

mcp newsletter

April 8, 2025

25-03

TO: ALL FEE-FOR-SERVICE PHYSICIANS

RE: PHYSICIAN CONSULTATIONS REQUESTED BY A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) PRESCRIBER

The **Registered Nurses Regulations** were amended in spring 2023 to allow for Registered Nurses who meet specific criteria to expand their scope of practice to “prescribing” (<https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2023/health/0403n01/>). This expanded scope allows for those holding the designation “Registered Nurse prescriber” to make referrals to other health professions, including physicians eligible to bill MCP for in-person and virtual consultations.

Please see the following highlighted changes to the MCP Medical Payment Schedule which allow physicians eligible to bill MCP for consultations from physicians and nurse practitioners to also bill for referrals from RN prescribers. All other criteria for billing consultations must also be met. Physicians must receive a written request from the referring RN prescriber in order to bill for the consultation.

5. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS/CONDITIONS

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5.5.2 A referral also takes place when a primary care physician is not available and a Nurse Practitioner **or Registered Nurse (RN) prescriber** requests for his or her patient the services of a specialist physician and it is appropriate to the patient needs and practice setting to do so as described in the **applicable** Regulations.

6. DEFINITIONS/REQUIREMENTS OF SPECIFIC VISIT CODES-CONSULTATIONS:

6.1 General Definition

“Consultation” refers to the situation where licensed physicians, Nurse Practitioners **or Registered Nurse (RN) prescribers** request the opinion of a physician competent to give advice in their field because of the complexity, obscurity or seriousness of the case. Except where otherwise specified, the consultant is required to obtain a complete history and perform a physical examination commensurate with the presenting complaint,

review pertinent x-ray films, laboratory or other data, and submit their opinion and recommendations to the referring physician, NP, or RN prescriber.

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6.9.2 Interventional Radiology Consultation: An Interventional Radiology (IR) Consultation applies when an Interventional Radiologist is requested by a physician, nurse practitioner **or RN prescriber**... The Interventional Radiologist must give their opinion in writing to the referring physician, nurse practitioner **or RN prescriber**.

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6.10 Dermatology Consultation in a DHCS Designated Long Term Care Facility: This is payable only to Dermatology Specialists. It is applicable to claims for elective consultative services requested by a staff Family Physician, Nurse Practitioner **or RN prescriber** on behalf of a patient with a complex dermatological problem.

RNs with RN prescribing can be verified at the College of Registered Nurses NL Member Search: <https://crnnl.ca/member-search/>. On the individual RN prescriber's profile under "Specializations", "RN Prescribing" will be listed. If an RN does not have this specialization, MCP cannot pay consultant physicians at established specialist rates for any referrals made.

Physicians may bill for virtual and in-person consultations as long as all applicable billing requirements in the MCP Medical Payment Schedule and Newsletter [20-09](#) ("Pandemic Virtual Care Fee Codes for Consultants") are met.

Questions relating to this newsletter should be directed to
AssistantMedicalDirector@gov.nl.ca or (709) 758-1557.