



**COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES**

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## **CIRCULAR 43 OF 2004**

### **DRAFT NATIONAL HEALTH REFERENCE PRICE LIST 2005: PODIATRY**

1. Attached is the draft 2005 National Health Reference Price List (NHRPL) schedule for podiatrists. Comments on this schedule are requested by no later than **4 October 2004**. The major changes in the schedule from the NHRPL 2004, as well as some of the principal reasoning behind the changes, are described below.
2. No better costing models on podiatry practice were provided. Accordingly, for 2005, we have no basis on which to deviate from cost neutrality on NHRPL 2004. The schedule has therefore been compiled to ensure an overall utilization-adjusted expenditure increase of 5.2%, equivalent to the projection of CPIX for 2005.
3. Please note the deletion of the preamble, and the inclusion of new General Rule A.

Sincerely

**Stephen Harrison  
SENIOR SPECIALIST: POLICY AND SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Chairperson: Prof. Nicky Padayachee Vice-Chairperson: Ms Gando Matyumza Chief Executive & Registrar: Patrick Masobe

A STATUTORY BODY ESTABLISHED IN TERMS OF THE MEDICAL SCHEMES ACT, 1998 (ACT 131 OF 1998)



NATIONAL REFERENCE PRICE LIST FOR SERVICES BY PODIATRISTS, EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JANUARY 2005

The following reference price list is not a set of tariffs that must be applied by medical schemes and/or providers. It is rather intended to serve as a baseline against which medical schemes can individually determine benefit levels and health service providers can individually determine fees charged to patients. Medical schemes may, for example, determine in their rules that their benefit in respect of a particular health service is equivalent to a specified percentage of the national health reference price list. It is especially intended to serve as a basis for negotiation between individual funders and individual health care providers with a view to facilitating agreements which will minimise balance billing against members of medical schemes. Should individual medical schemes wish to determine benefit structures, and individual providers determine fee structures, on some other basis without reference to this list, they may do so as well.

In calculating the prices in this schedule, the following rounding method is used: Values R10 and below rounded to the nearest cent, R10+ rounded to the nearest 10cent. Modifier values are rounded to the nearest cent. When new item prices are calculated, e.g. when applying a modifier, the same rounding scheme should be followed.

VAT EXCLUSIVE PRICES APPEAR IN BRACKETS.

General Rules

|           |  |     |       |        |
|-----------|--|-----|-------|--------|
| A         | <p>All accounts must be presented with the following information clearly stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· name of practitioner</li><li>· qualifications of the practitioner;</li><li>· BHF practice number;</li><li>· postal address and telephone number;</li><li>· date on which service(s) were provided;</li><li>· The relevant diagnostic codes and NHRPL item code numbers relating to the health service rendered;</li><li>· the surname and initials of the member;</li><li>· the first name of the patient;</li><li>· the name of the scheme;</li><li>· the membership number of the member; and</li><li>· the name and practice number of the referring practitioner, if applicable.</li></ul>  | A   |       |        |
| B         | The rate in respect of more than one procedure performed at the same consultation or visit, shall be the full rate for the major procedure plus half the rate in respect of each additional procedure carried out in the treatment of any one condition.   | C   |       |        |
| C         | It is recommended that, when such benefits are granted, drugs, consumables and disposable items used during a procedure or issued to a patient on discharge will only be reimbursed by a medical scheme if the appropriate code is supplied on the account.  | C   |       |        |
| D         | <p>The amount charged in respect of medicines and scheduled substances shall not exceed the limits prescribed in the Regulations Relating to a Transparent Pricing System for Medicines and Scheduled Substances, dated 30 April 2004, made in terms of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act No 101 of 1965).</p> <p>In relation to all other materials, items are to be charged (exclusive of VAT) at net acquisition price plus -</p> <p>* 26% of the net acquisition price where the net acquisition price of that material is less than one hundred rands; and</p> <p>* a maximum of twenty six rands where the net acquisition price of that material is greater than or equal to one hundred rands.</p> | A   |       |        |
| Modifiers |  |     |       |        |
| 0002      | For procedures 021 to 031 carried out in a day clinic or unattached operating theatre unit, the rate shall be reduced to two-thirds.   | C   |       |        |
| 0004      | Consultation or treatment in a nursing facility/hospital   | C   |       |        |
| 0006      | Consultation or treatment at the patient's residence   | C   |       |        |
|           | ITEMS  |     |       |        |
|           | CONSULTATIONS.   |     |       |        |
|           | Modifier 0004 must be quoted for consultation or treatment rendered in a nursing home or hospital.   |     |       |        |
| Code      | Description  | RVU | Price | Status |



## Podiatry 2005

|     |  |       |                    |   |
|-----|--|-------|--------------------|---|
| 001 | First consultation (includes history and examination).   | 10.00 | 63.10<br>(55.40)   | C |
|     | Modifier 0006 must be quoted for consultations or treatment rendered at the patient's residence.   |       |                    |   |
| 003 | Subsequent consultation (within 2 months for same condition).  | 6.40  | 40.40<br>(35.40)   | C |
| 006 | More than one patient seen at a residence (See note below).  | 8.50  | 53.70<br>(47.10)   | C |
|     | NOTE : This code is a blanket code for home visits away from the practitioners rooms where more than one but up to and including six patients are treated. The code may be used again if seven to twelve patients are seen.  |       |                    |   |
| 008 | Extended consultation (See note below).  | 3.10  | 19.60<br>(17.20)   | C |
|     | NOTE : This code may be used and the rate added if the consultation and/or treatment of one patient takes longer than thirty minutes. This is in respect of General Podiatry Care only. It is not to be used for Biomechanical examinations.   |       |                    |   |
| 101 | Appointments not kept (schemes will not necessarily grant benefits in respect of this item, it will fall into the "By arrangement with the scheme" or "Patient own account" category).   | 0.00  | - (-)              | C |
|     | INJECTIONS.  |       |                    |   |
| 009 | Administration of injection, per administration  | 1.30  | 8.21<br>(7.20)     | C |
|     | ROUTINE TREATMENTS.  |       |                    |   |
| 010 | General podiatric care up to 15 minutes including the following:<br>Trim nails, Debride and cut dystrophic nails; one to five, Evacuation of sub-ungual haematoma, Paring or cutting of benign hyperkeratotic lesion; single lesion, Drain paronychia; one nail and Nail spike removal; single   | 3.90  | 24.60<br>(21.60)   | C |
| 011 | General podiatric care (30 minutes) including the following:<br>Debride and cut dystrophic nails: six or more, Nail spike removal; two to four, Paring or cutting of benign hyperkeratotic lesion; two to four lesions, Paring or cutting of benign hyperkeratotic lesion; more than four lesions, Reduction of heel fissures, Eucleation of interdigital corns; more than two | 7.80  | 49.20<br>(43.20)   | C |
| 012 | Extended care for chronic disease management or ulcer management (applicable to diabetes, arthritis and peripheral vascular diseases)  | 7.40  | 46.70<br>(41.00)   | C |
| 013 | General podiatric care more than 30 minutes (a combination of items 010 and 011)   | 11.80 | 74.50<br>(65.40)   | C |
|     | VERRUCA TREATMENTS.  |       |                    |   |
| 014 | Verruca Pedis (Chemotherapy first lesion) (consultation and treatment).  | 5.90  | 37.20<br>(32.60)   | C |
| 015 | Subsequent lesion.   | 2.90  | 18.30<br>(16.10)   | C |
| 016 | Cryotherapy first lesion (consultation and treatment).   | 7.80  | 49.20<br>(43.20)   | C |
| 017 | Subsequent lesion.   | 3.90  | 24.60<br>(21.60)   | C |
| 018 | Diathermy first lesion (consultation and treatment).   | 6.90  | 43.60<br>(38.20)   | C |
| 019 | Subsequent lesion.   | 3.50  | 22.10<br>(19.40)   | C |
|     | Nail Surgery.  |       |                    |   |
|     | Note : No consultation fee shall be charged for the same session unless the procedure is performed at the time of the initial consultation   |       |                    |   |
| 021 | Nail wedge resection with matrix phenolisation : one nail - one side (including consultation).   | 19.60 | 123.70<br>(108.50) | C |
| 022 | Two nails - one side.  | 25.50 | 161.00<br>(141.20) | C |
| 024 | Two nails - both sides.  | 36.40 | 229.80<br>(201.60) | C |
| 023 | One nail - two sides (including consultation).   | 25.50 | 161.00<br>(141.20) | C |
| 025 | Avulsion with matrix phenolisation (including consultation).   | 19.60 | 123.70<br>(108.50) | C |



## Podiatry 2005

|     |   |       |                    |   |
|-----|---|-------|--------------------|---|
| 031 | Avulsion without matrix phenolisation (including consultation).   | 12.80 | 80.80<br>(70.90)   | C |
|     | Other.  |       |                    |   |
| 040 | Infection control, per patient  | 1.20  | 7.57<br>(6.64)     | C |
| 041 | Remedial therapy.   | 4.90  | 30.90<br>(27.10)   | C |
| 042 | Sterile pack.   | 5.90  | 37.20<br>(32.60)   | C |
| 044 | Suturing (includes consultation).   | 7.80  | 49.20<br>(43.20)   | C |
| 046 | Incision Biopsy.  | 5.90  | 37.20<br>(32.60)   | C |
| 047 | Removal of foreign body.  | 8.90  | 56.20<br>(49.30)   | C |
| 048 | Suturing / Wound closure material : Cost of material plus 10%   | 0.00  | - (-)              | C |
| 146 | Excision biopsy.  | 8.90  | 56.20<br>(49.30)   | C |
| 201 | Sterile Surgical Blades (maximum of 2 per patient)  | 1.00  | 6.31<br>(5.54)     | C |
| 203 | Wound dressing material (maximum of 2 per patient)  | 2.00  | 12.60<br>(11.10)   | C |
| 205 | Plaster of Paris bandage roll (maximum of 2 per patient). At net acquisition price.   | 0.00  | - (-)              | C |
| 207 | Moulded Orthotic material fee   | 11.80 | 74.50<br>(65.40)   | C |
| 209 | Simple insole material fee  | 5.90  | 37.20<br>(32.60)   | C |
| 211 | Local anaesthetic medication per ampoule (maximum of 5 per patient)   | 2.00  | 12.60<br>(11.10)   | C |
| 213 | Injection medication fee (other than local anaesthetic). At net acquisition price.  | 0.00  | - (-)              | C |
|     | Items 215, 217 or 219 may be used for corrective or supportive strapping or padding placed into footwear. The area of the foot must be specified. |       |                    |   |
| 215 | Padding and strapping : Digital, per foot   | 2.80  | 17.70<br>(15.50)   | C |
| 217 | Padding and strapping: Metatarsal, per foot   | 3.50  | 22.10<br>(19.40)   | C |
| 219 | Padding and strapping: Heel, per foot   | 3.50  | 22.10<br>(19.40)   | C |
|     | Appliances and Orthotics  |       |                    |   |
|     | (By arrangement with the scheme concerned).   |       |                    |   |
| 043 | Biomechanical examination.  | 15.70 | 99.10<br>(86.90)   | C |
| 051 | Neutral impression Plaster of Paris casting   | 8.50  | 53.70<br>(47.10)   | C |
| 052 | Orthotic repair.  | 12.80 | 80.80<br>(70.90)   | C |
| 053 | Temporary orthotic or corrective component.   | 12.80 | 80.80<br>(70.90)   | C |
| 054 | Prescription covering and soft tissue supplements.  | 8.90  | 56.20<br>(49.30)   | C |
| 055 | Silicone devices: Digital   | 5.40  | 34.10<br>(29.90)   | C |
| 056 | Computerised gait analysis or footpressure measurement and analysis   | 19.60 | 123.70<br>(108.50) | C |
| 057 | Template measurement.   | 2.90  | 18.30<br>(16.10)   | C |
| 058 | Plaster of Paris Immobilisation casting   | 10.60 | 66.90<br>(58.70)   | C |
| 059 | Simple insole - one foot.   | 11.10 | 70.10<br>(61.50)   | C |



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|     |   |       |                    |   |
|-----|---|-------|--------------------|---|
| 060 | Silicone devices: metatarsal  | 10.70 | 67.50<br>(59.20)   | C |
|     | The rates for items 063 and 065 include the cost of intrinsic and extrinsic posting adjustments |       |                    |   |
| 061 | Simple insoles - both feet.   | 20.10 | 126.90<br>(111.30) | C |
| 063 | Prescription orthotic : one foot.   | 19.10 | 120.60<br>(105.80) | C |
| 064 | Silicone devices: heel  | 15.90 | 100.40<br>(88.10)  | C |
| 065 | Prescription orthotics : both feet.   | 38.30 | 241.70<br>(212.00) | C |
| 067 | Preformed moulded insoles: Adult, both feet   | 22.10 | 139.50<br>(122.40) | C |
| 069 | Preformed moulded insoles: Adult, one foot  | 11.00 | 69.40<br>(60.90)   | C |
| 071 | Preformed moulded insoles: Child, both feet   | 17.00 | 107.30<br>(94.10)  | C |
| 073 | Preformed moulded insoles: Child, one foot  | 8.50  | 53.70<br>(47.10)   | C |
|     | CONSUMABLE LIST   |       |                    |   |



## Podiatry 2005

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>STERILISING ITEMS</p> <p>Cold Sterilant e.g. Cidex, Steri 101, Etc.</p> <p>Ultraviolet Tubes (Replacements)</p> <p>Autoclave Bags</p><br><p>WASTE DISPOSAL</p> <p>Sharps Container</p> <p>Medical Waste Bin</p><br><p>REGULARLY USED ITEMS</p> <p>Disposable Hand Towels e.g. Kimdri</p> <p>Disinfecting Handwash e.g. Hibiscrub</p> <p>Linen Savers</p> <p>Cotton Wool</p> <p>Gloves: Non-Sterile</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Sterile</p> <p>Gauze: Non-Sterile</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Sterile</p> <p>Tube Gauze (Various Sizes)</p> <p>Padding e.g. Semi Compressed Felt</p> <p>Strapping e.g. Hapla, Zopla</p> <p>Disinfecting Hand Gel e.g. Steri 601</p> <p>Surface Disinfectant e.g. Steri 201</p> <p>Tongue Depressors</p> <p>Applicator Sticks</p> <p>Friars Balsam</p> <p>Silver Nitrate?</p> <p>Hibitane Concentrate</p> <p>Phenol</p> <p>Silicone &amp; Activator for Devices</p> <p>Monochloroacetic Acid</p> <p>Salicylic Acid in Lanolin</p> <p>Dental Needles</p> <p>Xylotox Se Plain Solution for Injection</p> <p>Emergency Drugs e.g. Adrenaline/Epipen</p> <p>Penrose Drains / Tournicot</p> <p>Hydrogen Peroxide</p> <p>70% Alcohol</p> <p>Hibicol</p> <p>Acetone</p> <p>Sterile Blades (Various Sizes)</p> <p>Moore's Discs</p> <p>Sterile Dressing Trays</p> <p>Sutures</p> <p>Single Use Sterile Syringes</p> |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

