

Bulletin



Bulletin Number	Date	Direct inquiries to
4476	June 17, 2008	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Sites
Distribution		(address below)
Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories		

SUBJECT: Automated Payment for Anaesthesia Age Premiums implemented June 1, 2008

Age Premiums

Physicians providing anaesthesia services are entitled to claim additional units based on certain patient characteristics. These additional units are outlined on page GP62 of the Schedule of Benefits (fee schedule codes E014C, E009C, E019C, E007C and E018C). E021C (premature newborn less than 37 weeks gestational age) has not been automated and should continue to be claimed as part of claims submission.

Effective June 1, 2008, as part of the 2007 Re-assessment Memorandum of Agreement commitments, these anaesthesia age premium codes have been automated for payment purposes. For service dates on or after June 1, 2008 it will no longer be necessary for physicians to submit these fee codes for payment as the extra units will be calculated and paid automatically. Fee codes submitted with service dates on or after June 1, 2008 will be paid at \$0 with explanatory code 30 (This Service is Not a Benefit of OHIP).

Payment for all age premiums will appear as an accounting adjustment on the Remittance Advice (RA) with the description "Anaesthetic Age Premium". There will also be a message on the RA with more details as shown in the example below:

Sample:

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                                PREMIUM PAYMENTS
FOR PAYMENT:                   2008-04-06

CURRENT FISCAL
PAYMENT
TYPE
ANAES AGE <29D                5.00   MTD      3      $198.60
                                YTD      3      $198.60
ANAES AGE < 1YR                4.00   MTD      3      $158.88
                                YTD      3      $158.88
ANAES AGE 1-8YR                2.00   MTD      2      $52.96
                                YTD      2      $52.96
ANAES AGE 70-79                1.00   MTD      3      $39.72
                                YTD      3      $39.72
ANAES AGE 80+YR                3.00   MTD      2      $79.44
                                YTD      2      $79.44
GERIATRIC IA                   15.00% MTD      1      $31.95
                                YTD      1      $31.95
TOTAL MONTHLY PREMIUM PAYMENT $534.39
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Processing Sites			
Hamilton 119 King Street West, 10 th Floor P.O. Box 2280, Stn A L8P 4Y7	Kingston 1055 Princess Street, Suite 401 P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	London 217 York Street, 5 th Floor Station A N6A 5P9	Mississauga 201 City Centre Drive Suite 300 L5B 2T4
Oshawa Executive Tower, Oshawa Centre 419 King Street West P.O. Box 635 L1J 7J2	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9	Sudbury 199 Larch Street Suite 801 P3E 5R1	Toronto 47 Sheppard Avenue East Suite 505 M2N 7E7

For service dates prior to June 1, 2008 it is necessary for physicians to continue to submit the age-related fee codes in order to receive payment.

After Hours Premiums payable with Age Premiums

Please note that when submitting After Hours Premiums E400C and E401C for services eligible for payment with an age premium, the total number of units submitted for the After Hours Premium codes must include the units payable for the age premium in the total even for those services where payment of the age premium is automated.

Example:

For an intermediate plastic surgery performed before June 1, 2008 starting at 18:00h and ending at 19:00h for a 21 day old newborn, the following should be submitted for payment:

R152C @10 units (6 basic units plus 4 time units) = \$132.40
E014C @ 5 units (age premium newborn to 28 days) = \$66.20
E400C @ 15 units (after hours premium) = \$99.30
TOTAL PAYMENT = \$297.90

For an intermediate plastic surgery performed June 1, 2008 or later starting at 18:00h and ending at 19:00h for a 21 day old newborn, the following should be submitted for payment:

R152C @ 10 units = \$132.40
E400C @ 15 units = \$99.30
TOTAL PAYMENT = \$231.70

The \$66.20 for the age premium will be included in the total paid under the line item ANAES AGE <29D in the "Premium Payments" report and in the total for the accounting adjustment "Anaesthetic Age Premium" on the RA.

Note that the total number of units submitted for the service rendered June 1, 2008 or later for E400C includes the 5 units payable for the age premium.

The ministry is working on a systems solution that would allow for submission of only the total units applicable to the surgery (base units plus time) for fee codes E400C and E401C when an age premium is payable that will ensure payment is adjusted to include the units applicable to the age premium when payment for the After Hours premium is calculated. Until such a systems change is in place, physicians should continue to include the units applicable for the age premiums when E400C and E401C are submitted for payment.

The following table provides a summary explanation of the premiums applicable to anaesthesia services as of June 1, 2008:

Fee code	Description/Criteria	Number of Extra Units/Value	Automated?
E021C	premature newborn less than 37 weeks gestational age	9 units	N
E014C	newborn to 28 days	5 units	Y
E009C	Infant from 29 days to 1 year of age	4 units	Y
E019C	Infant or child from 1 year to 8 years of age inclusive	2 units	Y
E007C	Adult aged from 70 to 79 years, inclusive	1 unit	Y
E018C	Adult aged 80 years and older	3 units	Y
E010C	Patient with body mass index (BMI) > 45	2 units	N
E011C	Patient in prone position during surgery	4 units	N
E012C	Patient who is known to have malignant hyperthermia or there is a strong suspicion of susceptibility, and the anaesthetic requires full malignant hyperthermia set up and management	5 units	N
E004C	patient requiring controlled hypotension, when it is carried out in association with anaesthesia using any technique to deliberately lower and maintain the mean blood pressure by at least 25%	10 units	N
E022C	ASA III - patient with severe systemic disease limiting activity but not incapacitating	4 units	N
E017C	ASA IV – patient with incapacitating systemic disease that is a constant threat to life	10 units	N
E016C	ASA V – moribund patient not expected to live 24 hours with or without operation	20 units	N
E020C	ASA E - patient undergoing anaesthesia for emergency surgery which commences within 24 hours of operating room booking, to E022C, E017C or E016C	4 units	N
E400C	Evenings (17:00h – 24:00h) Monday to Friday or daytime and evenings on Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays – increase the total anaesthetic fee by 50%	50% of the total anaesthetic fee including age premium	N
E401C	Nights (00:00h – 07:00h) increases the total anaesthetic fee by 75%	75% of the total anaesthetic fee including age premium	N
E420C	Trauma Premium a) rendered either on the day of the trauma or within 24 hours of the trauma and b) for trauma patients 16 or more who have an Injury Severity Score (ISS) of greater than 15, or for patients less than age 16 who have an ISS of greater than 12	50% of basic and time units	N

Notes: The fee codes noted above as being automated only applies to services rendered on or after June 1, 2008.

Fee code	Description/Criteria	Replace Number of Basic units with	Automated?
E650C	when a pump (with or without an oxygenator and with or without hypothermia) is used in conjunction with an anaesthetic	28 units	N
E645C	off pump coronary artery bypass grafting, to R742 or R743	40 units	N
E002C	when hypothermia is used by the anaesthesiologist in procedures not specifically identified as requiring hypothermia	25 units	N
E013C	when anaesthetic management is required for the emergency relief of acute upper airway (above the carina) obstruction (excluding choanal atresia)	10 units	N

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

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 prevail.