

INFOBulletin

Keeping health care providers informed of payment, policy or program changes

To: Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories

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Re: Release of Draft Technical Specifications

The ministry has posted [draft technical specifications](#) for the new Medical Claims Electronic Data Transfer (MC EDT) web service and the Health Card Validation web service on the Internet to solicit feedback from software vendors. In addition, there is a new specification for Electronic Business Services which outlines the security requirements that both web services must adhere to.

MC EDT will be launching two methods to send claim data to the ministry and download payment reports.

A 'manual' web interface with simple upload and download functions will be provided for users that do not have integrated billing or Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems, or who currently submit claims on diskette. The claim files can be uploaded from a computer disk drive or from a diskette to the ministry using an Internet connection. Remittance Advice(s), Error Reports, and other reports currently available electronically can be downloaded from the web interface to your computer.

The web interface is not intended for use with automated programs or 'scripts'. In order to access the web interface you must have the following Operating System/Web Browsers in order to safeguard the personal health information contained in the files.

Current Minimum Standard

Windows XP
Internet Explorer 6.0
Firefox 3.0
Google Chrome 6.0

Macs 9.0
Firefox 3.0
Google Chrome 6.0
Safari 4.0.3

Current Optimum Standard

Windows 7
Internet Explorer 8.0
Firefox 8.0
Google Chrome 6.0

Mac 10.0
Firefox 8.0
Google Chrome 6.0
Safari 5.0

The web interface will be available in the spring of 2012. More detailed information on the service will be provided prior to the implementation.

An automated MC EDT web service and a web service for real time Health Card Validation will be available in Q2 of 2012/2013. Both of these web services provide a means for integration in EMR and billing software.

All three specifications can be found at

www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/pub/pub_menus/pub_ohip.html

The ministry is seeking feedback from software vendors on the draft specifications prior to finalizing them and will be scheduling Web-based Seminars (webinar information sessions) in January 2012. Software vendors and other interested parties can participate in one of the webinar sessions by sending an email request to ESPPProject@ontario.ca. The ministry will provide dates, times and links via email response. You may also send questions concerning the technical specifications in advance of the webinar to this email address.

With the introduction of the new MC EDT service, the ministry will begin using an online registration/enrolment service provided by the Ministry of Government Services. In order to use the MC EDT web interface or web service health care providers will need to set up user accounts. This new service will also allow you to set up designate accounts for your office staff and grant other health care providers or billing agents access to your files.

In addition to enrolment to the MC EDT service, this account will be used for future e-Business Services introduced by the ministry.

More information on this service and instructions for setting up your account will be provided prior to the launch of the MC EDT web interface.