



Enquiries: Mr E.J. Abrahams

## FINANCE INSTRUCTION FAR 11/2023

ALL HEADS OF HEAD OFFICE COMPONENTS  
ALL DISTRICT/INSTITUTIONAL HEADS

### HOSPITAL FEES: PATIENT ADMINISTRATION: FREE SERVICES: REGISTRATION OF PREGNANT, LACTATING WOMEN AND CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIX

#### BACKGROUND

1. A recent High Court order (case no 22/19304) and subsequent National Department of Health (NDoH) directive has necessitated the Department's reaffirmation to patient registration process specifically regarding the above-mentioned health services.
2. As per the court order, ***“all pregnant, lactating women and children under the age of six, who are not beneficiaries of medical aid schemes, and who have not come to South Africa for specific purpose of obtaining health care, are entitled to free health care services at any public health establishment”***.

#### REVISED POLICY

3. Albeit the standard patient administration process to create an accurate hospital patient profile or record, patients are entitled to the above statutory free service irrespective of availability or validity of documentation provided by the patient, including foreign nationals.
4. In terms of the Finance Instruction G32/2010 (Paragraph 8), kindly note that the maximum UPFS tariffs are not applicable anymore if the abovementioned documentation is not produced on admission or at the out-patient clinic attendance.
5. Requests / Applications from foreign nationals for elective treatment must continue to be assessed at the maximum tariff as they are deemed to be in the country for the specific purpose of obtaining health care.

#### CONCLUSION

6. The court order also prescribes the display of a notice in this regard, within the patient reception area. A further communication will follow in due course.
7. This instruction is effective immediately and your cooperation will be appreciated.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

DATE: 31 MAY 2023