

Bulletin



Bulletin Number 4404	Date August 1, 2003	Direct inquiries to Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Office (address below)
Distribution Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories		

Subject: Changes to the Schedule of Benefits effective August 1, 2003

- 1) Fee increases to rebalance specialty inequities**
- 2) Amendment chart**
- 3) Other information**

In accordance with the commitments of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) for the 4th year of the 2000 Physician Services Agreement, a number of changes are being made to the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services effective August 1, 2003.

1) August 1, 2003 - Fee increases to rebalance specialty inequities

Effective August 1, 2003 - introduction of two new fee codes and fee increases to more than 80 existing fee codes to rebalance specialty inequities in psychiatry, geriatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, general surgery, family medicine, and internal medicine. These changes are being implemented to ensure physicians are being remunerated in a fair and equitable manner.

The fee increases apply to a broad range of services including intermediate assessment (A007), various surgical consultations, pediatric consultation, psychiatric consultation and various complex surgical procedures.

In addition, there are a number of fee increases to medical consultations including the fee for geriatric consultation (A075) increasing to \$140.00, and fees for neurology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, rheumatology, hematology and clinical immunology consultations increasing to \$125.00.

Office locations

Barrie 34 Simcoe St. Suite 201 L4N 6T4	Etobicoke 3300 Bloor St. W., Unit 142 M8X 2W8	Hamilton 119 King St. W P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8N 4C8	Kenora 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	Kingston 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	Kitchener 1400 Weber St. E. Unit B2 N2A 3Z8	London 217 York St., 5th Floor P.O. Box 5700 Terminal A N6A 1B7
Mississauga 201 City Centre Dr. P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A L5A 3M1	Newmarket 465 Davis Dr. 3rd floor L3Y 8T2	North Bay 101-447 McKeown St. P1B 9S9	North York 4400 Dufferin St. Unit 4A M3H 6A6	Oakville Oakville Town Centre II 220 North Service Rd. W. Unit P5030. L6M 2Y3	Oshawa Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1H 8L4	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9
Owen Sound 981 2nd Avenue E. N4K 2H5	Peterborough 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	St. Catharines 301 St. Paul St. Mezzanine Level L2R 7R4	Sarnia 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4	Sault Ste. Marie Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4	Scarborough 2063 Lawrence Ave. E. M1R 2Z4	Sudbury 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1
Thunder Bay 435 James St. S., Suite 113 P7E 6T1	Timmins 38 Pine St. N., Suite 110 P4N 6K6	Toronto 47 Sheppard Ave.E. 5th floor M2N 7E7	Windsor 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1	Head Office P.O. Box 48 Kingston, ON K7L 5J3		

Fees for internal medicine consultations (A135), except where an internist's practice is primarily cardiology, respirology or gastroenterology, are also increasing to \$125.00. If an internist's practice is predominantly cardiology, respirology or gastroenterology, code A145 with a fee value of \$112.35 must be billed. In this context, an internist's practice is predominantly cardiology, respirology or gastroenterology if 50% or more of their OHIP fee-for-service billings are generated from the practice of cardiology, respirology or gastroenterology. This would include such services as consultations, assessments, procedures and diagnostic tests.

2) Amendment Chart

- Attached is a chart detailing all changes to the Schedule of Benefits effective August 1, 2003

Please note: The Bulletin is a reference guide to identify Schedule of Benefits changes. For complete information, service descriptions, and billing information, please refer to the relevant pages in the July 2003 edition of the Schedule of Benefits and subsequent amendment pages. Physicians should carefully review these fee code changes in the context of the Schedule of Benefits (including the General Preamble and any other associated Preambles).

3) Other Information

Payment

The August 1, 2003 changes to the Schedule of Benefits will be applied automatically to all claim submissions for services provided on or after August 1, 2003.

To assist with updating OHIP billing software, Ministry District Offices will send a copy of the new Fee Schedule Master to physicians with the August Remittance Advice.

Communication

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

Schedule of Benefits changes effective August 1, 2003

Note: This Chart represents fee code increases and new fee codes

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FEE CODE	DESCRIPTION	2002 SOB Fee	EFFECTIVE August 1, 2003	N-New R-Revised
A007	Intermediate Assessment	\$27.30	\$28.50	R
A035	General Surgery - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$59.55	\$75.00	R
A045	Neurosurgery - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$89.70	\$100.00	R
A075	Geriatrics - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$140.00	R
A135	Consult if physician's practice is not predominantly cardiology, respiratory or gastroenterology	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A145	Consult if physician's practice is predominantly cardiology, respiratory or gastroenterology	N/A	\$112.35	N
A185	Neurology - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A195	Psychiatry - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$122.00	\$125.00	R
A197 ⁽¹⁾	PSYCHIATRY - Office/Clinic - Consultation on behalf of disturbed child - consultative interview with parents	\$107.20	\$125.00	R
A198 ⁽¹⁾	PSYCHIATRY - Office/Clinic - Consultation on behalf of disturbed child - consultative interview with child	\$107.20	\$125.00	R
A205	Obstetrics & Gynaecology - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$57.30	\$75.00	R
A265	Paediatrics - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$135.00	R
A315	Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A485	Rheumatology - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A615	Haematology - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A625	Clinical Immunology - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
A645	General Thoracic Surgery - Office/Clinic - Consultation	\$59.85	\$75.00	R
C035	General Surgery - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$59.55	\$75.00	R
C045	Neurosurgery - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$89.70	\$100.00	R
C065	ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient Services - Consultation	\$56.15	\$61.15	R
C075	Geriatrics - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C095	Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surg. - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$59.55	\$75.00	R
C135	Internal Medicine - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C185	Neurology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C205	Obstetrics & Gynaecology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$57.30	\$75.00	R
C225	Genetics - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C265	Paediatrics - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$135.00	R
C315	Physical Medicine & Rehab. - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C355	Urology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$55.95	\$60.95	R
C415	GASTROENTEROLOGY - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient Services - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C475	Respiratory Disease - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C485	Rheumatology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C605	Cardiology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C615	Haematology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C625	Clinical Immunology - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$112.35	\$125.00	R
C645	General Thoracic Surgery - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$59.85	\$75.00	R
C895	Psychiatry - Non-Emergency Hospital In-Patient - Consultation	\$134.25	\$140.00	R
E076	If consultation rendered in conjunction with a special visit to a hospital emergency department or special visit to hospital inpatient (consultation ... A145, A415, A475, A605)	N/A	\$12.65	N
E505	Partial Mastectomy or wedge resection - with limited axillary node sampling	\$134.25	\$174.55	R
E525	Partial Mastectomy Plus radical node dissection - add	\$31.35	\$40.75	R
E546	Partial Mastectomy or wedge resection - with radical axillary node dissection	\$238.25	\$309.75	R
G610	Critical Care - Neonatal Intensive Care - Level B - 1st day	\$195.10	\$207.00	R
G611	Critical Care - Neonatal Intensive Care - Level B - 2nd day onwards	\$55.05	\$75.35	R
K197 ⁽¹⁾	PSYCHIATRY - Office/Clinic - Individual out-patient psychotherapy (including aversive conditioning, narcoanalysis, psychoanalysis) - per ½ hour or major part thereof	\$54.15	\$58.40	R
K198 ⁽¹⁾	PSYCHIATRY - Office/Clinic - Psychiatric care, out-patient - per ½ hour or major part thereof	\$54.15	\$58.40	R
M155	Lung Transplant (one lung)	\$1,549.20	\$2,013.95	R
M157	Donor heart - Lung removal	\$683.60	\$888.70	R
N102	Meningioma and other tumorous lesions	\$1,205.45	\$1,567.10	R
N103	Brain - supratentorial	\$1,044.30	\$1,357.60	R
N105	Intracranial aneurysm repair - carotid circulation	\$1,285.45	\$1,671.10	R
N109	Intracranial abscess - hemispherectomy	\$1,416.55	\$1,841.50	R
N110	Cerebral lobectomy	\$1,647.20	\$2,141.35	R
N111	Transsphenoidal microscopic approach to pituitary fossa	\$1,205.45	\$1,567.10	R
N117	Intracranial abscess - craniotomy	\$1,044.55	\$1,357.90	R
N151	Brain - infratentorial	\$1,205.45	\$1,567.10	R
N152	Craniotomy plus lobectomy	\$1,094.70	\$1,423.10	R
N153	Meningioma and other tumorous lesions	\$1,567.20	\$2,037.35	R

Schedule of Benefits changes effective August 1, 2003

Note: This Chart represents fee code increases and new fee codes

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FEE CODE	DESCRIPTION	2002 SOB Fee	EFFECTIVE August 1, 2003	N-New R-Revised
N313	Removal of spinal tumour - excision	\$994.25	\$1,292.55	R
N314	Removal of spinal tumour - one surgeon	\$1,155.25	\$1,501.85	R
N317	Extradural partial or total removal by laminectomy	\$864.00	\$1,123.20	R
N318	Intradural partial or total removal of spinal tumour	\$1,094.70	\$1,423.10	R
N319	Tumours- Intramedullary - biopsy and/or decompression	\$930.05	\$1,209.05	R
N320	Tumours- Intramedullary - removal	\$1,255.65	\$1,632.35	R
R105	Partial mastectomy plus radical node dissection	\$496.35	\$645.25	R
R109	Mastectomy, radical or modified	\$496.30	\$645.25	R
R111	Partial Mastectomy or wedge resection	\$203.15	\$264.10	R
R216	Radical resection tumour - excision - bone	\$759.70	\$987.60	R
R330	Major resection tumour - excision - bone	\$474.85	\$617.30	R
R874	Cardiopulmonary transplantation	\$1,911.20	\$2,484.55	R
R911	Excision - neck - radical	\$636.00	\$826.80	R
R915	Excision - neck - modified radical	\$683.60	\$888.70	R
S005	Resection of lesion of oral cavity	\$676.80	\$879.85	R
S007	Extended resection of lesion of oral cavity	\$799.00	\$1,038.70	R
S068	Pharyngo-laryngectomy	\$871.40	\$1,132.80	R
S090	Total thoracic oesophageal resection	\$880.55	\$1,144.70	R
S267	Hepatectomy - 3 or 4 liver segments	\$1,245.95	\$1,619.75	R
S270	Hepatectomy - 1 or 2 liver segments	\$893.35	\$1,161.35	R
S271	Hepatectomy 5 or more liver segments	\$1,345.85	\$1,749.60	R
S274	Liver transplant - donor	\$727.40	\$945.60	R
S294	Liver transplant - recipient	\$2,072.95	\$2,694.85	R
S295	Repeat liver transplant	\$2,847.80	\$3,702.15	R
S300	PANCREAS - Excision - Pancreatectomy - "Whipple type" procedure	\$1,346.50	\$1,750.45	R
S434	Kidney re-transplant	\$1,401.30	\$1,821.70	R
S435	Kidney transplant	\$1,171.30	\$1,522.70	R
S436	Donor nephrectomy	\$492.60	\$640.40	R
S437	Renal autotransplantation	\$876.00	\$1,138.80	R
S710	Hysterectomy with omentectomy for malignancy	\$513.30	\$667.30	R
S727	Ovarian debulking for ovarian carcinoma	\$667.30	\$867.50	R
S750	Radical resection pelvic and para-aortic nodes for cancer	\$601.40	\$781.80	R
S762	Hysterectomy - radical trachelectomy excluding node dissection	\$604.15	\$785.40	R
S763	Hysterectomy - radical includes node dissection	\$673.90	\$876.05	R

Note:

(1) A197, A198, K197 & K198 will be increased on April 1st, 2003 & August 1st, 2003.