

Bulletin



Bulletin Number	Date	Direct inquiries to
4393	December 20, 2002	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Office
Distribution		(See Address Below)
Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics, Laboratories		

Subject **Specialty Designation For OHIP Billing Numbers**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has introduced new criteria under which a physician can receive a specialty designation for the purpose of submitting claims to OHIP. The change in regulation allows graduates of the Assessment Program for International Medical Graduates (APIMG), certain full-time teaching or research appointments, and others identified by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) to obtain OHIP specialist billing numbers.

The Assessment Program for International Medical Graduates is sponsored by the Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine (COFM), CPSO and MOHLTC and is administered by the Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine. The purpose of the program is to assess fully qualified and recently practicing physicians who have trained in countries whose educational programs are not accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)/Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS), the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC); or physicians who do not meet the 5 year practice eligibility requirement to sit the CFPC exams. For additional information regarding this program and application details, please refer to :

<http://www.cou.on.ca/health/home/img/imghomepage.htm>

Effective November 1, 2002, section B.17 of the Schedule of Benefits has been amended to read as follows :

For the purposes of payment for services listed in the "Consultations and Visits" section of the Schedule, a specialist is defined as a physician trained and practicing in a recognized medical or surgical specialty other than family or general practice who, on the basis of such training and practice, holds either :

- a. a certificate issued by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) ;
- b. a certificate of registration issued by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) following successful completion of the Assessment Program for International Medical Graduates (APIMG);

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Office locations

Barrie 30 Poyntz St. L4M 3P2	Hamilton 119 King St. W P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8N 4C8	Kenora 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	Kingston 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	Kitchener Canada Life Square Main Floor 235 King St. E., N2G 4N5	London 217 York St., 5th Floor P.O. Box 5700 Terminal A N6A 1B7	Mississauga 201 City Centre Dr. P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A L5A 3M1
North Bay 101-447 McKeown St. P1B 9S9	Oshawa Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1H 8L4	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9	Owen Sound 981 2nd Avenue E. N4K 2H5	Peterborough 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	St.Catharines 59 Church St 3rd Floor L2R 3C3	Sarnia 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4
Sault Ste. Marie Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4	Sudbury 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1	Thunder Bay 435 James St. S. , Suite 113 P7E 6T1	Timmins 38 Pine St. N., Ste. 110 P4N 6K6	Toronto 2195 Yonge St. P.O Box 1700 Stn. A M5W 1G9	Windsor 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1	Head Office P.O. Box 38 Kingston, ON K7L 5J2

- a certificate of registration issued by the CPSO to a physician employed full-time :
 1. in a teaching or research appointment, and
 2. by the faculty of medicine of an Ontario university at the rank of assistant professor; or
- a certificate of registration to which certificate terms, conditions or limitations may be attached, issued by the CPSO where the requirements of registration are otherwise not met.

The amended Schedule pages are enclosed with this bulletin.

INQUIRIES :

For further information on the APIMG program, see the above web link.

For physicians who already hold a valid Ontario certificate of registration from CPSO, information on physician registration for an OHIP billing number may be obtained from the nearest MOHLTC office.

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