	0.30
18 Paracetamol Combs.excl Psycholeptics	208,853	1.04	727,810	0.52
19 Thyroxine Sodium	207,959	1.04	51,211	0.04
20 Omeprazole	193,776	0.97	7,043,506	4.99
21 Cimetidine	193,212	0.96	1,675,948	1.19
22 Warfarin	188,682	0.94	376,761	0.27
23 Nifedipine	187,404	0.93	1,986,043	1.41
24 Bendrofluazide with Potassium	184,743	0.92	187,228	0.13
25 Lactulose	181,699	0.91	703,589	0.50
26 Isosorbide Mononitrate	177,115	0.88	1,986,953	1.41
27 Carbocisteine	176,753	0.88	659,910	0.47
28 Ampicillin	169,102	0.84	263,506	0.19
29 Alginic Acid	167,221	0.83	580,396	0.41
30 Ibuprofen	166,719	0.83	610,300	0.43
31 Thioridazine	160,137	0.80	340,861	0.24
32 Flurazepam	158,249	0.79	436,676	0.31
33 Theophylline	156,074	0.78	715,567	0.51
34 Glyceril Trinitrate	144,918	0.72	1,177,976	0.83
35 Paracetamol	138,177	0.69	101,656	0.07
TOTAL	8,476,629	42.23%	£41,783,865	29.62%

**Table 19.2 G.M.S. : The products of highest cost in the order of their total ingredient cost**

Name	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total
1 Omeprazole	7,043,506	4.99	193,776	0.97
2 Clinical Nutritional Products	4,292,244	3.04	118,380	0.59
3 Beclomethasone (Inhaled)	4,110,351	2.91	284,380	1.42
4 Ostomy/Urinary Requisites	3,198,478	2.27	57,122	0.28
5 Ranitidine	3,177,538	2.25	128,375	0.64
6 Captopril	3,055,331	2.17	214,243	1.07
7 Diclofenac (Systemic)	2,767,513	1.96	309,147	1.54
8 Budesonide (Inhaled)	2,754,955	1.95	72,055	0.36
9 Salbutamol (Inhaled)	2,615,217	1.85	550,808	2.74
10 Pravastatin	2,351,610	1.67	84,759	0.42
11 Paroxetine	2,219,961	1.57	95,356	0.48
12 Fluoxetine	2,218,494	1.57	98,114	0.49
13 Isosorbide Mononitrate	1,986,953	1.41	177,115	0.88
14 Nifedipine	1,986,043	1.41	187,404	0.93
15 Amoxicillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	1,944,040	1.38	266,388	1.33
16 Amlodipine	1,937,647	1.37	116,278	0.58
17 Amoxicillin	1,769,941	1.25	540,378	2.69
18 Lansoprazole	1,754,161	1.24	63,760	0.32
19 Cimetidine	1,675,948	1.19	193,212	0.96
20 Atenolol	1,366,947	0.97	262,920	1.31
21 Diltiazem	1,339,695	0.95	107,217	0.53
22 Ipratropium Bromide (Inhaled)	1,285,955	0.91	61,754	0.31
23 Diagnostics Products	1,236,167	0.88	84,585	0.42
24 Risperidone	1,223,239	0.87	16,557	0.08
25 Sertraline	1,215,724	0.86	32,361	0.16
26 Glyceryl Trinitrate	1,177,976	0.83	144,918	0.72
27 Frusemide with K -Sparing Agents	1,105,845	0.78	265,693	1.32
28 Clarithromycin	906,502	0.64	60,309	0.30
29 Mefenamic Acid	874,737	0.62	267,494	1.33
30 Doxazosin	872,589	0.62	42,230	0.21
31 Lisinopril	868,110	0.62	62,223	0.31
32 Fluticasone (Inhaled)	819,710	0.58	24,624	0.12
33 Simvastatin	788,476	0.56	28,529	0.14
34 Lamotrigine	780,854	0.55	13,825	0.07
35 Zopiclone	730,621	0.52	81,312	0.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£69,453,076</b>	<b>49.23%</b>	<b>5,307,601</b>	<b>26.44%</b>

**Table 19.3 D.C.S. : The most commonly prescribed products in the order of their prescribing frequency**

Name	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
1 Salbutamol (Inhaled)	79,495	3.16	453,388	1.54
2 Aspirin (Anti-inflammatory)	68,853	2.74	69,787	0.24
3 Omeprazole	62,942	2.51	2,605,797	8.87
4 Prednisolone (Systemic)	49,803	1.98	35,261	0.12
5 Pravastatin	45,769	1.82	1,455,886	4.96
6 Beclomethasone (Inhaled)	45,328	1.80	872,654	2.97
7 Captopril	41,407	1.65	714,878	2.43
8 Aspirin (Antithrombotic)	38,231	1.52	81,106	0.28
9 Atenolol	35,110	1.40	204,582	0.70
10 Warfarin	34,645	1.38	66,735	0.23
11 Diclofenac (Systemic)	32,444	1.29	346,021	1.18
12 Budesonide (Inhaled)	31,174	1.24	1,199,693	4.08
13 Isosorbide Mononitrate	28,579	1.14	334,567	1.14
14 Frusemide	28,531	1.14	36,590	0.12
15 Nifedipine	27,886	1.11	328,554	1.12
16 Amlodipine	27,179	1.08	459,184	1.56
17 Frusemide with K -Sparing Agents	26,768	1.07	124,486	0.42
18 Glyceryl Trinitrate	26,652	1.06	227,430	0.77
19 Digoxin	26,569	1.06	17,310	0.06
20 Fluticasone (Inhaled)	25,502	1.02	991,151	3.37
21 Theophylline	24,859	0.99	129,162	0.44
22 Diltiazem	24,327	0.97	313,761	1.07
23 Clinical Nutritional Products	24,255	0.97	589,163	2.01
24 Ranitidine	23,929	0.95	644,739	2.19
25 Paracetamol Combs.excl Psycholeptics	22,361	0.89	99,541	0.34
26 Paroxetine	22,135	0.88	566,068	1.93
27 Ostomy/Urinary Requisites	21,722	0.86	885,863	3.02
28 Thyroxine Sodium	20,756	0.83	5,875	0.02
29 Salmeterol	20,700	0.82	579,945	1.97
30 Diazepam	20,363	0.81	19,224	0.07
31 Amoxycillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	19,930	0.79	159,565	0.54
32 Fluoxetine	18,728	0.75	484,095	1.65
33 Temazepam	18,540	0.74	41,163	0.14
34 Alginic Acid	17,884	0.71	66,350	0.23
35 Simvastatin	17,699	0.70	545,223	1.86
TOTAL	1,101,055	43.83%	£15,754,797	53.62%

**Table 19.4 D.C.S. : The products of highest cost in the order of their total ingredient cost**

Name	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total
1 Omeprazole	2,605,797	8.87	62,942	2.51
2 Pravastatin	1,455,886	4.96	45,769	1.82
3 Budesonide (Inhaled)	1,199,693	4.08	31,174	1.24
4 Fluticasone (Inhaled)	991,151	3.37	25,502	1.02
5 Ostomy/Urinary Requisites	885,863	3.02	21,722	0.86
6 Beclomethasone (Inhaled)	872,654	2.97	45,328	1.80
7 Captopril	714,878	2.43	41,407	1.65
8 Ranitidine	644,739	2.19	23,929	0.95
9 Clinical Nutritional Products	589,163	2.01	24,255	0.97
10 Salmeterol	579,945	1.97	20,700	0.82
11 Paroxetine	566,068	1.93	22,135	0.88
12 Simvastatin	545,223	1.86	17,699	0.70
13 Fluoxetine	484,095	1.65	18,728	0.75
14 Amlodipine	459,184	1.56	27,179	1.08
15 Salbutamol (Inhaled)	453,388	1.54	79,495	3.16
16 Sertraline	443,128	1.51	10,910	0.43
17 Lansoprazole	350,543	1.19	11,236	0.45
18 Azathioprine	348,268	1.19	10,980	0.44
19 Diclofenac (Systemic)	346,021	1.18	32,444	1.29
20 Isosorbide Mononitrate	334,567	1.14	28,579	1.14
21 Nifedipine	328,554	1.12	27,886	1.11
22 Doxazosin	314,411	1.07	13,802	0.55
23 Diltiazem	313,761	1.07	24,327	0.97
24 Mesalazine	261,141	0.89	6,356	0.25
25 Ipratropium Bromide (Inhaled)	255,010	0.87	11,587	0.46
26 Glyceryl Trinitrate	227,430	0.77	26,652	1.06
27 Lisinopril	205,521	0.70	14,225	0.57
28 Atenolol	204,582	0.70	35,110	1.40
29 Follitropin Beta	191,372	0.65	232	0.01
30 Enalapril	190,790	0.65	13,905	0.55
31 Captopril and Diuretics	176,800	0.60	8,035	0.32
32 Clarithromycin	174,509	0.59	10,188	0.41
33 Amoxicillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	159,565	0.54	19,930	0.79
34 Terbutaline (Inhaled)	157,224	0.54	15,873	0.63
35 Zopiclone	156,132	0.53	15,529	0.62
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£18,187,056</b>	<b>61.90%</b>	<b>845,750</b>	<b>33.67%</b>

**Table 19.5 L.T.I. : The most commonly prescribed products in the order of their prescribing frequency,**

Name	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
1 Diagnostic Products	99,955	12.97	1,875,120	16.84
2 Needles/Syringes/Lancets	68,293	8.86	497,302	4.47
3 Metformin	49,865	6.47	121,768	1.09
4 Carbamazepine	40,575	5.26	285,518	2.56
5 Gliclazide	38,217	4.96	311,254	2.80
6 Insulin (Human), Fast Acting	35,516	4.61	710,223	6.38
7 Sodium Valproate	32,067	4.16	291,092	2.61
8 Phenytoin	30,197	3.92	67,135	0.60
9 Insulin (Human), Intermediate Acting	28,603	3.71	634,948	5.70
10 Insulin (Human), Comb Inter/Fast Acting	25,494	3.31	755,534	6.79
11 Glibenclamide	24,944	3.24	164,050	1.47
12 Clinical Nutritional Products	20,382	2.64	944,384	8.48
13 Phenobarbitone	14,183	1.84	25,063	0.23
14 Levodopa and Decarboxylase Inhibitor	11,498	1.49	180,888	1.62
15 Insulin (Human), Long Acting	11,199	1.45	194,536	1.75
16 Pancreatic Enzymes	8,525	1.11	462,972	4.16
17 Lamotrigine	8,169	1.06	427,263	3.84
18 Selegiline	4,971	0.65	151,801	1.36
19 Amoxicillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	4,936	0.64	50,536	0.45
20 Vitamins, Other Combinations (Naudicelle)	4,622	0.60	94,222	0.85
21 Glucagon	4,255	0.55	67,889	0.61
22 Tocopherol (Vitamin E)	3,988	0.52	28,125	0.25
23 Acarbose	3,987	0.52	53,688	0.48
24 Captopril	3,898	0.51	59,862	0.54
25 Salbutamol (Inhaled)	3,814	0.49	26,495	0.24
26 Ostomy/Urinary Requisites	3,742	0.49	119,601	1.07
27 Chlorpropamide	3,509	0.46	6,688	0.06
28 Aspirin (Anti-inflammatory)	3,472	0.45	3,383	0.03
29 Flucloxacillin	3,246	0.42	60,488	0.54
30 Primidone	3,179	0.41	5,242	0.05
31 Baclofen	3,154	0.41	45,870	0.41
32 Vigabatrin	3,088	0.40	160,136	1.44
33 Dressings	3,017	0.39	25,393	0.23
34 Diazepam	3,013	0.39	7,835	0.07
35 Colistin (Systemic)	2,733	0.35	185,560	1.67
	614,306	79.71%	£9,101,864	81.74%

**Table 19.6 L.T.I. : The products of highest cost in the order of their total ingredient cost**

Name	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total
1 Diagnostic Products	1,875,120	16.84	99,955	12.97
2 Clinical Nutritional Products	944,384	8.48	20,382	2.64
3 Insulin (Human), Comb Inter/Fast Acting	755,534	6.79	25,494	3.31
4 Insulin (Human), Fast Acting	710,223	6.38	35,516	4.61
5 Insulin (Human), Intermediate Acting	634,948	5.70	28,603	3.71
6 Needles/Syringes/Lancets	497,302	4.47	68,293	8.86
7 Pancreatic Enzymes	462,972	4.16	8,525	1.11
8 Lamotrigine	427,263	3.84	8,169	1.06
9 Gliclazide	311,254	2.80	38,217	4.96
10 Sodium Valproate	291,092	2.61	32,067	4.16
11 Carbamazepine	285,518	2.56	40,575	5.26
12 Insulin (Human), Long Acting	194,536	1.75	11,199	1.45
13 Colistin (Systemic)	185,560	1.67	2,733	0.35
14 Levodopa and Decarboxylase Inhibitor	180,888	1.62	11,498	1.49
15 Glibenclamide	164,050	1.47	24,944	3.24
16 Vigabatrin	160,136	1.44	3,088	0.40
17 Selegiline	151,801	1.36	4,971	0.65
18 Gabapentin	130,525	1.17	2,132	0.28
19 Metformin	121,768	1.09	49,865	6.47
20 Ostomy/Urinary Requisites	119,601	1.07	3,742	0.49
21 Vitamins, Other Combinations (Naudicelle)	94,222	0.85	4,622	0.60
22 Glucagon	67,889	0.61	4,255	0.55
23 Phenytoin	67,135	0.60	30,197	3.92
24 Desmopressin	66,309	0.60	1,892	0.25
25 Meropenem	64,709	0.58	97	0.01
26 Adjuncts to Nutritional Feeding	62,876	0.56	785	0.10
27 Flucloxacillin	60,488	0.54	3,246	0.42
28 Captopril	59,862	0.54	3,898	0.51
29 Ceftazidime	55,227	0.50	151	0.02
30 Pergolide	54,608	0.49	778	0.10
31 Acarbose	53,688	0.48	3,987	0.52
32 Omeprazole	53,323	0.48	1,303	0.17
33 Amoxicillin with Enzyme Inhibitor	50,536	0.45	4,936	0.64
34 Tobramycin	48,791	0.44	384	0.05
35 Bromocriptine	47,818	0.43	1,661	0.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,511,956</b>	<b>85.42%</b>	<b>582,160</b>	<b>75.54%</b>

**Table 20 G.M.S. : Distribution of Medicines and Appliances by Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification.**

<b>A.T.C. Class</b>	<b>Product Category</b>	<b>Prescribing Frequency</b>	<b>% of Scheme Total</b>	<b>Ingredient Cost £</b>	<b>% of Scheme Total</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Alimentary Tract and Metabolism</b>	<b>2,027,844</b>	<b>10.10</b>	<b>23,578,965</b>	<b>16.71</b>
A01	Stomatological Preparations	59,761	0.30	169,327	0.12
A02	Antacids, Drugs for Treatment of Peptic Ulcer and Flatulence	916,188	4.56	16,115,657	11.42
A03	Antispasmodic and Anticholinergic Agents and Propulsives	224,899	1.12	1,100,647	0.78
A04	Anti-emetics and Antinauseants	2,663	0.01	341,448	0.24
A05	Bile and Liver Therapy	3,671	0.02	109,009	0.08
A06	Laxatives	282,327	1.41	1,230,278	0.87
A07	Antidiarrhoeals, Intestinal Anti-inflammatory/ Anti-infective Agents	144,965	0.72	1,066,302	0.76
A08	Anti-obesity Preparations excluding Diet Products	8,873	0.04	50,175	0.04
A09	Digestives, including Enzymes	5,107	0.03	359,056	0.25
A10	Drugs Used in Diabetes	302,977	1.51	2,575,484	1.83
A11	Vitamins	32,539	0.16	340,425	0.24
A12	Mineral Supplements	39,991	0.20	77,388	0.05
A14	Anabolic Agents for Systemic Use	3,883	0.02	43,769	0.03
<b>B</b>	<b>Blood and Blood Forming Organs</b>	<b>720,573</b>	<b>3.59</b>	<b>1,587,928</b>	<b>1.13</b>
B01	Antithrombotic Agents	425,414	2.12	984,826	0.70
B02	Antihaemorrhagics	5,827	0.03	47,861	0.03
B03	Anti-anaemic Preparations	289,107	1.44	554,188	0.39
B05	Plasma Substitutes and Perfusion Solutions	189	----	873	----
B06	Other Haematological Agents	36	----	180	----



Table 20  
contd.

A.T.C. Class	Product Category	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
<b>C</b>	<b>Cardiovascular System</b>	<b>3,885,181</b>	<b>19.36</b>	<b>30,476,673</b>	<b>21.60</b>
C01	Cardiac Therapy	741,206	3.69	4,344,995	3.08
C02	Antihypertensives	134,575	0.67	1,453,134	1.03
C03	Diuretics	1,098,195	5.47	2,696,011	1.91
C04	Peripheral Vasodilators	67,092	0.33	883,269	0.63
C05	Vasoprotectives	79,454	0.40	378,875	0.27
C07	Beta Blocking Agents	603,631	3.01	3,712,041	2.63
C08	Calcium Channel Blockers	504,552	2.51	6,130,569	4.35
C09	Renin - Angiotensin System	527,152	2.63	7,432,801	5.27
C10	Serum Lipid Reducing Agents	129,324	0.64	3,444,978	2.44
<b>D</b>	<b>Dermatologicals</b>	<b>774,995</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>3,478,409</b>	<b>2.47</b>
D01	Antifungals for Dermatological Use	159,158	0.79	733,323	0.52
D02	Emollients and Protectives	1,058	0.01	1,272	0.00
D03	Preparations for treatment of Wounds & Ulcers	1,015	0.01	25,482	0.02
D04	Antipruritics, including Antihistamines, Anaesthetics, etc.	9,406	0.05	18,935	0.01
D05	Antipsoriatics	21,310	0.11	351,105	0.25
D06	Antibiotics and Chemotherapeutics for Dermatological Use	117,145	0.58	508,084	0.36
D07	Corticosteroids, Dermatological Preparations	427,388	2.13	1,342,674	0.95
D10	Anti-Acne Preparations	35,405	0.18	452,493	0.32
D11	Other Dermatological Preparations	3,110	0.02	45,041	0.03
<b>G</b>	<b>Genito Urinary System</b>	<b>1,033,850</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>4,189,419</b>	<b>2.97</b>
G01	Gynaecological Anti-infectives and Antiseptics	37,500	0.19	164,942	0.12
G02	Other Gynaecologicals	1,185	---	20,258	---
G03	Sex Hormones	907,031	4.52	2,779,858	1.97
G04	Urologicals	88,134	0.44	1,224,361	0.87

Table 20  
contd.

A.T.C. Class	Product Category	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
<b>H</b>	<b>Systemic Hormonal Preparations, Excl. Sex Hormones</b>	<b>588,402</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>718,117</b>	<b>0.51</b>
H01	Pituitary and Hypothalamic Hormones	5,239	0.03	189,372	0.13
H02	Corticosteroids for Systemic Use	346,614	1.73	388,343	0.28
H03	Thyroid Therapy	234,228	1.17	101,263	0.07
H04	Pancreatic Hormones	2,321	0.01	39,139	0.03
<b>J</b>	<b>General Anti-infectives for Systemic Use</b>	<b>1,935,988</b>	<b>9.64</b>	<b>10,555,977</b>	<b>7.48</b>
J01	Antibacterials for Systemic Use	1,903,229	9.48	9,615,854	6.82
J02	Antimycotics for Systemic Use	20,918	0.10	317,255	0.22
J04	Antimycobacterials	2,610	0.01	30,983	0.02
J05	Antivirals for Systemic Use	7,720	0.04	585,933	0.42
J07	Vaccines (Tetanus Only)	1,511	0.01	5,952	0.00
<b>L</b>	<b>Antineoplastic and Immunomodulating Agents</b>	<b>89,770</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>1,355,220</b>	<b>0.96</b>
L01	Antineoplastic Agents	22,050	0.11	86,396	0.06
L02	Endocrine Therapy	50,662	0.25	765,415	0.54
L04	Immunosuppressive Agents	17,058	0.08	503,409	0.36

Table 20  
contd.

A.T.C. Class	Product Category	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
<b>M</b>	<b>Musculo-Skeletal System</b>	<b>1,337,974</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>9,565,670</b>	<b>6.78</b>
<b>M01</b>	Anti-inflammatory and Antirheumatic Products	1,066,950	5.32	7,808,237	5.53
<b>M02</b>	Topical Products for Joint and Muscular Pain	176,972	0.88	936,454	0.66
<b>M03</b>	Muscle Relaxants	23,829	0.12	213,822	0.15
<b>M04</b>	Antigout Preparations	62,230	0.31	357,464	0.25
<b>M05</b>	Drugs for treatment of Bone Diseases	7,993	0.04	249,693	0.18
<b>N</b>	<b>Nervous System</b>	<b>4,558,895</b>	<b>22.71</b>	<b>25,061,673</b>	<b>17.76</b>
<b>N01</b>	Anaesthetics	2,036	0.01	7,260	---
<b>N02</b>	Analgesics	1,383,705	6.89	4,588,417	3.25
<b>N03</b>	Anti-epileptics	285,237	1.42	2,486,360	1.76
<b>N04</b>	Anti-Parkinson Drugs	163,040	0.81	1,192,112	0.84
<b>N05</b>	Psycholeptics	1,963,919	9.78	7,610,418	5.39
<b>N06</b>	Psychoanaleptics	684,875	3.41	8,445,650	5.99
<b>N07</b>	Other Nervous System Drugs	76,083	0.38	731,456	0.52
<b>P</b>	<b>Antiparasitic Products</b>	<b>107,387</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>490,201</b>	<b>0.35</b>
<b>P01</b>	Antiprotozoals	34,327	0.17	121,026	0.09
<b>P02</b>	Anthelmintics	14,372	0.07	35,180	0.02
<b>P03</b>	Ectoparasitocides, incl. Scabicides, Insecticides and Repellents	58,688	0.29	333,995	0.24

Table 20  
contd.

A.T.C. Class	Product Category	Prescribing Frequency	% of Scheme Total	Ingredient Cost £	% of Scheme Total
<b>R</b>	<b>Respiratory System</b>	<b>2,052,732</b>	<b>10.23</b>	<b>17,792,096</b>	<b>12.61</b>
R01	Nasal Preparations	85,690	0.43	543,426	0.39
R02	Throat Preparations	10,823	0.05	20,799	0.01
R03	Anti-asthmatics	1,594,040	7.94	15,933,851	11.29
R05	Cough and Cold Preparations	214,755	1.07	791,625	0.56
R06	Antihistamines for Systemic Use	145,975	0.73	470,527	0.33
R07	Other Respiratory System Products	1,449	0.01	31,868	0.02
<b>S</b>	<b>Sensory Organs</b>	<b>532,217</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>2,172,300</b>	<b>1.54</b>
S01	Ophthalmologicals	454,581	2.26	1,968,307	1.40
S02	Otologicals	35,157	0.18	124,095	0.09
S03	Ophthalmological and Otological Preparations	42,479	0.21	79,898	0.06
<b>V</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>427,339</b>	<b>2.13</b>	<b>10,056,826</b>	<b>7.13</b>
V03	Medicinal Products	5,049	0.03	99,563	0.07
V04	Diagnostic Products	84,585	0.42	1,236,167	0.88
V06	Clinical Nutritional Products	118,380	0.59	4,292,244	3.04
V07	Non-Medicinal Products	181,397	0.90	4,250,189	3.01
Z01	(e.g. Ostomy/Urinary, Dressings, Needles and Syringes) Miscellaneous	37,928	0.19	178,663	0.13
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,073,147</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>£141,079,474</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Table 21

## G.M.S. :- Average Payment to Doctors in Panel Ranges

Health Board	Average Panel Ranges in 1997													
	0-100		101-250		251-500		501-1,000		1,001-1,500		1,501-2,000		2,001 and Over	
	£		£		£		£		£		£		£	
Eastern	2,975	(29)	12,958	(76)	26,097	(108)	51,683	(159)	85,948	(82)	108,333	(39)	135,976	(4)
Midland	2,042	(3)	11,280	(6)	34,995	(17)	64,116	(31)	91,681	(31)	127,702	(7)	-	
Mid-Western	6,376	(3)	16,737	(8)	33,502	(24)	60,264	(68)	91,270	(25)	115,009	(7)	-	
North Eastern	4,159	(2)	18,568	(3)	25,977	(13)	63,822	(39)	92,394	(48)	123,934	(10)	-	
North Western	6,562	(3)	14,903	(5)	33,291	(12)	66,322	(43)	102,056	(32)	136,035	(11)	-	
South Eastern	4,656	(3)	14,351	(7)	30,390	(30)	60,696	(97)	89,516	(28)	123,763	(15)	-	
Southern	4,039	(8)	14,886	(26)	31,859	(54)	60,545	(114)	95,218	(46)	112,260	(9)	151,593	(1)
Western	14,459	(6)	15,629	(16)	29,564	(31)	62,798	(80)	103,424	(51)	137,743	(7)	170,735	(1)
NATIONAL	£4,782	(57)	£13,974	(147)	£29,423	(289)	£59,362	(631)	£93,392	(343)	£118,959	(105)	£144,372	(6)

Note: (i) Only doctors in the Scheme for the full year 1997 are included above.

(ii) The number of doctors in each range is shown in brackets.

(iii) The average payment to doctors in each panel range is the gross payments divided by the number of doctors in that range.

**Table 21.1 G.M.S. :- Number of Doctors in Payment Ranges**

1997 (1996 in brackets).

Health Board	Up to £10,000	£10,001- £20,000	£20,001- £30,000	£30,001- £40,000	£40,001- £50,000	£50,001- £60,000	£60,001- £70,000	£70,001- £80,000	£80,001- £90,000	£90,001- £100,000	£100,001- £110,000	£110,001- £120,000	£120,001- £130,000	£130,001- £140,000	£140,001 and over
Eastern	51 (52)	66 (77)	67 (68)	51 (50)	59 (62)	44 (42)	35 (46)	26 (13)	27 (29)	26 (26)	19 (22)	16 (8)	5 (4)	3 -	2 (1)
Midland	5 (3)	5 (4)	6 (9)	5 (5)	10 (9)	11 (13)	4 (11)	12 (8)	14 (13)	6 (8)	7 (4)	4 (6)	3 (1)	2 -	1 -
Mid-Western	4 (3)	7 (10)	9 (16)	17 (13)	15 (13)	15 (23)	26 (25)	14 (12)	4 (6)	7 (7)	10 (6)	3 (2)	2 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)
North Eastern	2 (3)	5 (4)	7 (4)	8 (8)	2 (4)	11 (13)	14 (14)	10 (10)	14 (22)	15 (14)	15 (12)	4 (4)	4 (2)	2 -	2 (1)
North Western	2 (4)	7 (5)	6 (6)	3 (7)	10 (9)	10 (8)	6 (11)	14 (12)	10 (9)	9 (5)	7 (6)	7 (7)	6 (7)	5 (3)	4 (3)
South Eastern	5 (8)	11 (8)	12 (14)	14 (18)	26 (27)	21 (18)	21 (22)	20 (18)	14 (17)	14 (12)	8 (7)	5 (4)	5 (1)	3 (4)	1 (2)
Southern	11 (15)	26 (30)	28 (30)	20 (21)	25 (27)	32 (39)	35 (36)	28 (16)	12 (15)	14 (11)	10 (8)	10 (6)	1 (2)	4 (3)	2 (1)
Western	6 (6)	16 (22)	19 (12)	14 (11)	13 (20)	19 (15)	21 (23)	19 (21)	13 (13)	17 (16)	9 (8)	9 (6)	5 (3)	5 (4)	7 (4)
NATIONAL	86 (94)	143 (160)	154 (159)	132 (133)	160 (171)	163 (171)	162 (188)	143 (110)	108 (124)	108 (99)	85 (73)	58 (43)	31 (21)	25 (15)	20 (13)

Note: (i) Doctors not in the G.M.S. Scheme for the full year have been excluded from the above table.

(ii) Above table relates to the payments listed in Table 3.

(iii) Services to eligible persons are paid for by reference to the agreed scale of fees (see Appendices 1 and 2). Expenses necessarily incurred by doctors in providing the services are not separately identified on the agreed scale.

Table 22

## G.M.S. :- Number of Pharmacists in Dispensing Fee Ranges

1997 (1996 in brackets).

Health Board	Up to £10,000	£10,001- £20,000	£20,001- £30,000	£30,001- £40,000	£40,001- £50,000	£50,001- £60,000	£60,001- £70,000	£70,001- £80,000	£80,001- £90,000	£90,001- £100,000	£100,001- £110,000	£110,001- £120,000	£120,001 and over
Eastern	65 (72)	85 (71)	65 (66)	57 (55)	31 (27)	15 (13)	13 (11)	5 (5)	4 (3)	2 (4)	5 (4)	3 -	1 (1)
Midland	2 (3)	5 (7)	11 (12)	11 (14)	13 (14)	7 (8)	5 (1)	1 (2)	1 -	-	-	-	-
Mid-Western	6 (8)	18 (20)	28 (28)	19 (21)	15 (9)	5 (5)	1 (3)	3 (1)	1 (1)	1 -	-	1 (1)	-
North Eastern	6 (5)	16 (17)	16 (21)	23 (21)	9 (10)	6 (7)	3 (4)	4 (2)	1 (1)	2 (1)	(1)	2 (1)	-
North Western	4 (4)	7 (10)	7 (8)	13 (12)	3 (9)	10 (7)	3 (2)	2 (4)	3 (1)	1 (2)	2 (1)	1 -	-
South Eastern	9 (9)	19 (21)	27 (30)	35 (29)	17 (17)	9 (5)	3 (2)	3 (1)	- (1)	1 (1)	1 -	-	-
Southern	10 (14)	47 (42)	28 (39)	37 (34)	14 (12)	9 (11)	6 (5)	5 (5)	5 (2)	2 (2)	1 -	1 -	-
Western	9 (10)	23 (23)	19 (30)	23 (17)	9 (10)	9 (12)	11 (4)	2 (4)	3 (1)	2 -	- (1)	1 -	-
NATIONAL	111 (125)	220 (211)	201 (234)	218 (203)	111 (108)	70 (68)	45 (32)	25 (24)	18 (10)	11 (10)	9 (7)	9 (2)	1 (1)

Note: (i) Pharmacies that entered or left the Scheme during the year are not included in the above table.

(ii) The fees payable to pharmacies are shown in Appendix 3. Expenses necessarily incurred by pharmacies in providing this service are not separately identified in the agreed scale.

**Table 23 D.C.S. : Number of eligible persons and number and cost of pharmacists claims**

Health Board	*Number of Persons Covered	Average Number of Claimants	Number of Items	Cost per Item £	Gross Cost £	Gross Cost per Claimant £	Paid by Board £	Net Cost per Claimant £
Eastern	21,802	15,807	1,078,022	19.49	21,005,562	1,328.89	15,662,797	990.89
Midland	2,527	1,917	124,766	19.03	2,374,245	1,238.47	1,723,130	898.83
Mid-Western	10,283	6,386	305,595	19.37	5,919,001	1,096.53	4,272,032	791.42
North Eastern	4,982	3,335	185,795	19.98	3,711,668	1,240.39	2,711,048	906.00
North Western	2,952	2,158	128,937	20.07	2,587,473	1,371.27	1,938,290	1,027.23
South Eastern	4,727	4,130	230,168	19.05	4,384,737	1,224.79	3,162,280	883.32
Southern	6,872	5,735	331,771	18.59	6,167,906	1,172.12	4,429,803	841.82
Western	3,076	2,297	126,929	20.78	2,637,749	1,337.37	1,959,726	993.61
NATIONAL 1997	** 57,221	38,816	2,511,983	£19.42	£48,788,341	£1,256.93	£35,859,106	£923.83
NATIONAL 1996	71,660	31,843	2,052,736	£19.14	£39,282,293	£1,233.62	£28,688,578	£900.93

Note: \* As at 31st December 1997.

\*\* Ineligible persons on eligible D.C.S. cards were excluded in 1997.



**Table 23.1 D.C.S. : Number of Pharmacists in Dispensing Fee/Mark-Up Ranges**

Health Board	Up to £10,000	£10,001 - £20,000	£20,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	£40,001 - £50,000	£50,001 - £60,000	£60,001 - £70,000	£70,001 and over
Eastern	143	105	64	26	8	4	2	1
Midland	35	16	6	-	-	-	-	-
Mid-Western	41	34	8	9	3	-	2	1
North Eastern	50	28	5	4	4	-	-	-
North Western	28	17	1	5	3	-	-	-
South Eastern	73	39	8	2	-	-	-	-
Southern	102	45	10	2	3	-	-	-
Western	87	18	4	-	-	1	-	-
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

*Note: (i) Pharmacies that entered or left the Scheme during the year are not included in the above table.  
(ii) The fees payable to pharmacies are shown in Appendix 3.1. Expenses necessarily incurred by pharmacies in providing this service are not separately identified in the agreed scale.  
(iii) The above figures do not include the monthly co-payment of £32 paid by the patient to the pharmacist.*

**Table 24 L.T.I. : Number of eligible persons and number and cost of pharmacists claims**

Health Board	*Number of Eligible Persons	Average Number of Claimants	Number of Items	Cost per Item £	Total Cost £	Cost per Claimant £
Eastern	33,140	10,214	331,974	25.48	8,457,460	828.06
Midland	2,333	1,231	35,954	24.46	879,473	714.44
Mid-Western	4,080	1,797	51,837	22.74	1,178,768	655.87
North Eastern	4,013	1,945	69,883	23.71	1,657,109	852.02
North Western	3,043	1,177	40,940	24.59	1,006,544	854.87
South Eastern	5,192	2,595	76,424	26.34	2,012,706	775.53
Southern	11,079	3,370	111,594	26.26	2,930,547	869.51
Western	3,816	1,794	52,073	30.71	1,599,027	891.44
NATIONAL 1997	66,696	24,124	770,679	25.59	£19,721,634	£817.53
NATIONAL 1996	64,205	22,815	726,465	£24.27	£17,632,789	£772.87

Note: \* As at 31st December 1997.

**Table 24.1 L.T.I.. : Number of Pharmacists in Dispensing Fee/Mark-Up Ranges**

Health Board	Up to £10,000	£10,001 - £20,000	£20,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	£40,001 - £50,000	£50,001 - £60,000	£60,001 and over
Eastern	227	102	19	5	-	-	-
Midland	48	7	1	-	-	-	-
Mid-Western	86	9	3	-	-	-	-
North Eastern	68	17	3	1	-	-	-
North Western	42	10	1	-	-	-	1
South Eastern	99	21	3	-	-	-	-
Southern	129	30	4	2	-	-	-
Western	90	19	-	-	1	-	-
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

*Note: (i) Pharmacies that entered or left the Scheme during the year are not included in the above table.  
(ii) The fees payable to pharmacies are shown in Appendix 3.1. Expenses necessarily incurred by pharmacies in providing this service are not separately identified in the agreed scale.*

**Table 25 E.E.A. : Number and cost of pharmacists claims**

Health Board	Number of Items	Cost per Item	Total Cost
		£	£
Eastern	11,606	10.09	117,100
Midland	3,190	12.54	40,008
Mid-Western	5,810	10.82	62,856
North Eastern	5,293	11.32	59,904
North Western	12,481	11.23	140,119
South Eastern	7,732	10.61	82,059
Southern	13,993	10.65	148,989
Western	10,844	11.56	125,345
NATIONAL 1997	70,949	£10.94	£776,380
NATIONAL 1996	61,783	£10.33	£638,525

**Table 26**

**D.T.S. : Number of Treatments**

Health Board	Emergency	Above the Line	Below the Line	Dentures	Total
Eastern	39,762	35,757	1,887	2,621	80,027
Midland	11,555	14,746	993	1,272	28,566
Mid-Western	15,020	17,493	1,016	2,364	35,893
North Eastern	12,739	23,655	1,455	2,630	40,479
North Western	9,470	10,153	666	1,355	21,644
South Eastern	18,722	24,936	1,887	2,648	48,193
Southern	27,501	37,362	3,060	3,309	71,232
Western	13,869	34,054	1,665	2,793	52,381
NATIONAL 1997	148,638	198,156	12,629	18,992	378,415
NATIONAL 1996	171,424	58,054	6,782	14,284	250,544

**Table 26.1 D.T.S. : Number of Dentists in Payment Ranges**

Health Board	Up to £10,000	£10,001 - £20,000	£20,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	£40,001 - £50,000	£50,001 - £60,000	£60,001 - £70,000	£70,001 - £80,000	£80,001 - £90,000	£90,001 - £100,000	£100,001 - £110,000	£110,001 - £120,000	£120,001 and over
Eastern	110	49	16	11	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midland	7	13	7	6	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mid-Western	18	14	10	8	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
North Eastern	22	10	6	7	4	3	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
North Western	11	9	6	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Eastern	21	18	14	13	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Southern	57	45	29	6	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western	17	6	6	8	6	1	1	3	1	-	1	-	1
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Note: (i) Dentists who entered or left the Scheme during the year are not included in the above table.

(ii) The fees payable to dentists are shown in Appendix 4. Expenses necessarily incurred by dentists in providing this service are not separately identified in the agreed scale.

**Table 27 G.M.S. : Investment in General Practice Development**

Health Board	1997	1996
	£	£
Eastern	1,413,930	1,122,752
Midland	375,631	311,506
Mid-Western	824,909	227,230
North Eastern	901,972	318,176
North Western	1,400,331	1,298,766
South Eastern	937,014	799,124
Southern	1,298,531	1,001,129
Western	1,285,918	464,185
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>£8,438,236</b>	<b>£5,542,868</b>

*Note: The above are payments from the Indicative Drug Target Savings.*

*The 1997 figures include an amount of £120,000 paid from the Educational and Research Fund for training and education.*

FEES AND ALLOWANCES UNDER CAPITATION AGREEMENT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997

APPENDIX 1

CAPITATION FEES

AGES	Up to 3 Miles		3-5 Miles		5-7 Miles		7-10 Miles		Over 10 Miles	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Up to 4	35.69	34.83	37.60	36.74	40.41	39.55	43.17	42.32	46.61	45.76
5 - 15	20.73	20.98	21.53	21.75	22.68	22.92	23.80	24.03	25.22	25.43
16 - 44	26.48	43.26	27.50	44.29	29.00	45.79	30.47	47.26	32.31	49.10
45 - 64	52.83	58.05	55.30	60.52	58.91	64.12	62.46	67.71	66.90	72.11
65 and over	55.66	62.12	62.47	68.92	72.59	79.03	82.53	88.96	94.85	101.29

SUPPLEMENTARY OUT-OF-HOURS PAYMENT (per person per annum)	£1.73	Late	Outside Normal Hours	
			Urban	£11.55
			Up to 3 miles	£11.55
OUT-OF-HOURS PAYMENT: SURGERY	£21.63		3 - 5 miles	£14.94
			5 - 7 miles	£19.46
			7 - 10 miles	£25.86
			over 10 miles	£30.34
DOMICILIARY		Night	Midnight to 8.00 a.m.	
Up to 3 miles	£21.63		Urban	£22.66
3 - 5 miles	£28.84		Up to 3 miles	£22.66
5 - 7 miles	£32.44		3 - 5 miles	£29.14
7 - 10 miles	£36.06		5 - 7 miles	£36.84
over 10 miles	£43.25		7 - 10 miles	£41.10
Additional Fee	£16.87		over 10 miles	£45.18
SPECIAL ITEMS OF SERVICE				
(i) to (ix)	£14.42			
(x) and (xi)	£21.63		EMERGENCY FEE	£6.57
(xii)	£36.06		E.E.A. RESIDENTS	£6.79
(xiii)	£25.00		RURAL DISPENSING FEE	£6.58
(xiv)	£40.00		FEE FOR SECOND MEDICAL OPINION	£14.42
+ Mileage				
TEMPORARY RESIDENTS:			PRACTICE PAYMENTS FOR RURAL AREAS	
SURGERY CONSULTATIONS			Rural Practice Allowance Per Annum	£7,209.00
Day Normal Hours	£5.99		PRACTICE SUPPORT	
Late Outside Normal Hours other than (Night)	£8.50		Allowance for Practice Secretary Per Annum	£8,653.00
Night Midnight to 8.00 a.m.	£16.87		Allowance for Practice Nurse Per Annum	£14,742.00
DOMICILIARY CONSULTATIONS			CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCUM EXPENSES	
Day Normal Hours	£8.85		(Subject to the conditions of the agreement)	
Urban	£8.85		Annual Leave	
Up to 3 miles	£11.55		Sick Leave - up to a maximum of £577.00 per week	
3 - 5 miles	£15.53		Study Leave	
5 - 7 miles	£19.46		Maternity Leave - up to a maximum of £84.00 per day	
7 - 10 miles	£24.33		CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE	
Over 10 miles			Calculation of contribution is related to G.M.S. panel numbers and nett premium	



**FEES AND ALLOWANCES UNDER THE FEE-PER-ITEM AGREEMENT  
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

APPENDIX 2

SURGERY CONSULTATIONS		£
Day	Normal Hours	£5.96
Late	Outside Normal Hours other than (Night)	£8.46
Night	Midnight to 8.00 a.m.	£16.78
DOMICILIARY CONSULTATIONS		
Day	Normal Hours	
	Urban	£8.80
	Up to 3 miles	£8.80
	3-5 miles	£11.50
	5-7 miles	£15.46
	7-10 miles	£19.38
	Over 10 miles	£24.23
Late	Outside Normal Hours	
	Urban	£11.50
	Up to 3 miles	£11.50
	3-5 miles	£14.89
	5-7 miles	£19.38
	7-10 miles	£25.74
	Over 10 miles	£30.21
Night	Midnight to 8.00 a.m.	
	Urban	£22.57
	Up to 3 miles	£22.57
	3-5 miles	£29.00
	5-7 miles	£36.68
	7-10 miles	£40.93
	Over 10 miles	£44.96
EMERGENCY FEE / EEA FEE		£6.51
DISPENSING FEE		£6.51
RURAL PRACTITIONERS ALLOWANCE		Per Annum £3,839.00
LOCUM AND PRACTICE EXPENSE ALLOWANCE		Per Annum £747.00
SESSIONAL RATE - HOMES FOR THE AGED		
	Per 3 Hour Session	£39.90

**SCALE OF FEES PAYABLE TO PARTICIPATING PHARMACISTS  
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

APPENDIX 3

GMS / DTS SCHEMES	As at 31.12.97
STANDARD FEE-PER-ITEM (NOTE 1)	p 169.31
EXTEMPORANEOUS FEE	338.62
EXTEMPORANEOUS DISPENSING AND COMPOUNDING OF:	
-Powders	1015.86
-Ointments and Creams	677.24
CONTROLLED DRUGS	271.83
PHASED DISPENSING - each part of phased dispensing	169.31
NON-DISPENSING - Exercise of professional judgement	169.31
URGENT/LATE DISPENSING	
Additional fee for Urgent/Late dispensing other than between midnight and 8.00 a.m. (NOTE 2)	469.90
Additional fee for Urgent/Late dispensing between midnight and 8.00 a.m.	969.61
REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS	
Each part of Repeat Set	59.59
NOTE 1:	
140.86p basic fee and 28.45p allowance for containers, obsolescence etc.	
NOTE 2:	
Urgent fee prescriptions are those so specified by the prescriber and necessarily dispensed outside normal hours.	
Late fee prescriptions are those which, though not marked urgent, are in exceptional circumstances necessarily dispensed outside normal hours by the pharmacist, having regard to the persons requirements.	
SUPPLIES TO DISPENSING DOCTORS	
Pharmacies supplying dispensing doctors are reimbursed on the basis of the basic trade price with the addition of 25% on cost.	

**SCALE OF FEES PAYABLE TO PARTICIPATING PHARMACISTS  
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

**APPENDIX 3.1**

**DCS/LTI/EEA Visitors Schemes / Health (Amendment) Act 1996**

Reimbursement of ingredient cost, 50% mark-up on ingredient cost and standard fee - 153.00p (Note 1)

Extemporaneously dispensed preparations are reimbursed at current private prescription rates

Note 1: The standard fee is an all inclusive fee which includes container and broken bulk allowance

Note 2: In the case of the Drug Cost Subsidisation Scheme the Board makes payments to pharmacies in respect of authorised patients whose monthly costs of prescribed drugs and medicines are in excess of the specified monthly amount (currently £32) payable to the pharmacy by the patient

**High Tech Scheme**

Patient Care Fee: £29.04 per month

**LIST OF FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE DENTAL TREATMENT SERVICES SCHEME  
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997**

APPENDIX 4

TREATMENT TYPE	ROUTINE £	EMERGENCY £	FULL DENTURE £
Oral Examination	17.55	-	17.55
Prophylaxis	16.45	-	-
Restoration (Amalgam)	16.40	29.60	-
Restoration (Composite) 6 anterior teeth only	26.25	39.50	-
Exodontics (Extraction under local anaesthetic)	19.75	30.70	-
Surgical Extraction - Max 3 units:			
Fee payable for first 15 minute unit	18.65	29.60	-
Fee payable for 2nd and 3rd 15 minute unit	18.65	18.65	-
Apicectomy / Amputation of Roots	*Dentist Estimate	-	-
Endodontics (First stage - Emergency)	*Dentist Estimate	43.85	-
Protracted Periodontal Treatment	*Dentist Estimate	-	-
Radiographs			
1 Film	13.15	-	-
2 or more Films	19.80	-	-
Panoramic	21.95	-	-
Miscellaneous			
(e.g. Biopsy, Haemorrhage, Dressings etc.)	10.95	-	-
Dry Socket / Haemorrhage (Emergency)	-	10.95	-
Acute Gum Condition	-	16.45	-
Prosthetics			
Full Upper or Lower Denture (Other than Edentulous persons)	164.40	-	-
Partial Upper or Lower Acrylic Denture	120.60	-	-
Complete Upper or Lower Reline	65.80	-	-
Complete Upper and Lower Reline	109.60	-	-
Denture Repairs			
1st Item of Repair	24.05	24.05	-
Each Subsequent Item	7.70	7.70	-
Maximum	39.50	39.50	-
Full Upper and Lower Denture (Edentulous Persons Only)	-	-	241.20
Full Upper or Lower Denture (Edentulous Persons Only)	-	-	164.40

Note: \*Dentist Estimates are subject to agreement between a Dentist and a Health Board.

**FEES TO DOCTORS UNDER IMMUNISATION SCHEME  
AND HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ACT 1996**

**APPENDIX 5**

	As at 31.12.97
<b><u>IMMUNISATION FEES</u></b>	
Normal Payment	
(i) Registration of child with a G.P.	£15.61
(ii) Complete course of immunisation against DPT/DT; Hib; Polio and MMR	£52.03
(iii) 95% uptake bonus	£15.61
<b><u>HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ACT 1996</u></b>	
Surgery Fee	£18.00
Domiciliary Fee	£24.00