

Number: Med 97	Date: February 14, 2005	Page: 1 of 1
Subject: Supervised services	Reference: Schedule of Medical Benefits/Bulletins Med 7, Med 67, Med 86	

To: all physicians and billing staff

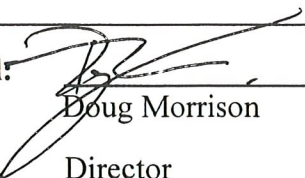
The following is an update to information previously issued in Bulletin Med 7 dated April 19, 1994.

Payment for insured services listed in the Schedule of Medical Benefits (SOMB) is intended to cover services personally provided by the physician. Under strictly limited circumstances, however (see below), physicians may bill for services when provided by another individual under the physician's supervision. This is in accordance with Section 3(2) in the *Claims for Benefits Regulation* and General Rules 2.1 and 2.7.5 in the SOMB.

There are four types of services that may be billed by a physician when the physician does not personally perform the services:

- **Technical services relating to diagnostic services** – Please remember, however, when these services are performed in an Alberta hospital for inpatients and registered outpatients, payment is the responsibility of the regional health authority involved; therefore, they are **not** payable by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP).
- **Injections of allergy serums ordered by a physician after examination of the patient** – Health service code 13.42A (Desensitization treatments with autogenous vaccines) is the only service that explicitly allows services provided under a physician's supervision.
- **Insured pneumococcal/influenza vaccination administered under the physician's supervision** – As described in Bulletins Med 67 and Med 86, health service code 13.59A (Intramuscular or subcutaneous injections) may be billed when a nurse, under the physician's supervision, administers the vaccine in the physician's office to a **high-risk patient (defined in Med 67)**.
- **A preceptor who is ready and prepared to perform a service but steps aside to allow the service to be performed by a physician trainee, may claim for that service. The preceptor, however, must examine the patient sufficiently to justify to the patient that a claim for his/her service is appropriate.** The preceptor must also remain in a position to monitor the patient to the exclusion of all others while the trainee performs the service. Only if these conditions are met can a claim for the service be submitted to the AHCIP.

☛ In addition to the services described above, and as agreed to by Alberta Health and Wellness and the Alberta Medical Association in July 2004, Psoralen ultraviolet A treatment - PUVA - (health service code 13.82A) does not require direct supervision by a physician; nor is the physician required to be present when the services are provided.

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