

FACTORS FOR ASSESSING PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE UNINSURED IN-PATIENT SURGICAL SERVICES

An owner/operator of a surgical facility that wishes to provide uninsured in-patient surgical services and related facility services must provide a proposal for the Minister's consideration. A copy of the proposal will be provided to any regional health authority potentially affected by the proposal. The regional health authority will be asked for comments on its assessment of the overall impact the proposal is expected to have on the delivery of hospital and other health services, and how the proposal may impact on Albertans and the public health care system. The department's assessment of the proposal will consider regional health authority comments.

No uninsured in-patient surgical services may be provided without approval of the Minister and designation of the surgical facility under the *Health Care Protection Act*.

This document outlines the legislated factors the Minister will use to assess the proposal.

LEGISLATED FACTORS	FACTOR DESCRIPTION
<p>Whether the provision of the uninsured in-patient surgical services as contemplated in the proposal would have an adverse impact on the publicly funded and publicly administered health system in Alberta or impair the government's ability to comply with the <i>Canada Health Act</i> [Section 15(1)(a) <i>Health Care Protection Act</i>].</p>	<p>Impact of the proposed type and volume of surgical services on the availability of health workforce for the public system, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of the number, type, mix and ratios of health care personnel, including physicians, to be engaged by the facility ▪ Identification of the anticipated source of the health care personnel, including physicians, required by the facility <p>Anticipated catchment area/patients' places of residence (that is, area of Alberta, other Canadian provinces and territories, outside Canada) and anticipated numbers from these areas.</p> <p>Responsibility for payment for uninsured surgical services (for example, Workers' Compensation Board, Government of Canada, individuals) and anticipated volume of services by source.</p> <p>Compliance with applicable inter-provincial billing agreements when serving Canadian residents who are entitled to coverage of the surgical services under the health plan of another province or territory.</p> <p>The identification of pre- and post-surgical services expected and assessment of the potential impact, including costs, on the public health care system.</p>

LEGISLATED FACTORS	FACTOR DESCRIPTION
	<p>Assessment of the actual experience, or in cases where there is no experience, the probable risk of unexpected post-surgical complications, including type and number, with estimated costs to the public system.</p> <p>Assessment of impact of “significant mishaps” (as defined by the College of Physicians and Surgeons), including the actual experience, or where there is no experience, the projected risk, including type, number, and the potential costs to the public health care system.</p>
<p>Whether the public interest would be served by the designation of the surgical facility [Section 15(1)(b) <i>Health Care Protection Act</i>].</p>	<p>The proposal provides sufficient assurance on matters that are in the public interest, including:</p> <p><u>Authority to Operate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The facility is, or is to be, accredited by the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta ▪ Owner/operator compliance with relevant municipal, provincial and federal legislation, regulations and directives ▪ The owner/operator has mechanisms to ensure all health care professionals providing services within the surgical facility comply with applicable professional legislation and requirements established thereunder. <p><u>Administrative Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ownership information provided for publication as detailed in section 20 of the Health Care Protection Regulation ▪ Evidence that the owner/operator will indemnify and save harmless the Crown, her Ministers, servants, employees, agents, and contractors from all third party claims related to the operation of the facility ▪ Evidence that the owner/operator has adequate insurance comparable to the insurance carried by RHAs for public hospitals, and evidence that physicians practising in the facility have adequate professional liability insurance ▪ Owner/operator has mechanisms to monitor and report on compliance with any terms and conditions of designation to provide uninsured in-patient surgical services.

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	<p data-bbox="803 233 1019 264"><u>Service Delivery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="803 268 1482 447">▪ Description of proposed services, including specific surgical procedures and volumes by type of procedure, related facility services, related medical services (for example, anaesthetic, diagnostic) and days of in-patient services <li data-bbox="803 451 1482 558">▪ Process of disclosure of charges for surgical services and related facility services as required by section 17 of the <i>Health Care Protection Act</i> <li data-bbox="803 562 1482 701">▪ Confirmation that no uninsured surgical service is to be provided for the purpose of giving any person priority for the receipt of an insured surgical service <li data-bbox="803 705 1482 844">▪ Confirmation that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta has approved the surgical facility to deliver the proposed uninsured in-patient surgical services. <p data-bbox="803 890 932 921"><u>Reporting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="803 926 1482 1318">▪ Type and extent of information to be recorded and reported to Alberta Health and Wellness by the facility to include summary-level (aggregate) information on inpatient indicators. Specific indicators to be identified at the time of designation to facilitate monitoring of compliance with terms and conditions. Summary reports are to use the data set as specified in the <i>Canadian Institute for Health Information Abstracting Manual</i>, and include information such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="857 1323 1482 1461">▪ Number of inpatient separations, surgical services, and inpatient days of care by type of surgical service (using CIHI reporting codes) <li data-bbox="857 1465 1235 1497">▪ Patient place of residence <li data-bbox="857 1501 1482 1608">▪ Payment responsibility (e.g. WCB, patient, province or territory of residence using the CIHI codes).

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<p>Other factors the Minister considers appropriate to consider the proposal and designate the facility [Section 15(1)(c) <i>Health Care Protection Act</i>].</p>	<p>In reviewing the proposal, the Minister has the right to consider other factors. The Minister may request information concerning such factors.</p> <p>The Minister requires that a proposal provide a benefit to Albertans and to the public health care system. Examples include:</p> <p><u>Access to insured services in the public system</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of how the proposal to provide uninsured surgical services will affect waiting lists for insured services in the public system. <p><u>Patient Choice and Flexibility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of how the proposal to provide uninsured surgical services will affect Albertans' choice of physicians and locations to access uninsured services. <p><u>Provider Choice and Flexibility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of how the proposal to provide uninsured surgical services will affect health care provider choice on where to provide uninsured surgical services. ▪ Assessment of the impact on health care provider recruitment and retention outcomes for Alberta. <p><u>Health Care Delivery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of how the proposal will affect knowledge, technology, or service delivery approaches in the public health care system. <p><u>Education and Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of how the proposal will affect education and research.