



8 July, 2014

Caps on Professional Indemnity for Private Practice

I refer to my letter dated 19th July 2013 in respect of the Caps arrangements for medical practitioners (consultants) in wholly private practice. This letter conveyed that in line with the Government decision in July 2013, the Caps should be annually adjusted in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) health commodity group with effect from 1 July 2014. This adjustment, calculated retrospectively from September 2010 to 1 July, 2014 amounts to an increase for that period of 4.5%.

Accordingly, with effect from 1 July 2014, the revised rates for the Caps in respect of claims with an incident date on or after 1 July 2014 are as follows:-

- consultant obstetricians, neurosurgeons, and orthopaedic surgeons undertaking spinal surgery €590,425 per claim as well as an annual aggregate limit of €1,771,275 per consultant;
- for all other specialties the limit is €1,180,850 per claim with no aggregate limit;
- for all claims above these limits, cover is provided by the Clinical Indemnity Scheme.

The Department is in discussion with the State Claims Agency in order to assess the financial impact of any proposed decrease in the Caps. This includes an actuarial assessment of the potential future costs to the State of any such decrease. We will revert as soon as this process has concluded.

Yours sincerely



Mary Jackson