



Changes to the 2021/22 National Tariff Payment System following statutory consultation

NHS England and NHS Improvement
September 2021

Following the statutory consultation on the proposed 2021/22 National Tariff Payment System, NHS England and NHS Improvement carefully considered the feedback received. This document gives details of the corrections, clarifications and changes that have been made to the tariff documents prior to publication. There have also been minor editorial changes to improve clarity and ensure consistency and accuracy. For more information, please contact pricing@england.nhs.uk.

Please note: the prices published in Annex A have been revised to reflect a 1.8% increase in the cost uplift factor, compared to the statutory consultation. The cost uplift factor increased from 1.3% in the consultation to 3.1% as a result of the 3% NHS pay award announced by the government in July 2021.

Location	Issue	Change	Correction, clarification or change?
National tariff document, Section 1, after paragraph 3	Need to include information about how the tariff interacts with the COVID-19 payment arrangements	Box added to explain the situation	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 1, Table 2	Supporting document 'Introduction to the 2021/22 national tariff' not listed	Item added to the table of supporting documents	Clarification

Location	Issue	Change	Correction, clarification or change?
National tariff document, Section 3, paragraph 42	Lack of clarity on how the aligned payment and incentive approach relates to blended payments	Paragraph added to make it clear that aligned payment and incentive is based on blended payment	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 3, rule 1(d)	Description of 'value of elective activity' related to financial year, whereas the tariff may not be in effect for a full year	Description updated to clarify that it relates to any given period, not necessarily the entire financial year	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 3, rule 2(b)	Lack of clarity on payment arrangements for high cost drugs and devices included in Annex A	Additional information added to the rule to explain the different approaches for items commissioned by CCGs and NHS England Specialised Commissioning	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 3, rule 3(c)	The circumstances under which NHS England and NHS Improvement would need to approve a change to the variable element were not clear	Paragraph updated to clarify that any agreement to adjust the variable element from 50%, or to remove adjustments for BPT and CQUIN achievement, would need to be approved by NHS England and NHS Improvement	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 4.2.1, Local pricing rule 1	Feedback to the consultation raised concerns about a lack of default payment approach for activity out of scope of aligned payment and incentive agreements	Local pricing rule 1 updated so rule 1(b) states that unit prices should be used if providers and commissioners are not able to agree a local price	Change
National tariff document, Section 4.2.2, paragraph 64	Lack of clarity on payment arrangements for high cost drugs and devices included in Annex A	Paragraph updated to align with the revised aligned payment and incentive rule 2(b) and local pricing rule 3	Clarification

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National tariff document, Section 4.2.1, Local pricing rule 3(a)	Local pricing rule 3 was inconsistent with aligned payment and incentive rule 2(b)	Rule updated	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 5.3, paragraph 109	Lack of clarity where information and prices relating to maternity payment pathway are published	Paragraph updated to signpost to unit prices in Annex A and non-mandatory guide prices in the Non-mandatory guide prices workbook	Clarification
National tariff document, Section 6.7	In the consultation, the section on cost uplifts used an indicative 0% pay inflation figure, pending agreement of the NHS pay award	A 3% NHS pay award was announced in July 2021. This increases the cost uplift factor to 3.1%. This section is updated to reflect this increase	Change
National tariff document, Section 7.1, paragraph 222	Not clear how market forces factor should be reflected in aligned payment and incentive agreements	Paragraph updated to provide guidance and to signpost to the aligned payment and incentive supporting document	Clarification
Annex A, throughout	Consultation prices did not reflect 2021/22 NHS pay award	Prices revised to use a 3.1% cost uplift factor to reflect the pay award	Change
Annex A, tab 13 (MFF values)	MFF values did not reflect mergers that had taken place since the consultation was published	Updated set of MFF values provided	Change
Annex A, tab 14a (HC devices)	Lack of clarity about what should be included in aligned payment and incentive fixed element	Description and Column J field heading updated to clarify that CCG-commissioned high cost devices should have funding included in fixed element	Clarification

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Annex A, tab 14b (HC drugs)	Confusion arising from including two tables (drugs excluded from tariff prices and drugs commissioned by NHS England Specialised Commissioning). Also lack of clarity about what should be included in aligned payment and incentive fixed element	Table of drugs commissioned by NHS England Specialised Commissioning removed. Description and Column C field heading updated to clarify that CCG-commissioned high cost devices should have funding included in fixed element	Clarification
Annex A, tab 14b (HC drugs)	High cost drugs steering group advised that a small number of new drugs should be added to the list	List updated to include the new drugs	Change
Annex B, Section 3.4, paragraphs 41 and 42	No non-mandatory prices for non-face-to-face outpatient attendances were published in the consultation	Paragraphs added to explain the reasons these prices were not published and to specify which prices should be used for this activity if local agreement is not possible. It also makes clear that the £23 non-mandatory price was removed in the 2017/19 tariff and should not be used.	Clarification
Annex B, Section 9, paragraph 105	Not clear that prices for looked-after children placed out of area are now non-mandatory, having been national prices in previous tariffs	Paragraph updated to clarify	Clarification
Annex B, Section 10.2, paragraph 129	Description of the prices for home births was not clear	Description update	Clarification

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Annex B, Section 10.2, paragraph 130	Trim point for additional daily payments is not necessarily five days	Paragraph updated to clarify that the trim point will be associated with the delivery phase applied	Correction
Annex C, Section 21, paragraph 296	Did not specify that spinal surgery BPT reports would not be updated from four weeks after the end of a quarter	Paragraph updated to specify	Clarification
Guidance on the aligned payment and incentive approach, paragraph 2	Lack of clarity on how the aligned payment and incentive approach relates to blended payments	Paragraph added to make it clear that aligned payment and incentive is based on blended payment	Clarification
Guidance on the aligned payment and incentive approach, Section 2.4, paragraphs 19-21	Lack of clarity on payment arrangements for high cost drugs and devices included in Annex A	Section updated to align with revised aligned payment and incentive rules and make clearer the different approaches for CCG-commissioned items and those commissioned by NHS England Specialised Commissioning	Clarification
Guidance on the aligned payment and incentive approach, Section 4, paragraph 59	The circumstances under which NHS England and NHS Improvement would need to approve a change to the variable element were not clear	Updated to clarify that any agreement to adjust the variable element from 50%, or to remove adjustments for BPT and CQUIN achievement, would need to be approved by NHS England and NHS Improvement	Clarification
Non-mandatory guide prices, throughout	Consultation prices did not reflect 2021/22 NHS pay award	Prices revised to use a 3.1% cost uplift factor to reflect the pay award	Change

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