

MSCommuniqué

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

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CMQ99-001

Completion of Special Authority Forms

Further to CMQ96-003 (Vol 1. No. 1), in reference to the completion of Special Authority forms on behalf of MSP beneficiaries, completion of these forms and other similar authority forms, including those required by Health Canada (eg. Drug Exception Centre), are considered to be a minor administrative service included in the office visit and, under Section 17(1) (b) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, must not be charged to the patient.

The Medical Services Plan of BC and Health Canada will not pay for completion of the forms, and no additional charges shall be made to the patient for this service, regardless of what other third parties may choose to compensate.

CMQ99-002

Protocol for Follow-up of Patients after Curative Resection of Colorectal Cancer

Minute of Commission #99-066

Approval of Protocol for Follow-up of Patients after Curative Resection of Colorectal Cancer

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

Services relating to the follow-up of curative resection of colorectal cancer will be considered a benefit under the Medical Services Plan only when rendered in conformity with the *Protocol for Follow-up of Patients after Curative Resection of Colorectal Cancer*, appended.*

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

Effective December 1, 1998

Members:

Martin S. Serediak (Chair)
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Note: Protocols can be requested through the Professional Support Info-by-Fax line at (250) 356-9644, or by calling (250) 952-1770. Protocols are posted on the MSP web site at: <http://www.hlth.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoprac/protocols/protolst.html>. Questions or comments can be e-mailed to: guidelines.protocols@moh.hnet.bc.ca.

CMQ99-003

**Access to MSP Data
by the Ministry for
Children and Families**

Under the *Children's Commission Act* (Section 6), Medical Services Plan data, including billing records, may be accessed by the Children's Commissioner where a child has died or sustained critical injuries. MSP data may also be accessed by Ministry for Children and Families social workers when the information is required to fulfill their duties under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (Section 96). These powers apply despite any other enactment but are subject to a claim of privilege based on a solicitor-client relationship.

Access to MSP data is not routinely requested when information is available from other sources (physicians, hospitals). However, there may be instances where seeking or obtaining consent to share information is not possible or appropriate. Some examples of when MSP data may be requested by a Ministry for Children and Families social worker include:

- **in a child protection investigation** where a parent states that the child was treated for accidental injury but refuses to provide information on who treated the child;
- **in a child protection investigation** where the child has been moved frequently or treated by many different physicians and a complete medical history cannot be obtained from the current physician;
- **when a child who is in the care of the Ministry for Children and Families is missing**, and the information from MSP may help locate where the child is living.

Further information is available in the *BC Handbook for Action on Child Abuse and Neglect*, through the BC Ministry for Children and Families web site at: <http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca>, or by calling the Child Protection Policy and Standards Branch of the Ministry for Children and Families at: (250) 387-5213.