

INFOBulletin

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

To: Physicians, Registered Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals and Clinics

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Re: Implementation of 2012 Physician Services Agreement – Amendments to the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Services - Effective January 1, 2013

1. Background
2. New Fee Codes
3. Amendments to Existing Services/Payments
4. Links to additional information

1. Background

This bulletin describes changes to the Schedule of Benefits for Physician Service ("Schedule") effective January 1, 2013 resulting from the 2012 Physician Services Agreement between the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA). These changes include the introduction of new fee codes to reflect best available evidence and improvements in technology, as well as amendments to existing services and payments.

2. New Fee Codes

Replacing the Annual Health Exam with Periodic Health Visit:

The MOHLTC and the OMA have agreed that the annual health exam (A003 with diagnostic fee code 917) will be replaced by a periodic health visit. The following fee codes are for Periodic Health Visits:

Periodic Health Visit	
K017 - child	43.60
K130 - adolescent	77.20
K131 - adult aged 18 to 64 inclusive.....	50.00
K132 - adult 65 years of age and older.....	77.20



Definition: A Periodic Health Visit (including a primary or secondary school examination) is performed on a patient, after their second birthday, who presents and reveals no apparent physical or mental illness. The service must include an intermediate assessment, a level 2 paediatric assessment or a partial assessment focusing on age and gender appropriate history, physical examination, health screening and relevant counselling.

Payment rules:

A Periodic Health Visit is limited to one per patient per *12 month period* per physician.

Commentary:

Periodic Health Visit in excess of the limit is not insured.

Claims submission instruction:

Submit claims for personal periodic health visits using the fee codes listed below.

No diagnostic code is required.

Family Practice & Practice in General	Paediatrics
K017 – child (aged 2 to 15 inclusive)	K267 - 2 to 11 years
K130 – adolescent (aged 16 to 17)	K269 - 12 to 17 years
K131 - adult aged 18 to 64 inclusive	
K132 - adult aged 65 years and above	

Colonoscopy:

To align with Cancer Care Ontario's (CCO) screening program, payment intervals for colorectal cancer follow-up screening are increased. For asymptomatic patients whose colonoscopy shows either no polyps or small (<1 cm) hyperplastic polyps present, the interval for payment for follow up colonoscopy is one every five (5) years or one every ten (10) years based on patient indications.

Colonoscopy for Risk Evaluation:

Z497 is eligible for payment for a colonoscopy rendered for a patient with a positive:

1. Faecal occult blood test(s) (FOBT) or faecal immunochemical test(s) (FIT);
2. Sigmoidoscopy;
3. Barium enema; or
4. CT abdomen/pelvis or CT colonography examination(s).

For a patient with a normal colonoscopy billed as Z497 or Z555, the patient is next eligible for an insured colonoscopy in ten (10) years. That colonoscopy service is Z493.

If the patient develops any symptoms or signs that require a colonoscopy before ten years, the colonoscopy is insured using the fee code appropriate to the patient's condition.

Z499 – New wording has been added that Z499 is payable in association with an increased risk of malignancy (e.g. a first degree relative or at least two second degree relatives with colorectal cancer or a premalignant lesion) and is only insured for a patient 50 years of age or older, or, 10 years younger than the earliest age of diagnosis of the affected relative.

For a patient with a normal colonoscopy billed as Z499 the patient is next eligible for an insured colonoscopy in five (5) years. That colonoscopy service is Z492.

If the patient develops any symptoms or signs that require a colonoscopy before ten years, colonoscopy is insured and payable using the fee code appropriate to the patient's condition.

New fee codes Z495 for follow up of an unsatisfactory colonoscopy and Z491 for follow up of an incomplete polyp resection have been added.

3. Amendments to Existing Services/Payments

Cervical Screening:

The schedule cervical screening fee code (G365) is amended to reflect CCO's new guidelines for cervical cancer screening. Cervical screening is insured once every three (3) years if the result of the pap smear is normal. Cervical screening is not an insured service when rendered to an individual younger than 21 years of age or older than 70 years of age who have had three or more normal tests in the prior 10 years.

Papanicolaou Smear (G394) for follow-up of an abnormal or inadequate test is an insured service.

Annual Stress Tests:

To be consistent with the recommendations of the American College of Cardiology and the American College of Physicians in the Choosing Wisely Campaign, language has been added to the Schedule clarifying that annual stress tests for asymptomatic patients at low risk for coronary heart disease are not insured by OHIP.

G315, G319, G174, G111 and G112 are *uninsured* services for asymptomatic patients where the patient's 10 year risk of coronary heart disease is less than 10% calculated by generally accepted methodology such as the Framingham Risk Score.

Injection of Viscosupplementation Agents:

The intra-articular injection of viscosupplementation agents such as Hyaluronic acid for osteoarthritis is no longer insured. The intra-articular injection services are G370, G371, G328, and G329.

Arthroscopic Lavage:

Knee arthroscopy (R687) is an uninsured service for arthroscopic lavage of the knee alone (without debridement) for osteoarthritis.

Pre-operative Testing for Non-Cardiac Low to Moderate Risk Surgery:

The technical and professional components are not eligible for payment for chest x-rays, nuclear medicine cardiac tests, electrocardiograms, stress tests and stress echocardiograms

unless there is a clinical indication requiring these tests other than solely for preoperative preparation or screening of the patient.

Thyroid Scans:

Commentary has been added to the Schedule advising that thyroid scans (J818/J618 and J871/J671) are payable when indicated for investigation of hyperthyroidism, including nodules associated with hyperthyroidism; congenital hypothyroidism and masses in the neck or mediastinum suspected to be thyroid in origin. Thyroid scans are not generally indicated for investigation of thyroid nodules (except if associated with hyperthyroidism) and adult hypothyroidism.

GP Psychotherapy Premium:

The GP psychotherapy premium is reduced from 15 percent to 12 percent.

Reductions in Professional Fees:

Professional fees for Nuclear Medicine, Sleep Studies, and Radiotherapy Treatment Planning are reduced by 5% effective January 1, 2013.

Charts detailing all of the fee code changes referenced within are available as attachments to this bulletin at:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/ohip/bulletins/4000/bulletin_4000_mn.html

Further information about these changes is available at:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/phys_services/default.aspx

The new version of the Schedule is available at:

www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/ohip/sob/sob_mn.html

Hard copies of the Schedule will not be distributed. If you would like to order a paper copy or compact disk (CD) of the Schedule for a fee, please visit

<https://www.publications.serviceontario.ca>

Physicians without access to the Internet can contact ServiceOntario at 1-800-668-9938.

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 at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca . In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this bulletin and the applicable legislation and/or regulations, the legislation and/or regulations prevail.

Chart #1: New Fee Codes Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Description	Fee	Schedule Section
K130A	Periodic health visit - adolescent	\$77.20	A
K131A	Periodic health visit - adult aged 18 to 64 inclusive	\$50.00	A
K132A	Periodic health visit - adult 65 years of age and older	\$77.20	A
Z491A	Follow up of incomplete polyp resection	\$51.95	S
Z492A	Five year follow up of normal colonoscopy Z499), absence of intervening signs or symptoms– sigmoid to descending	\$51.95	S
Z493A	Ten year follow up of normal colonoscopy (Z497), absence of intervening signs or symptoms– sigmoid to descending	\$51.95	S
Z494A	Hereditary (e.g. Familial adenomatous Polyposis or Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colorectal Cancer) or other bowel disorders (e.g. inflammatory bowel disease) associated with increased risk of malignancy	\$51.95	S
Z495A	Follow up of unsatisfactory colonoscopy	\$51.95	S

Chart #2: Fee Code Revisions Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Description	Schedule Section
	Intra-articular hylan knee injection	J
	Maximal stress Electrocardiogram	J
	Thyroid scans	B
	Preoperative Testing	B, D, H, J
Annual health examination - Revisions		
	General Preamble - Annual Health or Annual Physical Examination	GP
	Age-based fee premiums	GP
A003A	General assessment	A
E079A	Initial discussion with patient, to eligible services	GP
K267A	Annual health examination - 2 - 11 years of age	A
K269A	Annual health examination - 12 - 17 years of age	A
W010A	Monthly Management of a Nursing Home or Home for the Aged Patient Fee	GP
A004A	General re-assessment	A
K017A	Annual health examination, child	A
W109A	Annual physical examination	A
W004A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
W409A	Annual physical examination	A
W259A	Annual physical examination	A
W154A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
W279A	Annual physical examination	A
W074A	General reassessment of patient in nursing home	A
W299A	Annual physical examination	A
W464A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A

Chart #2: Fee Code Revisions Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Description	Schedule Section
W239A	Annual physical examination	A
W134A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
W849A	Annual physical examination	A
W444A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
W869A	Annual physical examination	A
W164A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
W184A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home	A
A204A	Partial assessment	A
W269A	Annual physical examination	A
W419A	Annual physical examination	A
W314A	General re-assessment of patient in nursing home*	A
Cervical Screening		
G365A	Papanicolaou Smear	J
E430A	When papanicolaou smear is performed outside of hospital	J
Knee Lavage for Osteoarthritis		
R687A	Knee arthroscopy set-up, includes when rendered synovial biopsy and/or resection or trimming of plica	N
Colonoscopy		
Z498A	Surveillance colonoscopy - sigmoid to descending colon	S
Z499A	Absence of signs or symptoms, family history of colon cancer in a first degree relative – sigmoid to descending colon	S
Z555A	Absence of signs or symptoms, for purposes of risk evaluation - sigmoid to descending colon	S
Z580A	Sigmoidoscopy (using 60 cm. flexible endoscope)	S

Chart #3: Percentage Decreases Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Description	Schedule Section	Existing %	% as of January 1, 2013
	Focused Practice Psychotherapy Premium	GP	15%	12%

Chart #4: Fee Code Decreases Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013	Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013	Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013
J602C	25.45	24.20	J675C	19.85	18.85	J862C	72.25	68.65
J604C	12.00	11.40	J676C	24.95	23.70	J863C	50.95	48.40
J606C	27.90	26.50	J677C	25.45	24.20	J864C	54.25	51.55
J607C	25.05	23.80	J678C	25.45	24.20	J865C	50.95	48.40
J608C	14.35	13.65	J679C	24.95	23.70	J866C	31.10	29.55
J609C	15.70	14.90	J680C	11.75	11.15	J866C	31.10	29.55
J610C	24.95	23.70	J681C	30.75	29.20	J867C	29.30	27.85
J611C	27.45	26.10	J682C	25.45	24.20	J868C	58.70	55.75
J612C	13.40	12.75	J683C	30.85	29.30	J869C	58.45	55.55
J613C	42.00	39.90	J684C	25.45	24.20	J870C	13.55	12.85
J614C	21.15	20.10	J685C	28.35	26.95	J871C	50.95	48.40
J615C	25.45	24.20	J686C	25.35	24.10	J872C	58.45	55.55
J616C	24.95	23.70	J687C	22.30	21.20	J873C	18.75	17.80
J617C	13.40	12.75	J802C	50.95	48.40	J874C	10.20	9.70
J618C	25.45	24.20	J804C	20.95	19.90	J875C	40.80	38.75
J619C	15.70	14.90	J806C	54.85	52.10	J876C	50.95	48.40
J620C	35.55	33.75	J807C	50.15	47.65	J877C	50.95	48.40
J621C	10.25	9.75	J808C	27.45	26.10	J878C	50.95	48.40
J623C	10.25	9.75	J809C	31.10	29.55	J879C	50.95	48.40
J624C	10.50	9.95	J810C	49.90	47.40	J880C	22.50	21.40
J625C	10.25	9.75	J811C	56.90	54.05	J881C	62.80	59.65
J626C	10.50	9.95	J812C	27.45	26.10	J882C	50.95	48.40
J627C	24.95	23.70	J813C	82.25	78.15	J883C	61.55	58.45
J629C	25.45	24.20	J814C	43.40	41.25	J884C	50.95	48.40
J630C	25.45	24.20	J815C	50.95	48.40	J885C	57.85	54.95
J631C	25.45	24.20	J816C	50.95	48.40	J886C	56.15	53.35
J632C	25.45	24.20	J817C	23.00	21.85	J887C	45.55	43.25
J633C	25.45	24.20	J818C	50.90	48.35	J700C	250.00	237.50
J634C	20.60	19.55	J819C	31.10	29.55	J701C	250.00	237.50
J635C	36.50	34.65	J820C	69.85	66.35	J702C	250.00	237.50
J636C	25.45	24.20	J821C	12.00	11.40	J703C	250.00	237.50
J637C	10.50	9.95	J823C	10.20	9.70	J704C	250.00	237.50
J638C	10.45	9.95	J824C	10.45	9.95	J705C	250.00	237.50
J639C	24.95	23.70	J825C	10.25	9.75	J706C	250.00	237.50
J640C	25.45	24.20	J826C	10.45	9.95	J707C	250.00	237.50
J641C	10.25	9.75	J827C	50.95	48.40	J709C	250.00	237.50
J643C	10.25	9.75	J829C	50.95	48.40	J710C	250.00	237.50
J647C	17.55	16.65	J830C	50.95	48.40	J896C	128.30	121.90
J648C	13.75	13.05	J831C	50.95	48.40	J696C	68.85	65.40
J649C	17.55	16.65	J832C	50.95	48.40	J897C	128.30	121.90
J650C	31.65	30.05	J833C	50.95	48.40	J697C	68.85	65.40
J651C	27.30	25.95	J834C	41.15	39.10	J895C	128.30	121.90
J652C	34.00	32.30	J835C	73.00	69.35	J695C	68.85	65.40
J653C	25.45	24.20	J836C	50.95	48.40	J890C	128.30	121.90
J657C	28.35	26.95	J837C	10.45	9.95	J690C	68.85	65.40
J658C	25.45	24.20	J838C	10.45	9.95	J889C	128.30	121.90
J659C	22.70	21.55	J839C	50.95	48.40	J689C	68.85	65.40
J660C	31.40	29.85	J840C	50.95	48.40	J893C	52.50	49.90
J661C	34.60	32.85	J841C	12.00	11.40	J894C	52.50	49.90
J662C	36.10	34.30	J843C	12.00	11.40	X310A	226.70	215.35
J663C	24.95	23.70	J847C	34.85	33.10	X311A	394.30	374.60
J664C	26.75	25.40	J848C	27.95	26.55	X312A	716.25	680.45
J665C	24.95	23.70	J849C	35.65	33.85	X313A	853.85	811.15
J666C	15.70	14.90	J850C	62.80	59.65	Y602C	33.09	31.44
J667C	15.70	14.90	J851C	50.95	48.40	Y604C	15.60	14.82
J668C	28.65	27.20	J852C	68.00	64.60	Y606C	36.27	34.46
J669C	26.70	25.35	J853C	50.95	48.40	Y607C	32.57	30.94
J670C	10.20	9.70	J857C	57.85	54.95	Y608C	18.66	17.73
J671C	25.45	24.20	J858C	50.95	48.40	Y610C	32.44	30.82
J672C	29.20	27.75	J859C	45.55	43.25	Y611C	35.69	33.91
J673C	10.25	9.75	J860C	62.80	59.65	Y612C	17.42	16.55
J674C	10.25	9.75	J861C	69.20	65.75	Y613C	54.60	51.87

Chart #4: Fee Code Decreases Effective January 1, 2013

Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013	Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013	Fee Code	Existing Fee	January 1, 2013
Y614C	27.50	26.13	Y810C	64.87	61.63			
Y615C	33.09	31.44	Y811C	73.97	70.27			
Y616C	32.44	30.82	Y812C	35.69	33.91			
Y617C	17.42	16.55	Y813C	106.93	101.58			
Y620C	46.22	43.91	Y814C	56.42	53.60			
Y623C	13.33	12.66	Y815C	66.24	62.93			
Y624C	13.65	12.97	Y816C	66.24	62.93			
Y625C	13.33	12.66	Y817C	29.90	28.41			
Y626C	13.65	12.97	Y820C	90.81	86.27			
Y627C	32.44	30.82	Y823C	13.26	12.60			
Y629C	33.09	31.44	Y824C	13.59	12.91			
Y630C	33.09	31.44	Y825C	13.33	12.66			
Y631C	33.09	31.44	Y826C	13.59	12.91			
Y632C	33.09	31.44	Y827C	66.24	62.93			
Y633C	33.09	31.44	Y829C	66.24	62.93			
Y636C	33.09	31.44	Y830C	66.24	62.93			
Y637C	13.65	12.97	Y831C	66.24	62.93			
Y638C	13.59	12.91	Y832C	66.24	62.93			
Y639C	32.44	30.82	Y833C	66.24	62.93			
Y640C	33.09	31.44	Y836C	66.24	62.93			
Y641C	13.33	12.66	Y837C	13.59	12.91			
Y643C	13.33	12.66	Y838C	13.59	12.91			
Y647C	22.82	21.68	Y839C	66.24	62.93			
Y648C	17.88	16.99	Y840C	66.24	62.93			
Y649C	22.82	21.68	Y841C	15.60	14.82			
Y650C	41.15	39.09	Y843C	15.60	14.82			
Y651C	35.49	33.72	Y847C	45.31	43.04			
Y652C	44.20	41.99	Y848C	36.34	34.52			
Y653C	33.09	31.44	Y849C	46.35	44.03			
Y657C	36.86	35.02	Y850C	81.64	77.56			
Y658C	33.09	31.44	Y851C	66.24	62.93			
Y659C	29.51	28.03	Y852C	88.40	83.98			
Y660C	40.82	38.78	Y853C	66.24	62.93			
Y661C	44.98	42.73	Y857C	75.21	71.45			
Y662C	46.93	44.58	Y858C	66.24	62.93			
Y664C	34.78	33.04	Y859C	59.22	56.26			
Y665C	32.44	30.82	Y860C	81.64	77.56			
Y667C	20.41	19.39	Y861C	89.96	85.46			
Y668C	37.25	35.39	Y862C	93.93	89.23			
Y669C	34.71	32.97	Y864C	70.53	67.00			
Y670C	13.26	12.60	Y865C	66.24	62.93			
Y671C	33.09	31.44	Y867C	38.09	36.19			
Y672C	37.96	36.06	Y868C	76.31	72.49			
Y673C	13.33	12.66	Y869C	75.99	72.19			
Y674C	13.33	12.66	Y870C	17.62	16.74			
Y675C	25.81	24.52	Y871C	66.24	62.93			
Y676C	32.44	30.82	Y872C	75.99	72.19			
Y677C	33.09	31.44	Y873C	24.38	23.16			
Y678C	33.09	31.44	Y874C	13.26	12.60			
Y679C	32.44	30.82	Y875C	53.04	50.39			
Y681C	39.98	37.98	Y876C	66.24	62.93			
Y682C	33.09	31.44	Y877C	66.24	62.93			
Y683C	40.11	38.10	Y878C	66.24	62.93			
Y684C	33.09	31.44	Y879C	66.24	62.93			
Y685C	36.86	35.02	Y881C	81.64	77.56			
Y686C	32.96	31.31	Y882C	66.24	62.93			
Y687C	28.99	27.54	Y883C	80.02	76.02			
Y802C	66.24	62.93	Y884C	66.24	62.93			
Y804C	27.24	25.88	Y885C	75.21	71.45			
Y806C	71.31	67.74	Y886C	73.00	69.35			
Y807C	65.20	61.94	Y887C	59.22	56.26			
Y808C	35.69	33.91						