

# OUT OF HOURS CLAIMS BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS UNDER THE GMS SCHEME

**Title: Out of Hours Claims by General Practitioners under the GMS Scheme**

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**From: Department of Health and Children, Ireland**

**To: Each Primary Care Unit / General Practice Unit Manager**

**Re: Out of Hours Claims by General Practitioners under the GMS Scheme**

refer to previous correspondence on this matter and the ongoing need to ensure that any claims made under this provision relate to situations covered by the terms, and objects, of agreements relating thereto.

note that the GMS Scheme contract (section 11) requires an undertaking that there will be no discrimination between treatment of private and GMS Scheme patients and, accordingly, medical card patients cannot be advised, either formally or otherwise, to attend at a surgery at times that would not be equally applicable to private patients in similar circumstances.

Further, it should also be noted that an out of hours payments cannot arise where a consultation takes place or service is provided in the context of any scheduled service even where that scheduled service is

Monday to Friday: outside the hours 9am to 5pm

Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays: any time.

Peter Lennon  
GMS Division  
8 October 1999