

## BOARD NOTICE 287 OF 2022

## SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACY COUNCIL

## RULES RELATING TO THE SERVICES FOR WHICH A PHARMACIST MAY LEVY A FEE AND GUIDELINES FOR LEVYING SUCH A FEE OR FEES

The South African Pharmacy Council herewith publishes *Rules relating to the services for which a pharmacist may levy a fee and guidelines for levying such fee or fees*, in terms of sections 35A (b)(iii) and 49(4) of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974, as amended, which rules shall replace the existing *Rules relating to the services for which a pharmacist may levy a fee and guidelines for levying such fee or fees*, as published under Board Notice 69 on 9 July 2021. These rules must be read in conjunction with the *Rules relating to Good Pharmacy Practice* (GPP) as published by the South African Pharmacy Council.

As amended by

BN 33, in GG 35095 of 2 March 2012  
BN 432, in GG 40812 of 6 June 2017  
BN 35, in GG 42337 of 29 March 2019  
BN 27, in GG 43073 of 6 March 2020  
BN 69, in GG 44822 of 9 July 2021

## SCHEDULE

## Services for which a pharmacist may levy a fee or fees

1. A pharmacist may levy a fee or fees for one or more of the services that may be provided in the various categories of pharmacies as prescribed in the *Regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy* (GNR.1158 of 20 November 2000), subject to the guidelines for levying such a fee as approved by Council from time to time.
2. A pharmacist who wishes to levy a fee or fees for the services referred to in **Annexure B** must comply with the provisions of these rules.
3. Services for which a pharmacist wishes to levy a fee or fees must be provided in accordance with Regulation 20 of the *Regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy* (GNR.1158 of 20 November 2000).
4. Council may add services for which a fee or fees may be levied as listed in **Annexure B** to the Schedule from time to time. The fee that may be charged for such a service may be based on a fee for a comparable service or procedure appearing in Annexure B.
5. A pharmacist must ensure, when a service for which he or she wishes to levy a fee or fees involves the supply of medicine, whether supplied on a prescription or not, that the patient for whom such medicine is supplied is furnished with adequate advice or information for the safe and effective use of the medicine(s) supplied by him or her, whether such medicine(s) is supplied personally (face-to-face) or by any other means.
6. Services for which a pharmacist may levy a fee or fees may not be advertised in any manner that –
  - (a) is not factually correct;
  - (b) is misleading;
  - (c) harms the dignity or honour of the pharmacy profession;
  - (d) disparages another pharmacist;

- (e) is calculated to suggest that his or her professional skill or ability or his or her facilities or that of the pharmacy owner, as the case may be, for practising his or her profession or rendering the service(s) concerned are superior to those of other pharmacists.
- 7. A pharmacist may not tout or attempt to tout for services for which he or she wishes to levy a fee or fees.
  - 8. A pharmacist may not levy a fee or fees for a service for which he or she is not trained or for which prior authorisation from Council is required before he or she may provide such service(s) until such authorisation is obtained. Acceptable documentary evidence of training, experience or competence, must be provided if and when required by Council, which could include but shall not be limited to-
    - (a) the successful completion of further education and training at a provider accredited by a competent authority; or
    - (b) practical experience gained under controlled circumstances and the mentorship of a competent person or authority; or
    - (c) the successful completion of continuing professional development (CPD) courses offered by a provider accredited by a competent authority.
  - 9. A pharmacist may provide any one or more of the services referred to in **Annexure B** without levying a fee or fees.
  - 10. A pharmacist who wishes to levy a fee or fees for the services referred to in **Annexure B** must inform patients regarding the fee to be levied prior to providing any of the services listed in the schedule.
  - 11. A pharmacist who wishes to levy a fee or fees for the services referred to in **Annexure B** must display a list of services and fees conspicuously in the pharmacy.
  - 12. A pharmacist who wishes to levy a fee or fees for the services referred to in **Annexure B** must indicate clearly on the invoice and/or receipt provided, the service for which a fee is levied and the amount of the fee per service.

#### **Guidelines for the levying of a fee or fees**

- 13. The guidelines published herewith as **Annexure A** shall constitute the only guidelines for levying a fee or fees for any one or more of the services referred to in **Annexure B**.



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## ANNEXURE A

### GUIDELINES FOR LEVYING A FEE OR FEES

#### General guidelines governing the determination of a fee or fees

#### 1. Definitions

“**Compounding**” means the preparing, mixing, combining, packaging and labelling of a medicine for dispensing as a result of a prescription for an individual patient by a pharmacist or a person authorised in terms of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 101 of 1965 (“Medicines Act”).

“**Dispensing**” means the interpretation and evaluation of a prescription, the selection, manipulation or compounding of the medicine, the labelling and supply of the medicine in an appropriate container according to the Medicines Act and the provision of information and instructions by a pharmacist to ensure the safe and effective use of medicine by the patient and “dispense” has a corresponding meaning.

“**Therapeutic medicine monitoring**” means the use of serum medicine concentrations, the mathematical relationship between a medicine dosage regimen and resulting serum concentrations (pharmacokinetics), and the relationship of medicine concentrations at the site of action to pharmacological response (pharmacodynamics) to optimise medicine therapy in individual patients taking into consideration the clinical status of the patient.

#### 2. Nature of services provided

A pharmacist may, in charging a fee for professional services rendered by him/her take into account one or more of the following factors –

- (a) the nature of the professional service rendered;
- (b) the time of day and circumstances under which the service is rendered.

#### 3. Call out service, delivery of medicines and after-hour fees

- (a) Where a pharmacist is called out from his/her pharmacy, or the pharmacy in which he/she practises, or from his or her residence or other place where he or she may be, a fee including the travelling time and costs according to the South African Revenue Services (SARS) travelling reimbursement table, as published from time to time, may be charged.
- (b) Where a pharmacist is required to deliver a service after normal operating hours, an after-hours fee may be charged. The recommended fee is one and a half times the normal fee for a specific procedure code. The hours of opening of a pharmacy must be clearly displayed.
- (c) Where a pharmacist is required by the patient or caregiver to transport a medicine to a patient, the transport costs according to the South Africa Revenue Services (SARS) travelling reimbursement table, as published from time to time, may be charged.
- (d) Where a pharmacist is reclaiming expenses, details of the expenses must be individually itemised.

#### 4. Collaboration with other health care professionals

Services may be provided in collaboration with a registered nurse or other registered health care professional as agreed to by the Council and other statutory health councils, as applicable.

## 5. A pharmacist's guide to fees

### 5.1 Procedures

- 5.1.1 Services for which a fee or fees may be levied shall be divided into procedures as indicated in **Annexure B**. A separate fee shall be charged for each procedure.
- 5.1.2 The fee per procedure shall be based on a procedure code as listed in **Annexure B**.
- 5.1.3 The fee for after-hours and/or call-out services must be levied separately as per Clause 3 using the designated procedure codes as listed in **Annexure B**.
- 5.1.4 The fees will be reviewed on an annual basis.
- 5.1.5 All expenses claimed must be indicated separately.

## 6. Pharmacy support personnel

The fee or fees may be levied by a pharmacist whether the service concerned is provided by the pharmacist, any other person registered in terms of the Pharmacy Act, or a healthcare professional employed in the pharmacy. Provided that any such person may only provide a service or perform an act which falls within his or her scope of practice.

## 7. Chronic Medicines Authorisation

A fee may be levied by a pharmacist where he/she needs to liaise with a medical scheme, an entity concerned with the management of pharmaceutical benefits and/or a medical practitioner to initiate or renew a chronic medicine authorisation or update a chronic medicine authorisation.

## 8. Guidelines for charging fees where one or more services may be provided

The following examples are provided as guidelines:

	Scenario	Fees that may be levied for services provided	Procedure Codes
i.	A patient presents a prescription for dispensing to the pharmacist which requires the compounding of a product.	A professional fee for compounding plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0002 and 0001
ii.	A patient presents a prescription for dispensing to the pharmacist which includes the preparation of a sterile product.	A professional fee for the preparation of a sterile product plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0003 and 0001
iii.	A patient presents a prescription for dispensing to the pharmacist which includes the preparation of an intravenous admixture or parenteral solution.	A professional fee for the preparation of an intravenous admixture or parenteral solution plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0004 and 0001
iv.	A patient presents a prescription for dispensing to the pharmacist which includes the preparation of a total parenteral nutrition product.	A professional fee for the preparation of a total parenteral nutrition product plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0005 and 0001

	<b>Scenario</b>	<b>Fees that may be levied for services provided</b>	<b>Procedure Codes</b>
v.	A patient presents a prescription for dispensing to the pharmacist which includes a cytotoxic preparation.	A professional fee for cytotoxic preparation plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0006 and 0001
vi.	A patient requests information regarding the use of medicine dispensed by another entity authorised to dispense medicines.	A professional fee for the provision of information concerning the medicines may be levied.	Procedure code 0008
vii.	A patient presents him/herself to the pharmacist with a prescription for dispensing and requests blood glucose monitoring.	A professional fee for blood glucose monitoring plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0012 and 0001
viii.	A patient presents him/herself to the pharmacist with a prescription for dispensing and requests blood cholesterol and/or triglyceride monitoring.	A professional fee for blood cholesterol and/or triglyceride monitoring plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0013 and 0001
ix.	A patient presents him/herself to the pharmacist with a prescription for dispensing and requests blood pressure monitoring.	A professional fee for blood pressure monitoring plus the dispensing fee may be levied.	Procedure codes 0015 and 0001
x.	A patient presents him/herself to the pharmacist with a prescription for dispensing and requests a peak flow measurement.	A professional fee for peak flow measurement plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0019 and 0001
xi.	A patient requests immunisation.	A professional fee for the administration of immunisation plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0022 and 0001
xii.	A patient requests that the medicine on a prescription dispensed in the pharmacy be delivered to a given address.	A delivery fee plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0025 and 0001
xiii.	The pharmacist is called to the pharmacy after hours to dispense a prescription.	A fee for a call-out service plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0024 and 0001
xiv.	A patient presents herself to the pharmacist for emergency postcoital contraception (EPC).	A professional fee for EPC plus the fee for pharmacist-initiated therapy may be levied.	Procedure codes 0027 and 0001
xv.	A patient presents him/herself for pharmacist-initiated therapy.	A professional fee for pharmacist-initiated therapy plus the fee for dispensing may be levied.	Procedure codes 0028 and 0001