Alberta Government

Bulletin

Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan

Number: MED 248	**Date:** August 17, 2021
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Program Update	**Reference:** MED 245

To: All Physicians and Billing Staff

Changes are being made to the COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Program (CVAP) announced through Medical Bulletin 245.

What is Changing?

Retroactive from May 1, 2021, a payment through CVAP, submitted through the Claims Assessment System (CLASS) using Health Service Code (HSC) 03.01CC, may be claimed by all physicians in Alberta who call their patients via telephone or videoconference to address concerns related to COVID-19 vaccine, by providing education or counselling.

Please note that CVAP claims will be accepted even if they are submitted later than 90 days from the date of service. Please insert the following text on the CVAP claim: "As per Medical Bulletin 248, submitting with text for payment outside of 90 day submission period".

03.01CC - Telephone advice and counselling to a patient or their agent (agent as defined in the *Personal Directives Act*) regarding the COVID-19 vaccine $20

NOTES:

1. This is a temporary HSC to support COVID-19 vaccine uptake.
2. All Alberta physicians are eligible to submit claims retroactively for services provided from May 1, 2021 onward.
3. May only be claimed for patients who have not received a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
4. May only be claimed when the physician provides the counselling or education to the patient or their agent regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and the physician or a qualified health care provider determines the eligibility (e.g., immunization status on Netcare) of a patient for the COVID-19 vaccine.
5. May be claimed if the physician counsels the patient during the call but the counselling does not result in a patient receiving the COVID-19 vaccine or setting up an appointment for the vaccine.
6. May not be claimed in addition to any other HSCs except HSC 13.59V and 13.59VA on the same date of service.
7. May only be claimed once per patient, per physician.
8. May only be billed with diagnostic code 079.82 or 079.8.
9. As this is a physician support program, this HSC is not included in the daily patient visit cap.

Classification: Public

Inquiries:

Any inquiries regarding CVAP or the related HSC can be sent to health-pcsp.admin@gov.ab.ca

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Classification: Public