

mcp newsletter

July 9, 2024

24-06

TO: BLENDED CAPITATION FAMILY PHYSICIANS

RE: Procedure for Having Locum Physicians at a Blended Capitation Practice

As negotiated in the 2017-2023 Memorandum of Agreement, Schedule “R” (<https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/files/Amending-Agreement-to-add-Schedule-R-to-the-2017-2023-Memorandum-of-Agreement.pdf>) the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA) have introduced a Blended Capitation Payment Model for Family Physicians providing longitudinal primary care.

Deployment of the Blended Capitation payment model is underway. Many participating physicians have been issued new payee numbers for use by locum physicians. In this newsletter we seek to further clarify the need and intent behind these new payee numbers.

Per MOA Schedule R, article 3.10, regarding “Locum Arrangements”:

The Capitation Rate accounts for the cost of a physician hiring a locum for two weeks of practice coverage annually.

Blended Capitation Groups will hire and pay locums as needed. Payment agreements may vary based on terms decided upon by the host physician and locum and funding of such arrangements is not the responsibility of the Government.

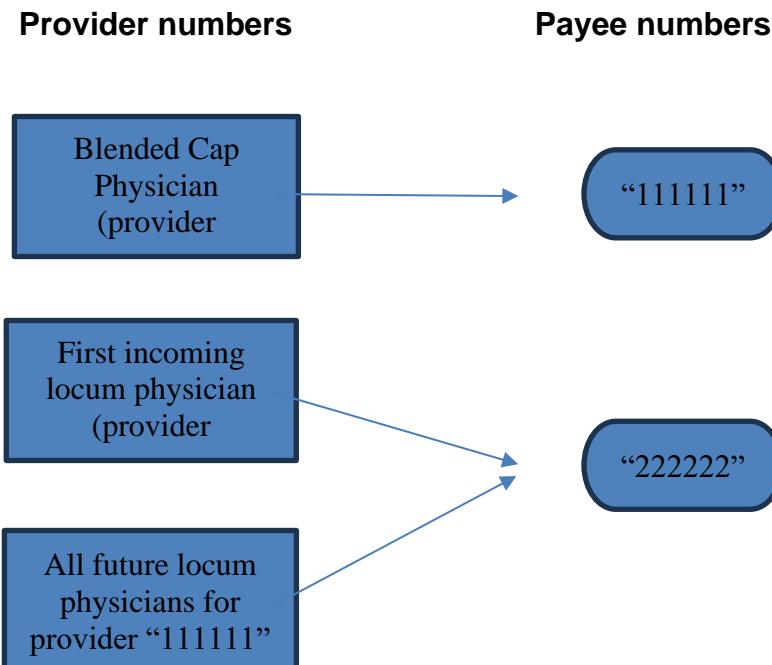
Locum physicians will submit all billings for services rendered through the locum physician’s billing number, with the payment assigned to the blended capitation physician or Group. This will generate the FFS payment for in-basket services delivered to Attached patients, as well as the FFS payment for out-of-basket services delivered to all patients and in-basket services delivered to non-Attached patients.

To ensure compatibility between the provincial Electronic Medical Record and the MCP system, new (non-provider number) payee numbers are being issued for locum usage in Blended Capitation-applicable situations. Provider Registration at HCS Medical Services is issuing these unique locum payee numbers to Blended Capitation practice physicians just prior to their Blended Capitation start date.

If you have commenced Blended Capitation and have not received a unique locum billing number, please contact ProviderRegistration@gov.nl.ca.

To illustrate:

- A Blended Capitation physician having provider number “111111” registers for Blended Capitation and plans to have a locum cover their practice. They require a secondary number for this circumstance.
- Provider Registration issues payee number “222222” for use by any locum physician covering the Blended Capitation physician with provider number “111111”. This number uses the vendor/banking details from the profile of the Blended Capitation physician “111111”.
- A locum physician having provider number “333333” works at the practice. They submit all billings with payee “222222” while locuming for provider “111111”.
 - Because “222222” is never (and cannot) be used as the provider identification number of any physician, it is able to be used by MCP as payee for multiple physicians locuming on behalf of “111111”.
- Blended Capitation physician “111111” is paid for locum physician “333333”’s billing submissions and is then responsible for paying the locum physician, as per Schedule R.



HCS will generate locum payee numbers for Blended Capitation physicians approximately a week before their Blended Capitation start date. The numbers will be requested by and distributed to the Family Practice Renewal Program.

Registered Blended Capitation physicians interested in securing a locum payee number further in advance of their start date are welcome to contact ProviderRegistration@gov.nl.ca directly.

The same policies for fee-for-service locum activity and assignment of payment apply to this arrangement. It is necessary for payment that the incoming locum physician's provider profile be open for fee-for-service billing (Locum Declaration), and that the new payee number is authorized as a payment option for their billing (Assignment of Payment).

By mutual consent, the Assignment of Payment form adds a given payee number as a billing *option* for the locum provider. In the above scenario, "222222" must be authorized for payment of services performed by "333333". The Blended Capitation physician and the locum must sign the form or consent via email.

Please note that the locum's bills must, as per Schedule R, be sent for payment with payee "222222" specified. As always with MCP billing, if no payee is specified, the provider's own number is utilized.

The Locum Declaration form can be found at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/files/forms-pdf-locum-documentation-declaration.pdf>.

The Assignment of Payment form can be found at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/files/forms-pdf-assignment-of-payment-agreement.pdf>.

For both forms, the Blended Capitation practice physician should use the new payee number as their "Provider Number". This is the only circumstance in which that number should be used.

Questions relating to this newsletter should be directed ProviderRegistration@gov.nl.ca.