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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 82 OF 2011

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
H0	No income Social pensioners	Services are free except where specified
H1	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
H2	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
H3 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
Interdepartmental patients	E.g. Claimants from the Road Accident Fund/ Persons on awaiting trial e.t.c.	Full UPFS rates apply
Private patients (Self funded)	Patients treated in private wards	UPFS rates + 40% or NHRPL equivalent.
Private patients (Externally funded)	Patients treated in private wards	Tariff stated on the MOU as agreed with Medical Aid Scheme, and if there is no MOU, the UPFS + 40% rate will apply.

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 2011/12 TARIFFS

UPFS tariffs will increase by 12.3 % from the 2009/10 financial year and the increase applies to externally funded patients only. The high percentage is due to the fact that the department did not review patient tariffs for 2010/11 financial year. Tariffs for self funded patients have not increased. Patients treated in private wards will pay the fees as stated above. Self funded patients who choose to be treated in the private wards will be required to pay upfront for the health care services to be rendered.

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. The private wards tariffs on external funded patients are negotiated and agreed upon with the relevant funders and therefore will not be gazetted.

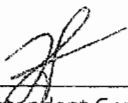
6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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 2011.

Yours in Health



Superintendent General

c.c. The Honorable MEC for Health
