DEPRIVATION ALLOWANCE

On the assumption that a GP in a “deprived area” has more work, more difficulties and more stress, it has been decided to compensate such doctors with extra supplementary capitation for each patient on their list.

What is it?

Scales of deprivation are based on the Jarman Index (Brian Jarman is Professor of General Practice at St Mary’s Hospital Medical School, London). Jarman devised a system of scoring social factors to measure “deprivation”.

Ten social factors are used to produce scores. The present index is based on the 1981 Census, the next one being in 1991. It is likely that there have been considerable changes in some areas.

Three levels of deprivation payments are to be made - maximum, medium and minimum - to be, as noted, a supplement to the capitation fee for each patient on the
THE SOCIAL FACTORS MEASURED ARE:

- pensioners living alone
- children under 5 years of age
- single parent families
- unskilled bread-winners
- unemployed
- overcrowded households
- mobile populations denoted by high removal rates
- households with ethnic minority groups
- over 65s
- lack of amenities

practice list and living in the designated area. Therefore, GPs should ensure that addresses are accurate in order to qualify for payment.