

mcp newsletter

February 2015

15-02

TO: FEE FOR SERVICE GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

RE: REVISIONS TO FEE CODE 127

Introduction

During the last round of FFS micro-allocations, the Department of Health and Community Services (the Department) and the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA) agreed to reserve a portion of the total funding available to family practice under the Memorandum of Agreement 2009-13 for the purpose of developing a new fee code targeted toward chronic disease/complex care management. It was subsequently proposed that a new MCP fee code be implemented for the management of patients with chronic disease(s) who present in office, require complex care for a minimum of 15 minutes, and are under 65 year of age. The Minister of Health and Community Services approved new fee code 127 and it came into effect on November 1, 2013.

The Department has monitored the utilization of fee code 127 since it was implemented. Data indicated that uptake in the use of the fee code was lower than expected. The Department consulted with the NLMA and it was agreed that two aspects of the fee code should be modified: (1) the scope of patients to which it could be applied and (2), the amount that could be charged per instance.

The Minister of Health and Community Services approved the following revisions to fee code 127, effective March 1, 2015:

- (1) The age range for patients who have a qualifying condition will change from under the age of 65 to under the age of 75;
- (2) The rate will increase from \$40.00 to **\$48.31**.

Documentation and billing procedure

General Practitioners should advise their billing staff of this change. Users of TeleClaim software should update the fee schedule within TeleClaim manually to include the changes to fee code 127. The terms and conditions for billing fee code 127 other than the age range and rate will remain the same. A detailed description of fee code 127 will be placed in section 7.5.5 of the online 2013 MCP Medical Payment Schedule in the near future. The online 2013 Schedule can be accessed by using the following link:

http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/providers/Full_MCP_Payment_Schedule-03_13_14.pdf

Questions regarding MCP billing should be directed to MCP by calling the 1-800-440-4405 toll free number. Other questions regarding the content of this Newsletter should be directed to the Assistant Medical Director by email: blairfleming@gov.nl.ca.