# **MSC**ommuniqué

Communicating the policy and directives of the Medical Services Commission of British Columbia

Volume 6, Number 1 May 15, 2001

### CMQ01-001

Approval of Revised Guideline: Treatment of Cataract in Adults

### Minute of Commission #00-075

### Approval of Revised Guideline: Treatment of Cataract in Adults

Pursuant to Section 5(1)(c), 24(1), and Section 37(5) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, the following guideline will apply with respect to the Medical Services Commission *Payment Schedule*:

Treatment of Cataract in Adults, appended. \*

This guideline supersedes the previous guideline for *Treatment of Cataract* in *Adults* that was effective October 1996.

This guideline will be used in the determination of benefits payable under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

Effective November 1, 2000

\* Guideline distributed January 2001

Guidelines and protocols can be obtained by contacting MSP Tel: (250) 952-1347 or Fax: (250) 952-1417. Guidelines and protocols are also posted on the MSP web site: http://www.hlth.gov.bc.ca/msp. Please e-mail your questions or comments to guidelines.protocols@moh.hnet.bc.ca.

### CMQ01-002

## Amendments to Medical Practitioners Act

Recent changes to the *Medical Practitioners Act*, enacted through the *Medical Practitioners Amendment Act (SBC 2001, chapter 16)* effective April 9, 2001, do not affect the Medical Services Commission's criteria for determining what services are benefits under the Medical Services Plan. It is the responsibility of the medical practitioner to advise a patient, at the time a complementary therapy or other uninsured service is provided, that the service is not covered by MSP.

#### Members:

Suzanne Veit (Chair) Bob Cronin Gordon Denford Anne McFarlane Janet E. McGregor Dr. Derryk Smith Benjamin Trevino Dr. Ernest Wigmore

### CMQ01-003

Revision of Out of Province/Country Funding Guidelines

### Minute of Commission #01-015

### **Revised Out of Province/Country Funding Guidelines**

The Medical Services Commission, pursuant to Part 5, Section 29 of the *Medicare Protection Act* and Part 6, Section 35 of the Medical and Health Care Services Regulation, hereby establishes revisions to the Out of Province/Country Funding Guidelines (Guidelines) respect-ing benefits for emergency and elective medical care for beneficiaries of the Medical Services Plan. The revised guidelines are effective March 28, 2001.

**Note:** Complete details are available in the *MSP Physicians Newsletter- Spring 2001*, or contact the MSP Out of Province/Country Claims Unit at 250-952-2654 (Victoria) or 604-806-0234 (Vancouver & Lower Mainland) - press 2, then 4.

Application forms for Approval of Insured Out of Country Medical Services are available from the MSP Info-by Fax line at 250-356-9605 (press 7, then 3) or by calling the Out of Country Claims unit.