

Practitioner Pension Benefits and Flexibilities 1995 and 2008 Section members with protection

For the purposes of this factsheet:

Practitioner' means a Single Handed GP, a GP Partner, a GP shareholder in a company limited by shares (that is a GMS Practice, a PMS Practice or a AMPS/SPMS Contractor), a General Dental Practitioner (GDP) in GDS or PDS who is a Single Hander, Partner, Shareholder, or Associate or a HSC Ophthalmic Practitioner contracted directly with a Board or Trust.

Practitioner' includes GMS, PMS and APMS/SPMS salaried GPs (including GP Retainers and Flexible Career Scheme GPs), vocational trainees directly employed by a GDS or PDS Practice, and GDPs employed by a Trust or Board to perform GDS, PDS, EDS, or OOHs.

'Locum Practitioner' means a self employed HSC GP Locum who is on the Medical Performers List and who deputises for a HSC GP or temporarily assists in the provision of GMS, PMS, APMS or OOHs HSC work.

GP registrars can join the Scheme but these posts are treated as hospital (Officer) membership.

If you have any salaried hospital/community pensionable service (such as House Officer, Senior House Officer, Registrar, Clinical Assistant) this is regarded as Officer Scheme membership.

When calculating your pension benefits at retirement we will automatically calculate the most favourable method taking account of any Officer pensionable membership before, during, or after becoming a Practitioner. For example;

- It may be more favourable to award a separate Officer (i.e. final salary) pension and a separate Practitioner (i.e. dynamised earnings) pension.
- It may be more favourable to award just one Practitioner pension that takes account of all eligible periods of Officer membership.

- It may be more favourable to award one Practitioner pension that includes some Officer membership and a separate Officer pension that takes account of the remaining Officer membership.