

NHS PENSION SCHEME - CIRCULAR NO. 2010/09

WHO SHOULD READ:	HR managers, Practice managers, Employee Representatives and all NHS Staff
ACTION:	Employers are required by law to inform NHS Pension Scheme members of changes to the pension scheme. All staff should therefore be informed of the contents of this circular.
SUBJECT:	1. CHANGES TO THE NHS PENSION SCHEME, INJURY BENEFIT SCHEME AND ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEME REGULATIONS 2. INJURY BENEFITS SCHEME IDR P STAGE 2

The main purpose of this circular is to notify employers and scheme members of changes to the Regulations covering the NHS Pension Scheme (1995 and 2008 sections), Injury Benefit Scheme and Additional Voluntary Contributions Scheme in Scotland.

Changes to Regulations

1. The National Health Service (Superannuation Scheme, Pension Scheme, Injury Benefits and Additional Voluntary Contributions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/369) came into force on 17th November 2010 and made the following changes of consequence:

- To allow those who retired between 1 April 2008 (the date of the introduction of the 2008 section of the scheme) and 1 October 2009 (effective date for 1995 section members having the choice to move to the 2008 Section of the Scheme) to be able to join the 2008 section of the scheme on return to NHS employment. This is because these members would have retired before the “Choice exercise” and therefore didn’t get an opportunity to choose to move their benefits to the 2008 section of the scheme.
- To provide for Pension Credit members (i.e. those who have rights in the scheme as the result of a pension sharing order on divorce) to be able to take their benefits before normal retirement age on an actuarially reduced basis in line with other preserved members of the scheme. These members are also given the opportunity to take a larger lump sum by commuting some of their pension. This right has retrospective effect from 1 April 2010.
- To provide a calculation for the revaluation of purchased “Additional Pension” which also covers a situation where there has been negative inflation.

- To update the member contribution tiers within the regulations to reflect current rates.
- To state the employer contribution rate of 13.5%.
- To allow those who have AVC proceeds totalling less than £2000, who are unable to or unwilling to secure an annuity because of the small amount, to take payment in the form of a lump sum.
- Minor changes are made to the Injury Benefits Scheme to update definitions of practitioners.

The full regulations and explanatory note can be accessed on the [Office of Public Sector Information website](#)

Injury Benefits Scheme IDRPs stage 2

2. Further to circular 2010/08 this is to clarify that the new IDRPs2 procedures also apply to the Injury Benefits Scheme

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18th November 2010

Contact Information:

Should you have any enquiries about this circular, or require further information about these changes, please contact me at the address below or by e-mailing sharon.liptrott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

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