

Physicians' Newsletter

Physicians' Newsletter No. 64

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IMPORTANT HEALTH WEBSITE INFORMATION

All Medical Services Branch Payment Schedules, Newsletters, Operations Bulletins, Billing Bulletins, billing information sheets and forms are available at:

<https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/resources/establish-operate-practice/Pages/Physicians.aspx>

COPIES OF THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE, BILLING BULLETIN, OPERATIONS BULLETIN, AND PHYSICIANS' NEWSLETTER

Medical Services Branch no longer provides paper copies of the Physician Payment Schedule, Billing Bulletin, Operations Bulletin or Physician Newsletter. These documents are available on Customer Portal or at the above link. Please be advised, updates to these documents are issued yearly on April 1 and October 1.

ACTION REQUIRED – BILLING SOFTWARE & PAYMENT SCHEDULE CHANGES

The Physician Payment Schedule revisions outlined in this letter are **effective April 1, 2026**. As outlined in the physicians' Automated Claims Submission and Direct Payment Agreement, payment for services submitted to Medical Services Branch is made in accordance with the applicable Physician Payment Schedule in effect on the date the service is provided. It is imperative that your billing software is utilizing the most up-to-date rate file.

The new claims system automatically adjusts the payment rate as per the April 1, 2026, Payment Schedule. If you are not comfortable with relying on this feature, MSB recommends holding your billings until your vendor has completed the required updates. The new April 1, 2026, rate file has been provided to all software vendors and is posted on Customer Portal for download. If necessary, please contact your software vendor to ensure your system has been updated.

NEW ONLINE BILLING COURSE TO SUPPORT SASKATCHEWAN PHYSICIANS AND BILLING STAFF

The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Medical Association and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, and with the support of the College of Medicine, has developed a **comprehensive new online billing course** for Saskatchewan physicians and their billing staff.

The course is designed to enhance accuracy, consistency, and understanding in the submission of medical claims and the application of the Physician Payment Schedule. It will provide practical, case-based instruction across several core areas, including:

- Submission and reconciliation of claims
- Appropriate application of service codes
- Documentation requirements to support billing
- Effective use of Electronic Medical Records (EMRs)
- Audit processes

Upon finalization, the course will be fully accredited for both Mainpro+ and Royal College Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Section 3 credits.

Administration of the course will be overseen by the College of Medicine, which will manage registration, delivery, and accreditation processes.

The Ministry anticipates that the course *will be available to physicians and billing professionals in the coming months*. Additional details regarding registration and access will be shared closer to the launch date.

This initiative reflects a shared commitment among provincial partners to support physicians in meeting billing requirements, strengthening documentation practices, and promoting accountability within Saskatchewan's publicly funded health system.

BILLING RESOURCES

There are billing resources, such as billing information sheets, available on the website. These documents are provided to all new physicians upon registering with Medical Services Branch. They are also available for download or viewing at the above link.

CHANGES TO THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE April 1, 2026**GENERAL**

Correction	Page 12	Removed registered nurse on item 10 (e)
Revision	Page 14	Major Portion/Major Part Thereof
Correction	Page 27	Services Supervised by a Physician – 113A added to 3. (d) and “technical component” added to 3. (f).
Update	Page 31	Patient identification – Billing for Newborns
Update	Page 35	Assessment of Accounts, item 1. (a) – link updated
Update	Page 36	Assessment of Accounts, items 2 and 3 – links updated
Update	Page 40	G. Fee-for-Service & Statistics phone number
Update	Page 40	G. Fee-for-Service & Statistics – link to Income Statement Form

EXPLANATORY CODES

Correction	BN	Additional information needed to assess this claim
Revision	BU	Surcharges
Deletion	BX	Time-based services
Revision	BY	Start and stop times required
New	B1	Time-based service
New	B2	Time-based service base and add component
New	EJ	Virtual care limit reached
Revision	HQ	Pain Clinic
Revision	JF	Surgical Assisting

SECTION A – General Services

Revision	153A	Page 72	Descriptor revised
Revision	Preamble	Page 83	Links to legislation updated
Revision	Preamble	Page 86	Clarification added to item 8. (a); 13I and 20B added to item 8 (e)
Update	708A-710A	Page 94	La Ronge has been deleted from Category A

SECTION B – General Practice

Revision	Preamble	Page 108	20B added to visit age supplement
New	20B	Page 111	Medical management of STBBI
Revision	60B-62B	Page 114	Removed service code examples from #4
Revision	64B-68B	Page 115	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	64B-68B	Page 116	Clarification added for start and stop times
Revision	205B	Page 118	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	206B	Page 119	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	163B/164B	Page 120	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	864B	Page 123	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	864B	Page 124	Start and stop times required on the claim

SECTION C – Pediatrics

Correction	815C	Page 129	Correction to descriptor
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SECTION D – Internal Medicine

Revision	12D/13D	Page 134	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	14D	Page 135	Start and stop times required on the claim

SECTION E – Psychiatry

Revision	9E/10E/12E/ 13E	Page 147	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	12E/13E	Page 148	Start and stop times required on the claim
Revision	31E	Page 149	Clarification added to descriptor
Revision	809E/810E/ 812E/813E	Page 155	Start and stop times required on the claim
Correction	711E	Page 159	Correction to maximum units

SECTION H – Anesthesia

New	94H-158H	Page 178	Nerve Block Preamble added
Revision	94H/95H	Page 178	Clarification added to descriptor
Revision	96H/97H	Page 178	Clarification added to descriptor
Revision	98H/99H	Page 178	Clarification added to descriptor

SECTION H – Anesthesia

Revision	201H/203H	Page 181	Clarification added to preamble and descriptors
Deletion	205H	Page 182	Minor routine follow-up assessment of patient hospitalized under pain clinic criteria
New	805H	Page 182	Virtual Subsequent Pain Clinic Assessment

SECTION L – General Surgery

Correction	447L	Page 236	Corrected the header to be included in the title of the service code
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SECTION N – Plastic Surgery

Revision	260N-268N	Page 269	Preamble added
Revision	659N	Page 269	Clarification added to descriptor
Correction	395N	Page 271	@ sign added back to GP rate
Correction	500N-506N	Page 273	@ sign added back to GP rate

SECTION P – Obstetrics & Gynecology

Revision	334P	Page 286	Clarification added to note
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SECTION S - Ophthalmology

Correction	131S-133S	Page 313	Correction to descriptors
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SECTION T – Otolaryngology

Revision	131T/132T	Page 324	Clarification on unilateral/bilateral
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SECTION W – Diagnostic Radiology

Revision	Preamble	Page 336	Clarification on additional scans for comparison purposes
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