

# MSCommuniqué

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

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**CMQ01-004**

The Dentistry Special Committee has approved a new dental extraction policy, effective April 1, 2001, establishing dental and medical criteria for determining when hospitalization is medically required for the proper performance of the procedure and, therefore, is an MSP insured service.

## **Dental Extraction Policy**

The complete Dental Extraction Policy is available from the MSP Info-by-Fax line at (250) 356-9605 (press 2, then press 1) or from Claims Billing Support at:  
Victoria - (250) 952-2654 (press 2)  
Vancouver - (604) 806-0234 (press 2)  
Rest of BC - (800) 563-5556 (press 2)

**CMQ01-005**

## **Dental Anaesthesia: Changes to MSC Policy**

The Medical Services Commission has approved a new policy, effective April 1, 2001, providing MSP coverage for anaesthesia for non-cosmetic, non-insured dental procedures performed in or out of hospital for patients meeting specific eligibility criteria. Criteria include children (up to and including 15 years), people with severe mental or physical disabilities, and people whose medical condition precludes the use of local anaesthesia.

The policy is restricted to non-cosmetic, non-insured dental procedures where it is impossible for the dentist or oral/maxillofacial surgeon to properly manage the patient by any other means than with general anaesthesia.

The policy does not change existing benefits for anaesthesia services for patients requiring hospitalization for medically required, MSP insured dental procedures.

The complete Dental Anaesthesia Policy is available from the MSP Info-by-Fax line at (250) 356-9605 (press 2, then press 1) or from Claims Billing Support at:  
Victoria - (250) 952-2654 (press 2)  
Vancouver - (604) 806-0234 (press 2)  
Rest of BC - (800) 563-5556 (press 2)

### **Members:**

*Suzanne Veit (Chair)*  
*Bob Cronin*  
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*Dr. Derryk Smith*  
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*Dr. Ernest Wigmore*

**CMQ01-006**

**Revised Guideline:  
Ambulatory ECG  
Monitoring (Holter  
Monitor and Patient-  
Activated Event Recorder)**

*Minute of Special Committee #01-023*

**Approval of Revised Guideline: *Ambulatory ECG Monitoring  
(Holter Monitor and Patient-Activated Event Recorder)***

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*:

*Ambulatory ECG Monitoring (Holter Monitor and Patient-Activated Event Recorder)*, appended.\*

This guideline supersedes the previous protocol, *Protocol for 24-Hour Ambulatory ECG (Holter Monitor)*, which was effective August 1, 1997.

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

Effective July 1, 2001

\* Distributed June 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](mailto:guidelines.protocols@moh.hnet.bc.ca).