

mcp newsletter

16-08

August 2016

TO: ALL DENTISTS

RE: ORAL MAXILLO FACIAL (OMF) SURGEONS

Effective August 1, 2016 Drs. Amin Alibhai, Peter Stefanuto and Rebecca Woodford have stopped accepting referrals for services that are insured under the Surgical Dental Program. This includes referrals for in-office and in-hospital insured services. Additionally, there will be no further on-call or emergency hospital coverage provided by these surgeons.

They have however indicated that those insured patients whose treatments are in-progress will have their surgery completed under the Surgical Dental Plan. It is our understanding that any patient waitlisted for insured services who has been seen by either of these OMFs for consultation and where further treatment is pending would be considered in-progress.

In the event of a patient with an emergency presenting to the emergency room, initial treatment will be provided by medical specialists in NL and if appropriate the patient will be transported to Halifax for definitive OMF treatment if deemed necessary.

There are four possible treatment options for providers, who have their referrals returned from the above referenced surgeons, or for new OMF referrals:

- 1) Referral to other local OMFs who offer in-office service.
- 2) Referral to a dental colleague within the province who has hospital privileges. All insured services thus provided in the hospital setting can be billed directly to the Surgical Dental Program as per normal billing protocol.
- 3) Referral to a dental colleague within the province who performs certain complicated procedures in their office. In these cases, the service will not be insured under the Surgical Dental Program because insured services provided by a dentist must be provided in a hospital. Work completed in a dentist's office, other than the office of an OMF surgeon, will not qualify as insured and will be the financial responsibility of the patient.

- 4) For treatment plans requiring major surgery (Orthognathic), arrangements have been made with the OMF program of Dalhousie University. Referrals of new patients who are to begin treatment can be made by contacting:

Michelle Harris
Dept. of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Victoria General Hospital
1276 South Park St.
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9

Phone: 902-473-3212
Fax: 902-473-6855
Email: michelle.harris@nshealth.ca

Initial consultation may be provided in-province (details to follow) and once this consultation has been completed the patient will be permitted to continue under the care of that surgeon. In addition, Dr. Louis Bourget has hospital privileges in Nova Scotia. Contact information: 91 Roe Avenue, Gander, NL, A1V 1W8; 709-381-6637.

For surgeries being provided out of province the expenses associated with travel will be cost shared as appropriate under the Medical Transportation Assistance Program (MTAP). Patients are advised to apply for travel assistance before travelling out-of-province for services.

For any insured service that is provided out of province the cost of the surgery will be billed directly to MCP following out of province billing protocol at host province rates. There will be no cost to the patient for the cost of the surgery. Only services that are not available in this province and are provided by a licensed OMF surgeon in the host province will be eligible for travel assistance. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Ed Williams, Dental Director at 758-1503.

Regards,

Dr. Ed Williams
Dental Director