Subject: Emergency Department Fee Increases in Support of the Emergency Department Action Plan

In support of the 2006 Emergency Department Action Plan, fee increases for emergency department services have been implemented in the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services.

Physicians should submit claims using the new rates starting May 1, 2007. The Ministry will retroactively adjust all eligible claims to the appropriate fee for those services provided from September 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007 on the June 2007 Remittance. Physicians will receive updated Schedule of Benefits pages in April 2007.

Additionally, changes have been made to expand the definition of holiday for the purposes of the emergency department fee codes.

This Bulletin is a general summary provided for information purposes only. Physicians, hospitals and other health care providers are directed to review the Health Insurance Act, Regulation 552 and the Schedules under that regulation, for the complete text of the provisions. You can access this information on-line at: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this bulletin and the applicable legislation and/or regulation, the legislation and/or regulation prevails.

Bulletins and the updated version of the Schedule of Benefits are available on the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website http://www.health.gov.on.ca/.