

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
P.O. BOX 5013,
WELLINGTON.

30 January 1970.

CLINICAL SERVICES LETTER NO. 94

TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Dear Doctor,

RURAL PRACTICE BONUS

An announcement about the bonuses payable to doctors residing and practising in "rural areas", designated for that purpose by the Minister of Health, was made in Clinical Services Letter No. 90 dated 24 September 1969.

Bonus payments will now be arranged to doctors residing and practising in areas declared rural (no application being necessary) as follows:

- (a) Ten percent of medical benefit payments in respect of general medical services provided on or after 1 October 1969.
- (b) Twenty-five percent of mileage fees in respect of general medical services provided on or after 1 October 1969.

Salaries of *Special Area Medical Officers* do not qualify for the bonus. In certain instances, however, specific arrangements have been approved for a Special Area Medical Officer to claim for general medical services afforded outside the special area for which he is primarily responsible. In such cases, the bonus will be payable for general medical services and G.M.S. mileage.

Government has since approved *further inducements* to doctors to set up practice and to remain in rural areas. These inducements, effective from 1 January 1970, were reported in the *New Zealand Medical Journal*, December 1969 (page 422) and will be the subject of a separate Clinical Services Letter.

From the legal and administrative aspect it was found necessary to define the designated "rural areas" by excluding from each health district the local authority areas regarded as non-rural. Particulars about health districts will be found in "Where Should I Practise?", 1967 edition.

In the following list:

- Doctors residing in the cities, boroughs, county towns, etc., listed below are NOT eligible for the bonus.
- Wellington Health District is not listed, as it includes NO designated rural areas.

The following areas have been declared to be rural areas*—

- (a) All those parts of the Whangarei Health District not comprised in the city of Whangarei:
- (b) All those parts of the Takapuna Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Birkenhead, Devonport, East Coast Bays, Glen Eden, Henderson, New Lynn, or Northcote, or the city of Takapuna, or the county towns of Glenfield, Titirangi, Green Bay, or Kelston West, or the Te Atatu Riding of the County of Waitemata:
- (c) All those parts of the Auckland Health District not comprised in the city of Auckland, or the boroughs of Ellerslie, Mount Albert, Mount Eden, Mount Roskill, Mount Wellington, Newmarket, Onehunga, or One Tree Hill:
- (d) All those parts of the South Auckland Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Howick, Otahuhu, Papakura, or Pukekohe, or the cities of Manukau or Papatoetoe:
- (e) All those parts of the Hamilton Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Cambridge, Huntly, Te Awamutu, or Thames, or the city of Hamilton, or the county town of Tokoroa:
- (f) All those parts of the Rotorua Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Mount Maunganui, Taupo, or Whakatane, or the cities of Rotorua or Tauranga, or the county town of Ngongotaha:
- (g) All those parts of the Gisborne Health District not comprised in the city of Gisborne or the borough of Wairoa:
- (h) All those parts of the New Plymouth Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Hawera or Stratford, or the city of New Plymouth, or the county town of Oakura:
- (i) All those parts of the Napier Health District not comprised in the cities of Hastings or Napier, or the borough of Havelock North:
- (j) All those parts of the Wanganui Health District not comprised in the city of Wanganui, or the county towns of Otamatea or Putiki:
- (k) All those parts of the Palmerston North Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Dannevirke, Feilding, or Levin, or the city of Palmerston North:
- (l) All those parts of the Hutt Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Eastbourne, Masterton, or Petone, or the cities of Lower Hutt or Upper Hutt, or the county towns of Paraparaumu, Wainuiomata, Plimmerton-Paremata, or Heretaunga-Pinehaven:
- (m) All those parts of the Nelson Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Blenheim, or Richmond, or the city of Nelson:
- (n) All those parts of the Greymouth Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Greymouth or Westport or the county town of Karoro:

*Social Security (Rural Area) Notice 1969, and Amendment No. 1.

- (o) All those parts of the Christchurch Health District not comprised in the city of Christchurch, or the counties of Heathcote, Paparua, or Waimairi, or the boroughs of Kaiapoi, Lyttelton, Rangiora, or Riccarton:
- (p) All those parts of the Timaru Health District not comprised in the boroughs of Ashburton or Oamaru, or the city of Timaru:
- (r) All those parts of the Dunedin Health District not comprised in the city of Dunedin, or the boroughs of Green Island, Mosgiel, Port Chalmers, or St Kilda, or the county towns of Fairfield, Brighton, or Waldronville:
- (s) All those parts of the Invercargill Health District not comprised in the borough of Gore or the city of Invercargill.

Yours faithfully,

A. W. S. Thompson.

(A. W. S. Thompson)
Director, Division of Clinical Services.