

MSCommuniqué

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

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CMQ03-005

PharmaCare Special Authority (SA) Form

Minute of Commission 03-026

PharmaCare Special Authority Form

In accordance with the decision of the Medical Services Commission (MSC) on March 12, 2003, the completion of the PharmaCare Special Authority (SA) Form is part of the regular office visit and, as a consequence, no charge will be made for its completion.

Dated: April 2, 2003

MSP payment for the office visit includes completion of the Special Authority (SA) form, when required. Practitioners may not otherwise bill MSP, the patient, or anyone else for completion of the SA form. Any charge to the patient is considered “extra billing” and contrary to the *Medicare Protection Act*.

CMQ03-006

Approval of Guideline: Diagnosis and Management of Asthma

Minute of Commission 03-028

Approval of Guideline:

Diagnosis and Management of Asthma

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

Diagnosis and Management of Asthma

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

Effective July 1, 2003

Members:

Sheila Wynn (Chair)
Anne McFarlane
Geoff Rowlands
Bob Cronin
Gordon Denford
George Edgson
Dr. Derryck Smith
Dr. Marshall Dahl
Ben Trevino

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CMQ03-007

**Approval of Guideline:
Hypertension Parts I and
II**

Minute of Commission 03-029

Approval of Guidelines:

***Part I: Detection and Diagnosis of Hypertension and Part II:
Treatment of Essential Hypertension***

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

*Part I: Detection and Diagnosis of Hypertension and
Part II: Treatment of Essential Hypertension*

These guidelines will be used in determination of benefits payable under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

Effective July 1, 2003

CMQ03-008

**Approval of Revised
Guidelines**

The following guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Medical Services Commission, and supercede the respective previous guidelines, effective July 1, 2003:

Electrocardiograms (*Minute of Commission 03-030*)

Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (*Minute of Commission 03-031*)

Investigation of Suspected Infectious Diarrhea (*Minute of Commission 03-032*)

Diagnosis and Management of Sore Throat (*Minute of Commission 03-033*)

Preoperative Testing (*Minute of Commission 03-034*)

Investigation of Suspected Osteomyelitis in Normal Bone using Nuclear Medicine Techniques (*Minute of Commission 03-035*)

Investigation of Metastatic Bone Disease in Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer using Nuclear Medicine Techniques (*Minute of Commission 03-036*)

Guidelines and protocols can be obtained by contacting MSP at 250 952-1347 or by faxing 250 952-1417. Guidelines and protocols are also posted on the MSP web site: <http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/msp/protoguides>. Please e-mail your questions or comments to hlth.guidelines@gems6.gov.bc.ca