
REPORT TO ALBERTANS

Subject: Renewal of Facility Designation under the *Health Care Protection Act* (HCPA)

Facility: Health Resource Centre – Calgary (HRC)

Surgical Service: Uninsured Inpatient Orthopedic Surgical Procedures

Term: August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2008

Background:

HRC has provided uninsured inpatient orthopedic surgical services since September 2002. These services are fully paid for by the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), the federal government for Canadian Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police or other Canadian residents where services are paid for by the federal government pursuant to an Act of Parliament or non-residents of Canada.

Proposal:

HRC submitted a proposal for renewal of their designation. The proposal requested three changes to their designation.

1. Increase procedure volume for out-of-country residents from nine per year to 300 per year.
2. Expand the current orthopedic surgical procedure list with associated volumes for WCB and federal government patients.
3. Consolidate procedure payor categories for Canadian residents.

Assessment Summary:

In reviewing proposals, Alberta Health and Wellness considers whether there is an impact on the publicly funded health care system and whether public interest is being served. To date there has been no determination of a negative impact on the public system as a result of HRC performing uninsured inpatient orthopedic surgical procedures. HRC provides a complimentary service and has increased capacity in the public system by moving the performance of these procedures out of the hospital sector. This provides the Calgary Health Region with additional operating room capacity.

HRC is accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) to perform uninsured inpatient orthopedic surgical procedures and patients' safety is not compromised.

Renewal of Designation:

The designation of HRC is renewed as a Non-Hospital Surgical Facility to provide a maximum of 505 uninsured inpatient orthopedic surgical procedures per year.

- 269 procedures are for primary hip and knee joint replacements, primary shoulder joint replacements, lumbar spinal laminectomies (not exceeding two disc-spaces) and lumbar posterior spinal fusions (not exceeding two disc-spaces).
- 236 procedures are for related procedures for the hip, knee, shoulder, lumbar spine, ankle, foot, wrist and hand.

HRC may consolidate the payor categories for WCB and the federal government for all Canadians. HRC is required to provide Alberta Health and Wellness monthly reports that identify the volumes for each procedure and each payor category.

Alberta Health and Wellness has not approved HRC's request to increase their volume for out-of-country residents. The volume of out-of-country residents remains unchanged at nine procedures per year.

*Paddy Meade
Deputy Minister
Alberta Health and Wellness*