

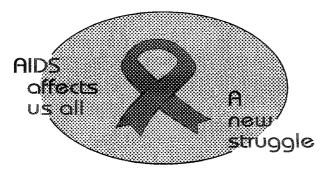
PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE IPHONDO LEMPUMA KOLONI PROVINSIE OOS-KAAP

# **Provincial Gazette** Igazethi Yephondo **Provinsiale Koerant**

BISHO/ KING WILLIAM'S TOWN, 25 APRIL 2013 Vol. 20

No. 2943 (Extraordinary)

# We all have the power to prevent AIDS



Prevention is the cure

**AIDS** HELPUNE

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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#### **GENERAL NOTICE**

# GENERAL NOTICE

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The Accounting Officer Department of Health Private Bag X0038 BHISHO 5605

#### **ADJUSTMENTS OF TARIFFS: PATIENT FEES 2013/14**

- 1. I refer to your submission dated 21 February 2013 regarding the annual adjustment of tariffs for patient fees in the 2013/14 financial year.
- 2. The detailed proposal of tariff increases was perused and an average annual increase of 5.5 per cent in the tariffs of the Uniform Patient Fess Schedule (UPFS) is evident in 2013/14. The 5.5 per cent increase of the UPFS tariffs are in accordance with the National department's approval, which determines the uniform implementation of patient fee tariffs across provinces from 1 April 2013. The national Department of Health has indicated in its letter dated 18 December 2012 that the implementation of the revised tariffs in provinces is subject to Ministerial approval.
  - 3. The Provincial Planning and Treasury hereby approves the 5.5 per cent tariff increase as from 1 April 2013, subject to the revised national tariffs being approved by the national Ministerial. The department is reminded that any deviations of tariffs that may result from the Ministerial approval should be reflected in the gazette of provincial tariffs that will be implemented provincially. Any revenue that is collected above the estimates will revert to the Provincial Revenue Fund.

Ikhwezi Lomso greetings: Serving with Honesty, Humility and Integrity

MS NTM MBINA-MTHEMBU HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

PROVINCIAL PLANNING AND TREASURY

DATE: 14/03/2013





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Enquiries: Mr. Sean Frachet Reference: Tariff Reviews Tel No: 040 608 1232

Date: 29 January 2013

The Accounting Officer Provincial Treasury Private Bag X 0029 BHISH0 5605

Dear Ms. Mbina-Mthembu

# Adjustment of tariffs: Patient Fees 2013/2014

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this submission is to obtain Treasury Approval in terms of Treasury Regulations 7.3.1 for the adjustment of the patient fee structure of the Eastern Cape Department of Health.

## 2. BACKGROUND

The department charges fees to patients who present themselves for treatment at the public health institutions. These fees are charged according to the

- Ability of patients to pay for healthcare services rendered means test.
- Level of public health service delivery
- Level of the health practitioner rendering the health care service
- Type of health care service rendered
- Bed type/ward if the patient is admitted

This means that patient fees will differ accordingly as above. Services rendered to indigent patients, however, are all inclusive and do not differentiate on bed / ward type and level of health care practitioner.

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#### 1. CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENTS ACCORDING TO MEANS TEST AND EXPLANATION OF TARIFFS

Patients are thus classified as follows;

Table 1 - Patient Classification

Category	Description	Applicable tariff
HO	No income Social pensioners	Services are free except where specified
Ηı	Individual: Income less than R36 000 per annum Household: Income less than R50 000 per annum	Minimum tariff applies and services are all inclusive. Maximum tariffs apply where specified.
H <sub>2</sub>	Individual: Income less than R72 000 per annum Household: Income less than R100 000 per annum	A tariff above minimum is charged. Differentiation and itemized billing applies
H <sub>3</sub> Self Funded	Earnings above R72 000 per annum single and R100 000 per annum household	85% of full UPFS tariff
Externally funded	Patients covered by a Health Insurance, and treated in a 'public ward'	Full UPFS rates apply     In certain instances, according to contractual agreements with Medical Aid Schemes, negotiated tariffs will apply
Interdepartment al patients	E.g. Claimants from the Road Accident Fund/ Persons on awaiting trial e.t.c.	Full UPFS rates apply
Private patients	Patients who prefer to be treated by their own doctors in a public hospital, including pregnant and lactating women and children under 6 years	Full UPFS Facility rates apply
Private patients	Patients treated in Enhanced Amenities	NHRPL equivalent or tariffs agreed to with Medical Aid Schemes

#### 2. FREE SERVICES

There exist certain circumstances under which patients will receive services free of charge. Such services include, but are not limited to Primary health care services. These services are illustrated in Table 2 below.

#### 3. BY PASS FEE

A by pass fee of R50.00 will be charged to all patients who come to public health hospitals without a referral letter from primary health care institutions and or a doctor.

# 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF 2013/14 TARIFFS

UPFS tariffs will increase by 5.5 % from the 2012/13 financial year and the increase applies to externally funded patients only. Tariffs for self funded patients have not increased.

## 5. CONSULTATION

On approval of the tariff reviews by Provincial Treasury, communities and other relevant stakeholders will be informed, and the tariffs will be gazetted.

#### 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adjustment of tariffs will increase revenue.

# 7. RECOMMENDATION

It is hereby recommended that Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury approves the adjustment of tariffs with effect from 1 April 2013.

Yours in Health

21/02/2013

Acting Superintendent General

c.c. The Honourable MEC for Health

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