

Bulletin



Bulletin Number	Date	Direct inquiries to
4429	September 27, 2005	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Office
Distribution		(address below)
Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories		

Subject: Mental Health Funding Improvements for Acute Care Psychiatry Services

In keeping with the 2004 Physician Services Agreement, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is implementing new funding initiatives to improve patient access to hospital mental health services, including emergency and in-patient services.

Effective October 1, 2005 the ministry is introducing two new funding initiatives:

1. Mental Health Sessional Fee Supplements

The Mental Health sessional fee supplements will be available to physicians in hospitals or community mental health agencies or addiction agencies currently receiving mental health or addiction sessional funding.

In order to receive this supplement, physicians at each approved hospital, community mental health agency or addiction agency who currently are receiving sessional funding will be required to apply for a new sessional group number. This group number will **only** be utilized for the purpose of receiving the Mental Health sessional fee supplements, and will include **only** those physicians participating as part of the group. Group registration information will be mailed to hospitals, community mental health agencies and addiction agencies in the next several weeks. Sessional hours provided by physicians in the Mental Health Sessional group after October 1, 2005 will be eligible for the supplement.

A new fee code will be implemented for the Mental Health sessional fee supplement and will pay \$11.00 per sessional unit. A sessional unit is defined as a 30-minute period of time. This fee code is only payable to providers affiliated with a Mental Health Sessional group. No other fee codes can be claimed under this group number. This fee code will not be included in the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services but will be treated as a Schedule of Benefits payment for audit purposes.

Office locations

Barrie 34 Simcoe St. Suite 102 L4N 6T4	Etobicoke 3300 Bloor St. W., Unit 142 M8X 2W8	Hamilton 119 King St. W 10th fl. P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8P 4Y7	Kenora 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	Kingston 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	Kitchener 1400 Weber St. E. Unit B2 N2A 3Z8	London 217 York St., 5th Floor Station A N6A 5P9
Mississauga 201 City Centre Dr. Suite 300 L5A 2T4	Newmarket 465 Davis Dr. Unit 108 L3Y 8T2	North Bay 101-447 McKeown Ave. P1B 9S9	North York 4400 Dufferin St N Unit A4-A5 M3H 6A8	Oakville Oakville Town Centre II 220 North Service Rd. W. L6M 2Y3	Oshawa Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1J 7J2	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9
Owen Sound 1400 1st Ave. W Suite # 2. N4K 6Z9	Peterborough 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	St. Catharines 301 St. Paul St. Mezzanine Level L2R 3M8	Sarnia 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4	Sault Ste. Marie Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4	Scarborough 2063 Lawrence Ave. E. M1R 2Z4	Sudbury 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1
Thunder Bay 435 James St. S., Suite 113 P7E 6T1	Timmins 38 Pine St. N., Suite 110 P4N 6K6	Toronto 47 Sheppard Ave. E. Suite 417 M2N 7E7	Toronto-Downtown 777 Bay St. Suite M212 M5G 2C8	Windsor 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1	Head Office P.O. Box 48 Kingston, ON K7L 5J3	

2. Psychiatric Stipend

As per the 2004 Physician Services Agreement, the psychiatric stipend was negotiated to enhance the remuneration of physicians providing psychiatric services in hospitals and to attract psychiatrists to work in hospitals.

This funding is intended to be implemented in two installments. The first installment of \$5 million will be invested on October 1, 2005. Funding will be administered through contractual arrangements between each eligible hospitals and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

This Bulletin is a general summary provided for information purposes only. Physicians, hospitals and other health care providers are directed to review the *Health Insurance Act*, Regulation 552 and the Schedules under that regulation, for the complete text of the provisions. You can access this information on-line at: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this bulletin and the applicable legislation and/or regulation, the legislation and/or regulation prevails.

Bulletins and the updated version of the Schedule of Benefits are available on the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/>.