TO: FEE FOR SERVICE RADIOLOGISTS

RE: CLARIFICATION of FEE CODES 54460, 54462 as well as associated Vena Cavagrams 71200 and 71201

In consultation with the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA), the Department of Health & Community Services (HCS) seeks to clarify billings associated with the Medical Care Plan (MCP) fee codes 54460 and 54462 as well as associated vena cavagrams (fee codes 71200 and/or 71201). Any claims currently held will be adjudicated based on the clarification provided in this newsletter.

For greater clarity, only one of 54460 or 54462; or 54465 is payable.

In the setting of a poorly functioning dialysis line, radiologists may bill 71200 and/or 71201 (vena cavagram) in addition to 54460 or 54462 if one or more of the following conditions are suspected to be causing the dysfunction: (1) clot or fibrin sheath around the catheter; (2) SVC or right atrial stenosis; or (3) suboptimal positioning. The record of service must state that the vena cavagram was indicated for one or more of these preceding reasons. However, if fee codes 71130 and/or 71131 (angioplasty) are billed in addition to 54460/54462, the vena cavagram is included in that fee and is not billable in addition.

Questions relating to the content of this Newsletter should be directed to Dr. Colleen Crowther, Assistant Medical Director at (709) 758-1557 or by email at colleencrowther@gov.nl.ca