

# General Practitioner (GP) Specialist Program - Bonus Payments

## Guiding Principles:

- The Ministry of Health (Ministry) and the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) agree GP Specialists need to maintain their skills in the specialized areas of their practice and that patient safety and quality need to be supported.
- A quarterly bonus payment will be provided to family physicians that provide specialty services (specifically Anesthesia, Surgery and Obstetrics) as a portion of their practice.
- This program is available to family physicians providing services outside of the Regina and Saskatoon metropolitan areas.

## Program Criteria:

- The program is effective April 1, 2011.
- Participation is based on services provided outside of the Regina and Saskatoon metropolitan areas.
- Bonus payments will be available to physicians regardless of their payment modality.

Category	Requirements	Exclusions
To be eligible for GP-Anesthesia	A physician must have between 5% and 80% of their activity in anesthesia	Critical care/ Intensive care codes
To be eligible for GP-Surgery	A physician must have between 5% and 80% of their activity performing minor and major surgery (10 and 42 day surgical procedures) and including at least one major procedure (requiring medium or high complexity anesthesia)	All surgical procedures performed in an office location
To be eligible for GP-Obstetrics	A physician must have between 5% and 80% of their activity in obstetrical work, including performing at least one C-section	

Note: A GP Specialist could qualify for participation by having specialty activity ranging from 5% to 80% in a combination of anesthesia, surgery, and obstetrical work that meet the requirements above.

## Program Administration:

- GP Specialists are qualified at the end of each quarter, based on their fee-for-service and/or shadow billings for the previous four quarters. Physicians will be paid a maximum \$5,000/quarter for those quarters where the GP specialist was providing eligible services.
- Physicians will be considered full time and receive the maximum payment if they earned a minimum of \$60,000 in the previous four quarters. Less than full-time physicians will have their payment pro-rated.
- Payments will appear on the physician's payment list as fee code 993Y.
- Policy decisions regarding the administration of the Bonus Payments for GP Specialists will be jointly negotiated between the Ministry and the SMA and will be subject to approval from the Deputy Minister's Office.