



GOVERNMENT OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Department of Health and Community Services

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# mcp newsletter

APRIL, 2004

04-03

**TO: FEE-FOR-SERVICE PHYSICIANS**

**RE: PAPER CLAIM SUBMISSION OF FEE-FOR-TIME CODES**

Approximately 95% of medical services billed using fee codes listed in the MCP Payment Schedule are now submitted electronically. Unfortunately, despite the availability of electronic billing for several years, less than 40% of claims for the following fee-for-time services are submitted electronically:

G.P. Correctional Institute Sessional Clinics Specialist Organized Sessional Clinics ICU Sessional Arrangements Category "A" Emergency Department Coverage Category "B" Emergency Department Coverage	Long Term Care Facility Coverage G.P. Dedicated Time Surgical Assisting Obstetrical Anaesthesia Block Funding Obs/Gyne HCC Case Room Block Funding Neonatology Block Funding
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In recent years the number of services paid on a fee-for-time basis has been steadily increasing and this trend is expected to continue into the foreseeable future. Paper claims for these services have to be keyed into the Claims Processing System by MCP staff which means that payment of paper claims may be delayed in comparison to payment of electronic claims submitted at the same time. If, as expected, more fee-for-time payment arrangements are implemented in the future, then it is likely that delays in the payment of paper claims will be longer and more frequent. The effort involved in processing paper fee-for-time claims may reach the point where MCP will be compelled to administer a charge for their handling, as is already the case for other medical claims.

Physicians can avoid the inconvenience created by such delays and potential charges by discontinuing the use of paper claims for the categories of services listed above and converting to electronic billing. The current versions of MCP TeleClaim software can be used to bill for the services listed above. Physicians who use other billing software provided by a private vendor should contact their vendor to discuss conversion to electronic billing. Physicians who employ a private billing agency should discuss this matter with their billing staff as well.

MCP TeleClaim billing software and advice can be obtained at no cost from our Computer Support Technicians by calling 758-1530. Physicians outside the St. John's local calling area can be connected to them by calling the 1-800-440-4405 toll free number.