

MEMO FOR CABINET  
BY THE HON. MINISTER OF HEALTH

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Revenue from Hospital Fees

In 1963 measures were taken to charge no fees in respect of care and maintenance for certain illnesses and to charge no fees after a certain period of payment in regard to cases requiring long treatment in hospital or in the cases of the aged and incurables. (National Assistance (Amendment Act 1963 - Act XXX/63)).

In terms of the set policy of this Government to grant free treatment in Government Hospitals, it is considered that the time has now come for another step to be taken in this direction.

From information collected on the basis of admissions in 1965, it has been established that fees were fixed in the following proportions:

Patients treated and maintained in hospital at full rate	15.6%
From 5/8 to 7/8 of the full charge	4.5%
From 1/8 to 4/8 " " " "	13.1%

During the financial year 1965/66 the sum of £17,637 was collected and on the basis of the proportions mentioned in the preceding paragraph this revenue would be distributed as follows:-

Patients paying full rate (15.6%)	£8,286
" " 7/8 to 5/8 (4.5%)	£2,389
" " 1/8 to 4/8 (13.1%)	<u>£6,962</u>
	<u>£17,637</u>

Ministers are asked to consider whether only those patients in respect of whom the assessment is at full rate should be charge for their care and maintenance in hospital.

11th March, 1967.