

1 February 1966.

CLINICAL SERVICES LETTER NO. 59

TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Dear Doctor,

MATERNITY BENEFITS: NEW SCALE OF FEES

An amended scale of fees has been fixed by agreement between the Minister of Health and the Council of the New Zealand Branch of the British Medical Association. A copy of the new scale is enclosed.

The following alterations should be noted:

1. FEE FOR USUAL MEDICAL SERVICES

The fee for ante-natal services is 10s. 6d. with no limit on the number of paid services. If ante-natal services are afforded by two or more practitioners, each will be paid for the services actually given by him.

The fee for observation during labour, delivery, and care in the puerperium is £7 7s. When a consultant is called in to effect delivery, the fee payable to the medical practitioner providing the usual medical services in relation to maternity will not be reduced.

The fee for post-natal examination and advice is £1 11s. 6d. and is payable providing the medical practitioner responsible for the usual medical services in relation to maternity has provided some or all of the ante-natal consultations, or has conducted the delivery or been responsible for calling in a consultant to effect delivery.

For usual medical services in relation to miscarriage, the fee is 10s. 6d. for each attendance or visit. (No limit on number.)

2. SPECIAL FEES

(a) Consultant Services

Fees are increased to:

- (i) Opinion only, £3 3s.
- (ii) Effecting delivery, £6 6s.

(b) Anaesthetic Services

The fee for the first half-hour period has been increased by £1 1s. There is no change in the rate for time in excess of the first half-hour period.

The rates are now:

- Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and public holidays, £4 4s.
- Night, 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., £4 4s.
- All others, £3 3s.

Plus an additional fee of £1 1s. where administration extends over a longer period than half an hour.

P.T.O.

3. MILAGE FEES

A medical practitioner called as a consultant will not be subject to the "nearest available medical practitioner" restriction.


4. DATE OF OPERATION OF NEW SCALE OF FEES

The new scale of fees is effective from 1 January 1966 onwards.

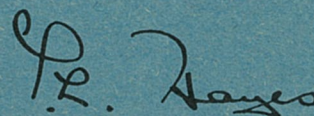
Where a birth occurred on or after that date claims for all services rendered (including previous ante-natal services) will be paid in accordance with the new scale.

Where a birth occurred prior to 1 January 1966, payment for all services will be made in accordance with the old scale.

Yours faithfully,



(A. W. S. THOMPSON)
Director,



(T. L. HAYES)
Assistant Director,

Division of Clinical Services.