

Data Link

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Cross Reference Bulletin 4423	Reference N/A				
Date July 26, 2005	Response required N/A				

Changes to the Physician Schedule of Benefits

This Data Link provides notice to software vendors and billing agents regarding the across-the-board fee increases to the OHIP Schedule of Benefits (SOB) for Physician Services. These changes are being implemented July 1, 2005. The effective dates are indicated below.

Changes Effective April 1, 2004

1. A 2.5% across-the-board fee increase for family practice professional fee codes.
2. A 2% across-the-board fee increase for specialist practice professional fee codes.
3. The claims payment threshold for fiscal year 2004/05 has been increased from \$455,000 to \$466,375.
4. The unit fee for anesthesia has increased from \$11.77 to \$12.01.
5. The unit fee for assistant at surgery has increased from \$10.20 to \$10.40.

Changes Effective April 1, 2005

1. A 1% across-the-board increase fee increase for technical fees for diagnostic services.
2. Elimination of the claims payment threshold.

Retroactive Payments

Physicians will begin receiving their retroactive payments with their July 2005 remittance with the detail diverted from the Remittance Advice (RA). Retroactive payments for services provided from April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 will appear as accounting transactions on the physician's RA. Retroactive payments for services from April 1, 2005 to June 30, 2005 will also be summarized under accounting transactions with the exception of Reciprocal Medical Billing claims adjustments which will appear in detail on the RA.

Updated Fee Schedule Master

The updated OHIP claims processing Fee Schedule Master* reflecting the across-the-board fee increases will be implemented for the first claims processing run of the July 2005 claims assessment cycle. Approved claims with service dates April 1, 2005 or later processed after July 1, 2005 will be paid at the increased rates and will be reflected on the August 2005 remittance advice.

A copy of the April 2005 Fee Schedule Master can be obtained by visiting the Ministry's website at <http://health.gov.on.ca> or by contacting your local Regional Office.

Data to follow N/A	
For further information contact Your local OHIP Regional Office	Telephone

Starting July 1, 2005, and until further notice, claims with service dates April 1, 2005 or later will be paid at the increased rates regardless of the fee billed. This is will allow time for vendors and physicians to update OHIP billing systems.

Revised Numeric Index for the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services

Bulletins and the updated version of the Numeric Index of the Schedule of Benefits, as well as the Fee Schedule Master* and other background communication are available on the Ministry's website at <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/>.