

## **The Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.6) Directions 2006 (Gateway Reference: 7190)**

### **Action.**

1. PCTs should note that with effect from 4 September 2006 a number of amendments have been made to the GMS Statement of Financial Entitlements (SFE). These amending directions set out in detail the changes being made to the SFE from 4 September 2006.

### **Background.**

2. The Statement of Financial Entitlement (SFE) is a Secretary of State direction issued under Section 28T of the NHS Act 1977. It forms the main legal basis for payments made to primary medical services contractors operating under general medical services (GMS) contracts.
3. The main purpose of this (No. 6) amendment is to underpin the payments to be made to GMS contractors following the revised childhood immunisation programme announced in the CMO letter of 12 July 2006. This letter can be accessed at:-  
  
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/13/71/75/04137175.pdf>
4. The significant SFE changes included in this amendment are set out below.

### **Directions 4 & 5**

5. Directions 4 and 5 amend Sections 7B and 7D of the SFE to clarify the content of the calculation of part payments under the reward elements of the Improved Access Scheme and the Choice and Booking Scheme following a contract termination. The existing paragraphs do not indicate the source of the relevant Contractor Registered Population (CRP) that is needed to calculate any residual entitlement should a contract terminate prior to 1 January 2007. The amendment corrects this.

### **Direction 6**

6. Direction 6 amends Section 8 of the SFE as regards the conditions that apply to the Target Payment Scheme in respect of two year olds. The amendment makes clear that the new Hib/MenC booster to be given at around the age of twelve months is not part of the scheme.

### **Direction 7**

7. Direction 7 inserts new Sections 8A and 8B into the SFE. Section 8A introduces a payment of £15.02 where children receive the new pneumococcal and Hib/MenC booster vaccinations in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the CMO letter. Section 8B introduces a payment of £7.51 where children receive the new pneumococcal vaccination in accordance with the catch-up campaign set out in the CMO letter.

### **Direction 8.**

8. Direction 8 amends Section 14 of the SFE (Doctors' Retainer Scheme) to introduce rules that are equivalent to those formerly found in paragraph 39.14 of the Statement of Fees and Allowances (the Red Book). These relate to circumstances where the sessional allowance is still payable to members of the Doctors' Retainer Scheme during their absence.

### **Direction 9**

9. Direction 9 amends Section 17 of the SFE (Dispensing) by adding to the list of vaccines on central supply (paragraph 17.6) the new Hib/MenC (*Haemophilus influenzae* type B/meningitis C) and PCV (pneumococcal) vaccines. At the same time, the Hib (*Haemophilus influenzae* type B) vaccine has been deleted.

### **Direction 10**

10. Direction 10 is a technical adjustment. The GMS Regulations define an additional service entitled "Childhood vaccinations and immunisations", the SFE refers to the same additional service as the "Childhood Immunisation and Pre-school booster service". This new definition clarifies that these references are to the same single additional service.

### **APMS/PMS Contractors**

11. Directions to PCTs covering the payments to be made, in respect of these vaccinations, to APMS and PMS contractors who provide childhood immunisation services to registered patients will follow within a few days.