

Glossary

Alternative Payments

Funding of physician services by non fee-for-service modes, e.g. salary, session and service contracts.

Business Cost Premium Amount

Business Cost Premium Amount is a percentage premium paid on a basket of eligible fees to compensate physicians practicing in community-based offices where they are responsible for the lease, rental or other overhead costs of the office.

Expenditure

Includes adjudicated fee schedule amount, retroactive payments, rural retention program payments and tray fees.

Fee-for-Service

Funding method where payment is made for each service rendered.

Fee Item

Code/description used to identify each service provided by a practitioner. Each fee item has an associated "fee" that is paid to the practitioner for providing the service.

Fiscal Year

The B.C. government fiscal year is from April 1 to March 31.

Interest

Interest is paid on payments made more than 90 days after the claim is submitted.

Medical Services

Medically required services provided by general practitioners and specialists, including laboratory services and diagnostic procedures.

Out-of-Province Claims

Out-of-Province claims include four separate cases:

1. When a Canadian resident from another province (except Quebec) receives medical care in B.C., MSP will pay the B.C. physician at the B.C. fee rates. The Ministry of Health will pay the B.C. hospital. The patient's home province/ territory will then reimburse B.C. for insured physician and hospital services under the provincial reciprocal payment agreements.
2. When a B.C. resident receives physician services in another province/territory (except Quebec), the physician is paid by the appropriate agency in the providing province/territory, at the fee rates in the providing province. The province/territory will then bill B.C. for the insured medical services that are eligible for payment under reciprocal payment agreements.
3. As in (2), but when a B.C. patient personally pays for services received in Quebec or in

another province, MSP will reimburse the patient for the insured medical services when services are provided by a licensed physician. MSP will pay the out-of-province physician directly or reimburse the B.C. patient at the B.C. or Quebec provincial fee rates.

4. When a B.C. resident receives emergency medical care outside Canada, MSP will reimburse the B.C. resident or the out-of-country provider for the physician services at B.C. fee rates. B.C. will pay the hospital in-patient care up to a maximum CAD\$75.00 per diem.

Registrant

Person enrolled with MSP.

Retroactive Payment

Payment made for services rendered in the past. Usually this refers to payment for retroactive fee increases (from negotiated agreements) on services rendered in previous fiscal years.

Rural Retention Program (RRP)

Premium paid to an approved practitioner who provides services in an isolated area. The RRP varies according to the degree of isolation of the community.

Tray Fee

Tray fees are paid in addition to the fee paid for the service and are only applicable when the costs are actually incurred by the physician; it is not applicable when the service is performed in a funded facility. A list of eligible procedures for which tray fees are covered is provided in the Medical Services Commission Payment Schedule:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/msp/physicians/payment-schedules/msc-payment-schedule>