

GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR NOTICE 807 OF 2018

PROPOSED ANNUAL INCREASE IN MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS, FOR 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

COMPENSATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES ACT, 1993 (ACT NO. 130 OF 1993), AS AMENDED

ANNUAL INCREASE IN MEDICAL TARIFFS FOR MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS.

1. I, Mildred Nelisiwe Oliphant, Minister of Labour, hereby give notice that, after consultation with the Compensation Board and acting under powers vested in me by section 97 of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993 (Act No.130 of 1993), I prescribe the scale of "Fees for Medical Aid" payable under section 76, inclusive of the General Rule applicable thereto, appearing in the Schedule, with effect from **1 April 2018**.
2. Medical Tariffs increase for **2018** is **6.4%** with exception of assistive medical devices.
3. The current **2017/ 2018** rate for assistive medical devices will prevail for **2018/2019** financial year.
4. The fees appearing in the Schedule are applicable in respect of services rendered on or after **1 April 2018** and Exclude Vat.



MN OLIPHANT, MP

MINISTER OF LABOUR

DATE: 10/04/2018

Amendment of Government Gazette No: 41596 Published 25 April 2018

The attached is an amendment of pages 56 to 60 of the above gazette. This relates to the Private hospital tariffs of the gazette.

GENERAL INFORMATION / ALGEMENE INLIGTING

THE EMPLOYEE AND THE MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER

The employee is permitted to freely choose his own service provider e.g. doctor, pharmacy, physiotherapist, hospital, etc. and no interference with this privilege is permitted, as long as it is exercised reasonably and without prejudice to the employee or to the Compensation Fund. The only exception to this rule is in case where an employer, with the approval of the Compensation Fund, provides comprehensive medical aid facilities to his employees, i.e. including hospital, nursing and other services — section 78 of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act refers.

In terms of section 42 of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act the Compensation Fund may refer an injured employee to a specialist medical practitioner of his choice for a medical examination and report. Special fees are payable when this service is requested.

In the event of a change of medical practitioner attending to a case, the first doctor in attendance will, except where the case is transferred to a specialist, be regarded as the principal. **To avoid disputes regarding the payment for services rendered, medical practitioners should refrain from treating an employee already under treatment by another doctor without consulting / informing the first doctor.** As a general rule, changes of doctor are not favoured by the Compensation Fund, unless sufficient reasons exist.

According to the National Health Act no 61 of 2003, Section 5, a health care provider may not refuse a person emergency medical treatment. Such a medical service provider should not request the Compensation Fund to authorise such treatment before the claim has been submitted to and accepted by the Compensation Fund. **Pre-authorisation of treatment is not possible and no medical expense will be approved if liability for the claim has not been accepted by the Compensation Fund.**

An employee seeks medical advice at his own risk. If an employee represented to a medical service provider that he is entitled to treatment in terms of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, and yet failed to inform the Compensation Commissioner or his employer of any possible grounds for a claim, the Compensation Fund cannot accept responsibility for medical expenses incurred. The Compensation Commissioner could also have reasons not to accept a claim lodged against the Compensation Fund. In such circumstances the employee would be in the same position as any other member of the public regarding payment of his medical expenses.

Please note that from 1 January 2004 a certified copy of an employee's identity document will be required in order for a claim to be registered with the Compensation Fund. If a copy of the identity document is not submitted the claim will not be registered but will be returned to the employer for attachment of a certified copy of the employee's identity document. Furthermore, all supporting documentation submitted to the Compensation Fund must reflect the identity number of the employee. If the identity number is not included such documents can not be processed but will be returned to the sender to add the ID number.

The tariff amounts published in the tariff guides to medical services rendered in terms of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act do not include VAT. All accounts for services rendered will be assessed without VAT. Only if it is indicated that the service provider is registered as a VAT vendor and a VAT registration number is provided, will VAT be calculated and added to the payment, without being rounded off.

The only exception is the "per diem" tariffs for Private Hospitals that already include VAT.

Please note that there are VAT exempted codes in the private ambulance tariff structure.

DIE WERKNEMER EN DIE MEDIESE DIENSVERSKAFFER

Die werknemer het 'n vrye keuse van diensverskaffer bv. dokter, apteek, fisioterapeut, hospitaal ens. en geen inmenging met hierdie voorreg word toegelaat nie, solank dit redelik en sonder benadeling van die werknemer self of die Vergoedingsfonds uitgeoefen word. Die enigste uitsondering op hierdie reël is in geval waar die werkgewer met die goedkeuring van die Vergoedingskommissaris omvattende geneeskundige dienste aan sy werknemers voorsien, d.i. insluitende hospitaal-, verplegings- en ander dienste — artikel 78 van die Wet op Vergoeding vir Beroepsbeserings en Siektes verwys.

Kragtens die bepalinge van artikel 42 van die Wet op Vergoeding vir Beroepsbeserings en Siektes mag die Vergoedingskommissaris 'n beseerde werknemer na 'n ander geneesheer deur homself aangewys verwys vir 'n mediese ondersoek en verslag. Spesiale fooie is betaalbaar vir hierdie diens wat feitlik uitsluitlik deur spesialiste gelewer word.

*In die geval van 'n verandering in geneesheer wat 'n werknemer behandel, sal die eerste geneesheer wat behandeling toegedien het, behalwe waar die werknemer na 'n spesialis verwys is, as die lasgewer beskou word. **Ten einde geskille rakende die betaling vir dienste gelewer te voorkom, moet geneesheer hul daarvan weerhou om 'n werknemer wat reeds onder behandeling is te behandel sonder om die eerste geneesheer in te lig.** Oor die algemeen word verandering van geneesheer, tensy voldoende redes daarvoor bestaan, nie aangemoedig nie.*

*Volgens die Nasionale Gesondheidswet no 61 van 2003 Afdeling 5, mag 'n gesondheidswerker of diensverskaffer nie weier om noodbehandeling te verskaf nie. Die Vergoedingskommissaris kan egter nie sulke behandeling goedkeur alvorens aanspreeklikheid vir die eis kragtens die Wet op Vergoeding vir Beroepsbeserings en Siektes aanvaar is nie. **Vooraf goedkeuring vir behandeling is nie moontlik nie en geen mediese onkoste sal betaal word as die eis nie deur die Vergoedingsfonds aanvaar word nie.***

Dit moet in gedagte gehou word dat 'n werknemer geneeskundige behandeling op sy eie risiko aanvra. As 'n werknemer dus aan 'n geneesheer voorgee dat hy geregtig is op behandeling in terme van die Wet op Vergoeding vir Beroepsbeserings en Siektes en tog versuim om die Vergoedingskommissaris of sy werkgewer in te lig oor enige moontlike gronde vir 'n eis, kan die Vergoedingsfonds geen aanspreeklikheid aanvaar vir geneeskundige onkoste wat aangegaan is nie. Die

**CLAIMS WITH THE COMPENSATION FUND ARE PROCESSED AS
FOLLOWS •
EISE TEEN DIE VERGOEDINGSFONDS WORD AS VOLG GEHANTEER**

1. New claims are registered by the Employers and the Compensation Fund and the **employer views the claim number allocated online**. The allocation of a claim number by the Compensation Fund, does not constitute acceptance of liability for a claim, but means that the injury on duty has been reported to and registered by the Compensation Commissioner. Enquiries regarding claim numbers should be directed to the employer and not to the Compensation Fund. The employer will be in the position to provide the claim number for the employee as well as indicate whether the claim has been accepted by the Compensation Fund • *Nuwe eise word geregistreer deur die werkgever en die Vergoedingsfonds en die werkgever. Die eisnommer is op die web beskikbaar. Navrae aangaande eisnommers moet aan die werkgever gerig word en nie aan die Vergoedingskommissaris nie. Die werkgever kan die eisnommer verskaf en ook aandui of die Vergoedingsfonds die eis aanvaar het of nie*
2. If a claim is **accepted** as a COIDA claim, **reasonable medical expenses** will be paid by the Compensation Commissioner • *As 'n eis deur die Vergoedingsfonds aanvaar is, sal redelike mediese koste betaal word deur die Vergoedingsfonds.*
3. If a claim is **rejected (repudiated)**, accounts for services rendered will not be paid by the Compensation Commissioner. The employer and the employee will be informed of this decision and the injured employee will be liable for payment. • *As 'n eis deur die Vergoedingsfonds afgekeur (gerepudieer) word, word rekenings vir dienste gelewer nie deur die Vergoedingsfonds betaal nie. Die betrokke partye insluitend die diensverskaffers word in kennis gestel van die besluit. Die beseerde werknemer is dan aanspreeklik vir betaling van die rekenings.*
4. If **no decision** can be made regarding acceptance of a claim due to inadequate information, the outstanding information will be requested and upon receipt, the claim will again be adjudicated on. Depending on the outcome, the accounts from the service provider will be dealt with as set out in 2 and 3. Please note that there are claims on which a decision might never be taken due to lack of forthcoming information • *Indien geen besluit oor die aanvaarding van 'n eis weens 'n gebrek aan inligting geneem kan word nie, sal die uitstaande inligting aangevra word. Met ontvangs van sulke inligting sal die eis heroorweeg word. Afhangende van die uitslag, sal die rekening gehanteer word soos uiteengeset in punte 1 en 2. Ongelukkig bestaan daar eise waaroor 'n besluit nooit geneem kan word nie aangesien die uitstaande inligting nooit verskaf word nie.*

BILLING PROCEDURE • EISE PROSEDURE

1. All service providers should be registered on the Compensation Fund electronic claims system (Umehluko) in order to capture medical reports. • *Alle mediese intansies moet geregistreer wees op die Vergoedings Kommissaris se nuwe elektroniese stelsel (Umehluko), om mediese verslae te dokumenteer.*
 - 1.1 Medical reports should always have a clear and detailed clinical description of injury
 - 1.2 In a case where a procedure is done, an Operation report is required
 - 1.3 Only one medical report is required when multiple procedures are done on the same service date
 - 1.4 A medical report is required for every invoice submitted covering every date of service.
 - 1.5 Service providers are required to keep original documents (i.e medical reports, invoices) and these should be made available to the Compensation Commissioner on request.
 - 1.6 If there's any referrals to another medical service provider, it should be indicated on the medical report.

2. Medical invoices should be switched to the Compensation Fund using the attached format. - Annexure D. • *Mediese rekeninge moet oorgeskuif word na die Vergoedings Kommissaris, deur die aangehegte formule te gebruik. Annexure D.*
 - 2.1. Subsequent invoice must be electronically switched. It is important that all requirements for the submission of invoice, including supporting information, are submitted • *Daarop volgende rekeninge moet elektronies ingedien word. Dit is belangrik dat al die voorskrifte vir die indiening van rekeninge nagekom word, insluitend die voorsiening van stawende dokumentasie.*

3. The status of invoices /claims can be viewed on the Compensation Fund electronic claims system. If invoices are still outstanding after 60 days following submission, the service provider should complete an enquiry form, W.Cl 20, and submit it ONCE to the Provincial office/Labour Centre. All relevant details regarding Labour Centres are available on the website www.labour.gov.za • *Die status van rekeninge kan besigtig word op die Vergoedings Kommissaris se elektroniese stelsel. Indien rekenings nog uitstaande is na 60 dae vanaf indiening en ontvangs erkenning deur die Vergoedings Kommissaris, moet die diensverskaffer 'n navraag vorm, W.Cl 20 voltooi en EENMALIG indien by die Arbeidsentrum. Alle inligting oor Arbeidsentrums is beskikbaar op die webblad www.labour.gov.za*

4. **If an invoice has been partially paid with no reason indicated on the remittance advice, an enquiry should be made with the nearest labour centre. The service**

provider should complete an enquiry form, W.Cl 20, and submit it ONCE to the Provincial office/Labour Centre. All relevant details regarding Labour Centres are available on the website www.labour.gov.za • *Indien 'n rekening gedeeltelik betaal is met geen rede voorsien op die betaaladvies nie, kan 'n navraag by die Arbeidsentrum gedoen word. Die diensverskaffer moet 'n navraag vorm, W.Cl 20 voltooi en EENMALIG indien by die Arbeidsentrum. Alle inligting oor Arbeidsentrums is beskikbaar op die webblad www.labour.gov.za*

5. Details of the employee's medical aid and the practice number of the referring practitioner must not be included in the invoice. • *Inligting van die werknemer se mediese fonds en praktyk nommer van die verwysende dokter moet nie ingesluit wees op die rekeninge nie.*
6. Service providers **should not generate the following** • *Diensverskaffers moet nie die volgende lewer nie:*
 - a. **Multiple invoices** for services rendered on the **same date** i.e. one invoice for medication and a second invoices for other services • *Meer as een rekening vir dienste gelewer op dieselfde datum, bv. medikasie op een rekening en 'n ander dienste op 'n tweede rekening.*
 - * **Examples of the new forms (W.Cl 4 / W.Cl 5 / W.Cl 5F) are available on the website www.labour.gov.za** •
 - * *Voorbeelde van die nuwe vorms (W.Cl 4 / W.Cl 5 / W.Cl 5F) is beskikbaar op die webblad www.labour.gov.za*

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCOUNTS RENDERED •
MINIMUM VEREISTES VIR REKENINGE GELEWER

Minimum information to be indicated on accounts submitted to the Compensation Fund • *Minimum besonderhede wat aangedui moet word op rekeninge gelewer aan die Vergoedingsfonds*

- Name of employee and ID number • *Naam van werknemer en ID nommer*
- Name of employer and registration number if available • *Naam van werkgever en registrasienuommer indien beskikbaar*
- Compensation Fund claim number • *Vergoedingsfonds eisnommer*
- DATE OF ACCIDENT (not only the service date) • *DATUM VAN BESERING (nie slegs die diensdatum nie)*
- Service provider's reference and **invoice number** • *Diensverskaffer se verwysing of **faktuur nommer***
- The practice number (changes of address should be reported to BHF) • *Die praktyknommer (adresverandering moet by BHF aangemeld word)*
- VAT registration number (VAT will not be paid if a VAT registration number is not supplied on the account) • *BTW registrasienuommer (BTW sal nie betaal word as die BTW registrasienuommer nie voorsien word nie)*
- Date of service (the actual service date must be indicated: the invoice date is not acceptable) • *Diensdatum (die werklike diensdatum moet aangedui word: die datum van lewering van die rekening is nie aanvaarbaar nie)*
- Item codes according to the officially published tariff guides • *Item kodes soos aangedui in die amptelik gepubliseerde handleidings tot tariewe*
- Amount claimed per item code and total of account • *Bedrag geëis per itemkode en totaal van rekening.*
- It is important that all requirements for the submission of accounts are met, including supporting information, e.g • *Dit is belangrik dat alle voorskrifte vir die indien van rekeninge insluitend dokumentasie nagekom word by.*
 - All pharmacy or medication accounts must be accompanied by the original scripts • *Alle apteekrekenings vir medikasie moet vergesel word van die oorspronklike voorskrifte*
 - The referral notes from the treating practitioner must accompany all other medical service providers' accounts. • *Die verwysingsbriewe van die behandelende geneesheer moet rekeninge van ander mediese diensverskaffers vergesel*

COMPENSATION FUND**SCALE OF FEES FOR PRIVATE HOSPITALS (57/58) (PER DIEM TARIFF)
WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 2018****SCALE OF FEES FOR PSYCHIATRIC AND PRIVATE REHABILITATION HOSPITALS (55/59)
(PER DIEM TARIFF)
WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 2018****ACCOMMODATION**

The day admission fee shall be charged in respect of all patients admitted as day patients and discharged before 23:00 on the same date.

Ward fees shall be charged at the full day rate if admission takes place before 12:00 and at the half daily rate if admission takes place after 12:00. At discharge, ward fees shall be charged at half the daily rate if the discharge takes place before 12:00 and the full daily rate if the discharge takes place after 12:00.

Ward fees are inclusive of all pharmaceuticals and equipment that are provided in the accommodation, theatre, emergency room and procedure rooms.

Note: Fees include VAT

	DESCRIPTION	PRACTICE CODE 57/58
1.1	General Wards	
H001	Surgical cases: per day	3226.92
H002	Thoracic and neurosurgical cases (including laminectomies and spinal fusion): per day	3226.92
H004	Medical and neurological cases: per day	3226.92
H007	Day admission which includes all patients discharged by 23:00 on date of admission	1381.09
		PRACTICE CODE 55
H008	General Ward for Psychiatric Hospitals (Inclusive fee: Ward fee, Pharmaceuticals, Occupational Therapy)	2513.92
1.2	General ward for Rehabilitation Hospitals	
H010	General Rehabilitation ward (Inclusive fee: ward fee, general rehabilitaion management (Physiotherapy, Doctors, Nursing, Occupational Therapy)	5390.70

SCALE OF FEES FOR SUB-ACUTE REHABILITATION (49) (PER DIEM TARIFF)		
General Rules for Rehabilitation Hospitals		
	<p>1. Maximum period for a patient stay at acute rehabilitation ward is 3 months (12 weeks), then to be discharged or referred to Subacute rehabilitation (practice 49)</p> <p>2. All patients transferred from Acute Rehabilitation (practice 59) to Subacute Rehabilitation (practice 49), notification letter is required by the Compensation Fund for proper case management.</p> <p>3. All practice 49 institutions must have a Rehabilitation plan for all patients admitted. This Rehabilitation plan must be submitted to Compensation Fund When requested.</p>	
H020	Sub-Acute Rehabilitation ward (Daily) Professionals are charged separately i.e. Physiotherapy, Rehabilitation Doctors, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, speech Therapist, Clinical Psychologist, social workers)	3226.92

	DESCRIPTION	PRACTICE CODE 57/58
1.3	<p>Special Care Units</p> <p>Hospitals shall obtain a doctor's report stating the reason for accommodation in an intensive care unit or a high care ward from the attending medical practitioner, and such report including the date and time of admission and discharge from the unit shall be forwarded to the Commissioner together with the account. Pre-drafted and standard certificates of authorisation will not be acceptable.</p>	
H201	Intensive Care Unit: per day	21630.64
H215	High Care Ward: per day	11162.41
2.	Theatres and Emergency Unit	
2.1	<p>Theatre and Emergency fees are inclusive of all consumables and equipment. The after hours fee are included in the normal theatre fee.</p> <p>Emergency fee Rule: Emergency fee - excluding follow-up visits.</p>	
H301	For all emergencies including those requiring basic nursing input, e.g. BP measurement, urine testing, application of simple bandages, administration of injections.	774.61
H302	For all emergencies which require the use of a procedure room, e.g. for application of plaster, stitching of wounds.	1571.51
H303	<p><u>Follow-up visits:</u></p> <p>The Compensation Fund. will imburse hospitals for all materials used during follow-up visits. No consultation or facility fee is chargeable. The account is to be billed as for fee for service.</p>	
H105	Resuscitation fee charged only if patient has been resuscitated and intubated in a trauma unit which has been approved by the Board of Healthcare Funders.	6149.61
2.2	<p>Minor Theatre Fee</p> <p>A facility where simple procedures which require limited instrumentation and drapery, minimum nursing input and local anaesthetic procedures are carried out. No sophisticated monitoring is required but resuscitation equipment must be available.</p>	
	DESCRIPTION	PRACTICE CODE 57/58
H071	<p>The exact time of admission to and discharge from the minor theatre shall be stated, upon which the minor theatre charge shall be calculated as follows:</p> <p>Charge per minute</p>	93.32
2.3	Major Theatre	
H081	<p>The exact time of admission to and discharge from the theatre shall</p> <p>Charge per minute</p>	276.16

<p>5.9</p> <p>Prosthesis</p> <p>Prosthesis Pricing:</p> <p>Note: A ceiling price of R1496.93 per prosthesis is included in the theatre tariff. The combined value of all the components including cement in excess of R1496.93 should be charged separately.</p> <p>A prosthesis is a fabricated or artificial substitute for a diseased or missing part of the body, surgically implanted, and shall be deemed to include all components such as pins, rods, screws, plates or similar items, forming an integral part of the device so implanted, and shall be charged as a single unit.</p> <p>Reimbursement will be at the lowest available manufacturer's price (inclusive of VAT).</p> <p>H286</p> <p>Internal Fixators (surgically implanted)</p> <p>Reimbursement will be at the lowest available manufacturer's price inclusive of VAT.</p> <p>Hospitals / unattached operating theatre units shall show the name and reference number of each item. The suppliers' invoices, each containing the manufacturer's name, should be attached to the account and the components specified on the account should appear on the invoice.</p> <p>External Fixators</p> <p>Reimbursement will be at 33% of the lowest available manufacturer's price inclusive of VAT.</p>		
	<p>DESCRIPTION</p>	<p>PRACTICE CODE 57/58</p>
<p>5.10</p> <p>H287</p>	<p>Hospitals / unattached operating theatre units shall show the name and reference number of each item. The suppliers' invoices, each containing the manufacturer's name, should be attached to the account and the components specified on the account should appear on the invoice.</p> <p>Medical artificial items (non-prosthesis)</p> <p>Examples of items included hereunder shall be artificial limbs, wheelchairs, crutches and excretion bags. Copies of invoices shall be supplied to the Commissioner. Reimbursement will be at the lowest available manufacturer's price inclusive of VAT.</p> <p>Further Non-Prosthetic Medical Artificial Items: Sheepskins Abdominal Binders Orthopaedic Braces (ankle, knee, wrist, arm) Anti-Embolism Stockings Futuro Supports Corsets Crutches Clavicle Braces Toilet Seat Raisers Walking Aids Walking Sticks Back Supports Elbow / Hand Cradles</p>	

5.11	Serious Burns Billed at normal fee for service. The following items are applicable and must be accompanied by a written motivation from the treating doctor.
H289	Serious Burns: Fee for service (Inclusive of all services e.g. accommodation, theatre, etc.) except medication whilst hospitalised.
H290	Serious Burns: Item for medication used during hospitalisation excluding the TTO's. <i>Note: TTO's should be charged according to item H288</i>
5.12	TTO
H288	TTO scripts will be reimbursed by the Commissioner for a period of two (2) weeks. A script that covers a period of more than two (2) weeks must have a doctor's motivation attached.