L.N. 21 of 1989

FEES ORDINANCE (CAP. 35)

Foreign Patients (Hospital Fees) Regulations, 1989

IN exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Fees Ordinance, the Minister for Social Policy, with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, has made the following regulations:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the Foreign Patients (Hospital Fees) Regulations, 1989. Citation.

2. In these regulations unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation.

"citizen of Malta" means a person who is so entitled in accordance with the provisions of Chapter III of the Constitution or who becomes such a citizen by registration or naturalisation in accordance with the provisions of the Maltese Citizenship Act. Cap. 188.

3. These regulations shall not apply in respect of — Non-applicability of regulations.

(a) citizens of Malta; or

(b) the wife or husband and children, in either case not being citizens of Malta, who are dependent of a citizen of Malta or of a person who holds a permit of work issued to him under the provisions of the Immigration Act, 1970 and who is paying the prescribed contribution under the Social Security Act, 1987; or Act IX of 1970. Act X of 1987.

(c) a citizen of a foreign country which has a reciprocal health care agreement in force with Malta, in respect of such care and treatment to which such citizen would be entitled under the terms of such agreement.

4. (1) The fee which may be charged for the care and treatment of in-patients or inmates in any hospital or other institution of the Department of Health, shall be Lm60 per day for the first hundred days of stay after the coming into force of these Regulations, and Lm3 per day thereafter. Fees.

(2) The fee referred to under paragraph (1) of this regulation is not inclusive of any surgical operation or of any extraordinary medical investigation which may be carried out on the patient or inmate.

(3) The fee which may be charged for a surgical operation shall be —

(a)	for a minor operation under local anaesthesia	Lm40
(b)	for a minor operation under general anaesthesia	Lm75
(c)	for an intermediate operation	Lm100

(d) for a major operation Lm180

(e) for a specialised surgery including major neurosurgical operations, transplantation of organs other than skin and cornea, open heart surgery, major vascular surgery and major plastic surgery Lm500:

Provided that the cost of any prosthesis or implant shall be charged in addition to the relative operation fee.

(4) The fee for any extraordinary medical investigation shall be charged at cost.

(5) The Minister responsible for health may, in respect of any patient or inmate to whom the fees prescribed by these regulations apply, and who holds a valid residence permit in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Act, 1970, reduce such fees if he is satisfied that genuine hardship exists: Act IX of 1970.

Provided that the fees charged in such cases shall not be less than —

(a) 15 percent of those referred to under this regulation in respect of citizens of countries with which Malta has a reciprocal health care agreement, and

(b) 25 percent in respect of other citizens.

(6) The Minister responsible for health may also in respect of a patient or inmate who was already in a Government hospital or institution on the day of publication of these regulations reduce as he deems fit such fees if he is satisfied that genuine hardship exists and in such cases may even apply the tariff of fees as was currently in force before the date of publication of these regulations.

5. The items specified under the heading "PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT", from the sub-heading "CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS" to the last item immediately preceding the heading "PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT", in Government Notice No. 338 of 1925, as amended by Government Notices Nos. 171 of 1930, 387 of 1940, 471 of 1941, 611 of 1942, 464 of 1944, 62 of 1945, 393 of 1947 and 64 of 1950 are hereby repealed. Repeal.

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