

CHAPTER 3 - HOSPITAL, REHABILITATION AND MEDICAL RECEPTION

CENTRE MESSING

MESSING FOR PATIENTS AND VISITORS IN HOSPITALS, REHABILITATION CENTRES AND RECEPTION CENTRES.

0301. **Hospital Daily Food Charge (HDFC).** The HDFC is designed to provide all food and non-alcoholic beverages for Service and civilian patients who are entered on the daily bed state; this includes National Health Service (NHS) patients for whom no meal charges are raised. The appropriate percentage of this rate is also applicable to day patients, outpatients, or any other patients who appear on the daily bed-state. (Civilians attending as outpatients may be provided with meals, which they are to purchase at the retail rate). The HDFC is promulgated by DFS Team and may be claimed from the Defence Food Vote at the following establishments:

- a. Service Hospitals.
- b. The Defence Services Medical Rehabilitation Centre (DSMRC).

0302. **Sources of Food Supply.** All messing commodities are to be obtained from the CRL/PAYD Contractor. Items required for medical reasons are to be obtained through medical channels and charged to the Medical Vote.

0303. **Medical Comforts.** Non-alcoholic medical comforts, including beverages and snacks, are to be provided from the Daily Supplement (refer to para 0314).

0304. **Alcoholic Drinks.** Alcoholic drinks, whether prescribed for therapeutic purposes, or used as a component of liquid medicines, are to be obtained through medical channels and are to be charged to the Medical Vote.

0305. **Aeromedevac Patients.** The feeding of Aeromedevac patients is part of the hospital catering function. Although such patients will not normally appear on the daily bed state, the appropriate percentage of HDFC may be claimed for each meal taken. All claims are to be consolidated on a weekly certificate (see Annex A), raised to support the entries in the messing account. Where Aeromedevac patients are admitted overnight they are to appear on the daily bed state and the HDFC is to be claimed.

0306. **Drinks for Operating Theatre Staff.** Due to abnormal conditions of light and heat, and the need to maintain clinical hygiene preventing theatre staff from returning to their mess for refreshments, at the discretion of the Medical Officer In Charge (MOIC), hot or cold beverages as appropriate, may be issued to operating theatre staff. The Drinks Supplement may be claimed for such issues, refer to Chapter 5.

0307. **Specialised Food for Diet Supplement.** There is a wide range of specialised proprietary food items designed to supplement the diet of patients. They are to be obtained through medical channels and charged to the Medical Vote. Stocks of the more common proprietary foods should be held, but stock levels should be carefully controlled, as they are usually relatively expensive items. These foods should only be normally issued on the authority of the MOIC. Specialised proprietary foods are to be issued for specific medical conditions and not for routine dietary use.

0308. **Maternity Supplement (Overseas).** Daily supplements may be claimed for maternity patients from the date of admission as follows:

a. **Breast-Feeding.** During breast-feeding, or until the infant is placed on bottle-feeding, 0.5 ltr of fresh milk may be issued. The costs of issues are to be entered on the DFS Team Crown Account (Chapter 2 Annex B).

b. **Bottle-Feeding.** During bottle-feeding, for up to 8 feeds per day, and as prescribed by the MOIC, ready-to-feed (RTF) glucose, and/or sterile water may be provided as directed by the MOIC. The costs of issues are to be entered on the DFS Team Crown Account (Chapter 2 Annex B).

0309. **Further Treatment of New Born Babies.** When a newborn baby requires medical treatment, and is kept in hospital after the mother has been discharged, the feeding entitlement of the baby is to be the same as at 0308b. The cost of ready-to-use feeds is to be entered on the DFS Team Crown Account (Chapter 2 Annex B).

0310. **Visits by Relatives.** Relatives visiting Very Seriously Ill (VSI) or Seriously Ill (SI) patients may be provided with Core Meals at Crown expense. Meals may be provided for relatives visiting patients in the following categories:

a. For the first 48 hrs. Thereafter, meals may be purchased at the individuals own expense.

b. Relatives visiting patients at an overseas Military Hospital may be fed for up to 10 days.

c. If, in the view of the MOIC, the parent or guardian should remain with the child admitted as an in-patient, the parent or guardian are to be provided meals for the duration of their stay with the child.

0311. **Accounting for Meals Provided to Relatives.** In para 0310, where Core Meals have been provided at Crown Expense, they are to be entered on the DFS Team Crown Account (Chapter 2 Annex B).

MEDICAL RECEPTION STATIONS, REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTRES, DISPENSARIES AND REGIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRES

0312. **MRS and RMC Daily Supplement.** The MRS/RMC Daily Supplement is to be claimed, in addition to the Daily Food Charge (DFC), for Service and civilian NHS patients who are entered on the **Daily Bed State** of the MRS and RMC. The Supplement calculation includes all food and non-alcoholic medical comforts (beverages) for patients. The Contractor may claim the actual value of provisions issued up to the value of the Daily Supplement. Expenditure records are to include the type of provisions issued, cost and number of personnel on the Daily Bed State. This cost is not permitted to exceed the number of entitled personnel multiplied by the Daily Supplement value. Records are to be retained with the DFS Team Crown Account for audit to support the claim for each Trading Period. The MRS / RMC Supplement is promulgated by the DFS Team. NB Medical and support staff working within the MRS/RMC are not catered for under these arrangements.

0313. **Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRC).** Personnel, who are required to be continuously accommodated at a RRC whilst undergoing a course of treatment, are categorised as in-patients and are fed at Crown Expense using the prevailing Daily Food Charge. NB If Individuals are accommodated in the host unit Service Mess they will still be liable for Mess fees/charges.

0314. **Issues to Medical Dispensaries.** If required by the MOIC, sugar, salt, and syrups may be issued to a dispensary. The cost is to be charged to the Medical Vote and a miscellaneous credit shown in the Crown Account.

0315. **Reserve Rations - Medical Reception Station (MRS) / Regional Medical Centre (RMC).** Reserve rations may be held in MRS / MRCs to the scale shown below, and are to be used for the benefit of patients in an emergency.

Coffee	200 gm
Drinking chocolate	500 gm
Sugar	2 kg
Tea Bags	1 pkt
Milk UHT	5 ltrs

A record of items issued is to be retained with the DFS Crown Account for audit to support the claim for each Trading Period.

0316 – 0399 Reserved.

