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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 93 LCM-63

Date: June 10, 1993

Division: Health and Long Term
Care

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Approval for Increases to Fees for Ophthalmic Services

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Fee Schedule Increase for Selected Ophthalmic Services
(available on-line)

The Department of Social Services is pleased to announce approval by the Division of the Budget for increases to fees for ophthalmic services, specifically optometric examinations, dispensing and repair fees.

There has been an ongoing problem with the availability of eyecare services. Many counties have noted increased transportation and clinic costs resulting from limited access to community-based optometrists and opticians. The purpose of the fee increase is to improve access to eye care services by encouraging greater provider participation. It is anticipated that the increases will be offset by reduced transportation and clinic costs.

The specific services to be enhanced are noted on the attached procedure list. The procedure codes for comprehensive and intermediate examinations by salaried optometrists are being eliminated. Salaried optometrists will now be able to bill using the same codes as self-employed optometrists and will receive the same reimbursement for these services.

The new fees were effective April 1, 1993. We are preparing a letter to providers announcing the fee increase and will ask the state ophthalmic associations to publicize the enhancements to those who are not currently participating.

Date: June 10, 1993

Trans. No. 93 LCM-63

Page No. 2

If you have any questions concerning the eyecare fee increases, please contact Joyce Usher, Division of Health and Long Term Care, 1-800-342-3009, extension 3-5889, User ID 98A143.

Gregory M. Kaladjian
Acting Commissioner

Ophthalmic Services Fee Increase

(Attachment 1)

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Previous Fee</u>	<u>Fee Effective 4/1/93</u>
92002	Ophthalmological services (complete eye examination): medical examination and evaluation with initiation of diagnostic and treatment program; intermediate, new patient (Includes determination of refractive state of the eyes)	\$12.00	\$16.00
92004	Comprehensive, new patient, one or more visits (Includes use of cycloplegic to determine refractive state of the eyes)	16.00	20.00
92012	Ophthalmological services (complete eye examination): medical examination and evaluation with initiation or continuation of diagnostic and treatment program; intermediate, established patient (Includes determination of refractive state of the eyes)	12.00	16.00
92014	Comprehensive, established patient, one or more visits (Includes use of cycloplegic to determine refractive state of the eyes)	16.00	20.00
W0021	Low vision examination; reimbursable to self-employed optometrists certified to perform low vision examinations	12.00	16.00
92340	Fitting of spectacles, except for aphakia; monofocal	6.00	10.00
92341	Bifocal	10.00	15.00
92342	Multifocal, other than bifocal	10.00	15.00
92352	Fitting of spectacle prosthesis for aphakia; monofocal	6.00	10.00
92353	Multifocal	10.00	15.00
92370	Repair and refitting spectacles; except for aphakia	2.00	4.00
92371	Spectacle prosthesis for aphakia	2.00	4.00