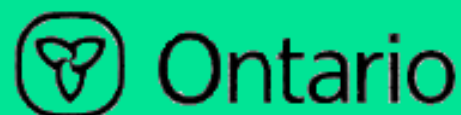


bulletin



Bulletin Number 4341	Date July 16, 1999	Direct inquiries to Ministry of Health Processing Office (address below)
Distribution Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics, and Laboratories		

Subject **Delegation to Registered Nurses Extended Class - RN(EC)**

The services of RN(EC)'s (or 'nurse practitioners') are not insured benefits under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) and cannot be billed to OHIP by physicians who employ or supervise RN(EC)'s. Professional services such as consultations, assessments, counseling, psychotherapy etc. must be personally performed by the physician who claims for the service. Such services cannot be claimed if delegated or performed by an RN(EC) and, with the exception of certain team fees identified in the Schedule of Benefits, cannot be claimed even if delegated to another physician.

Physicians, however, are permitted to claim for common office procedures such as immunizations, ear syringing or suture removal that have historically been delegated to any registered nurse in a physician's private office. In those circumstances, the nurse must be an employee of the physician and all criteria in the Schedule of Benefits General Preamble, paragraph B.10 must be satisfied.

RN(EC)'s are assigned OHIP registration numbers for the purposes of referring patients for certain diagnostic tests (e.g. mammography) and such tests can be claimed by the physician who performs the test. However, the OHIP registration numbers assigned to RN (EC)'s are only for referral purposes and cannot be used to claim for services provided by or delegated to the RN(EC). (See [Bulletin 4310](#) – Nurse Practitioner Referrals – April 14, 1998).

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