



Date: 31st July, 2023

Circular Number: NCO-30-2023

Contractual Arrangement with Registered Medical Practitioners for Provision of Free Contraception Service

Dear Doctor,

I refer to Circulars NCO-21-2022 dated 20th December and NCO-11-2022 dated 13th September, 2022 which outlined details of the contractual arrangement with Registered Medical Practitioners to give effect to the Government's decisions to provide access, free at the point of service, to a primary care based contraception service for 'Relevant Women' as defined in Section 67E of the Health Act, 1970 (as amended).

I wish to advise that it has been agreed with the Irish Medical Organisation, pursuant to the provisions of Clause 13 of the Free Contraception Service Contract with Registered Medical Practitioners, that the current scheme will be extended to 'Relevant Women' aged **30 years** with effect from **1 September 2023**.

Accordingly the existing Free Contraception Service Contract will cover the new cohort of 'Relevant Women' (i.e. those aged between 27 and 30 years (inclusive)) and that for those Registered Medical Practitioners who already hold a free Contraception Service Contract with the HSE there is no requirement for them to sign a new contract. Therefore such Registered Medical Practitioners will be able to provide the Service to 'Relevant Women aged between 17 and 30 years (inclusive) with effect from the 1st September, 2023 and receive reimbursement for Services provided in accordance with the fee rates set out in Schedule 4 of the Free Contraception Service Contract which, for ease of reference, I have reproduced hereunder.

Applicable Services Rendered by a Registered Medical Practitioner on behalf of the Health Service Executive under the National Free Contraception Service Scheme.	
Description	Amount
1.1 – Consultation provided to a Relevant Woman for the purposes of obtaining a prescription for accessing relevant products	€55.00
1.2 – Fitting by a Registered Medical Practitioner of a relevant product that is a Coil	€160.00

1.3 – Removal by a Registered Medical Practitioner of a relevant product that is a Coil	€50.00
1.4 - Fitting by a Registered Medical Practitioner of a relevant product that is a contraceptive implant	€100.00
1.5 - Removal by a Registered Medical Practitioner of a relevant product that is a contraceptive implant	€110.00
1.6 – Where necessary, follow-up consultation in relation to the fitting by a Registered Medical Practitioner of a long-acting reversible contraceptive device	€55.00

I trust the foregoing clarifies matters in relation to this further extension of the Free Contraception Service to Relevant Women aged between 27 and 30 years (inclusive) from 1st September, 2023 and I would like to thank you for your continued co-operation in the delivery of this service.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Healy,
National Director,
Clinical Programme Implementation &
Professional Development