



Policy, Regulation and Research Division

Mailing Address

PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal
Vancouver BC V6B 5L5

Location

6951 Westminster Highway
Richmond BC

Telephone 604 276-5160
Fax 604 279-7599

March 2019

Update 2019 – 2

**TO: HOLDERS OF THE *REHABILITATION SERVICES & CLAIMS MANUAL*
– VOLUME I**

This update of the *Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual* contains amendments in the *Manual* implemented since update 2019 – 1.

The revised pages are amendments for:

- Housekeeping amendments to:
 - C10-76.00, *Physicians and Qualified Practitioners*
 - C10-77.00, *Other Recognized Health Care Professionals*

A summary is attached and the amended pages are included as part of the package, effective **March 1, 2019**.

These amended pages and the complete manual are available at http://www.worksafebc.com/regulation_and_policy/default.asp.

Ian Shaw
Senior VP and General Counsel

Attachments

Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual, Volume I

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS – Update 2019 – 2

Chapter 10	Pages 7 to 8	Item C10-76.00 housekeeping amendment
	Pages 5 to 8	Item C10-77.00 housekeeping amendment

6. PODIATRISTS

Registered members in good standing with the British Columbia Association of Podiatrists may provide podiatric treatment and services to injured workers. Podiatrists may provide the podiatric treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines the podiatric services that it considers reasonable. The Board may pay for podiatric services such as: primary care services, referral services, and special podiatric procedures.

7. NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia may provide naturopathic treatment and services to injured workers. Naturopathic physicians may provide the naturopathic treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

7.1 Duration of Treatment

The Board determines the duration of naturopathic treatment and services that it considers reasonable. The Board considers up to eight weeks of naturopathic treatment reasonable for most compensable personal injuries, occupational diseases or mental disorder. The Board may pay for extensions of treatment beyond eight weeks based on a review of the evidence.

7.2 Scope of Coverage

The Board does not pay health care accounts for naturopathic remedies, treatments, or dietary supplements without prior Board approval of the naturopathic physician's proposed remedy, treatment, or supplement.

Following approval, the Board may pay health care accounts submitted by a naturopathic physician, medical laboratory, or a radiologist, for tests and services performed by or on behalf of the naturopathic physician, as they relate to the worker's compensable personal injury, occupational disease or mental disorder.

8. NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Nurse practitioners in good standing with the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals may provide nursing treatment and services to injured workers. Nurse practitioners may provide the nursing treatment and services authorized by the *Health*

Professions Act and corresponding regulation and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 18, 2018

HISTORY:

Housekeeping changes made on March 1, 2019 as a result of amendments to various regulations under the *Health Professions Act*, effective September 4, 2018, creating name of British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals.

APPLICATION:

This Item applies to health care expenses incurred and health care provided on or after July 18, 2018.

The Board determines whether it will pay for dietetic services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for dietetic services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

9. MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Massage Therapists of British Columbia may provide massage therapy treatment and services to injured workers. Massage therapists, registered massage therapists, massage practitioners, and registered massage practitioners may provide the massage therapy treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

In most cases, the Board limits payment to a maximum of three treatment visits per week up to five weeks from the date of the injured worker's first visit, unless otherwise stated in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery. The Board may pay for extensions of massage therapy treatments beyond five weeks based on a review of the evidence.

The Board does not pay for more than one massage therapy treatment per day.

10. NURSES

Registered nurses in good standing with the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals and licensed practical nurses in good standing with the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals may provide nursing treatment and services to injured workers. Nurses may provide the nursing treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

For workers who need nursing services while in a hospital, the necessary nursing service is determined and provided by the hospital. If the worker or the worker's family desires to have an additional or one-on-one nurse in attendance, the worker pays the cost of such nursing services.

Where appropriate, the Board may pay health care accounts for nurses to provide injured workers with treatments such as home wound care services or home intravenous therapy services. The Board administers these services pursuant to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery. The Board accepts reports received from nurses in remote locations as medical reports if there is no physician in the immediate area.

11. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia may provide occupational therapy treatment and services to injured workers. Occupational therapists may provide the occupational therapy treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for occupational therapy treatment and services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for occupational therapy treatment and services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

12. OPTICIANS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Opticians of British Columbia may provide opticianry services to injured workers. Opticians, dispensing opticians and contact lens fitters may provide the opticianry services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for opticianry services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for opticianry services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

13. OPTOMETRISTS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Optometrists of British Columbia may provide optometry treatment and services to injured workers. Optometrists may provide the optometry treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for optometry treatment and services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for optometry treatment and services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

14. PHARMACISTS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia may provide pharmacy services to injured workers. Pharmacists may provide the pharmacy services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding

regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for pharmacy services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for pharmacy services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

15. PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia may provide physical therapy treatment and services to injured workers. Physical therapists, registered physical therapists, physiotherapists, registered physiotherapists, remedial gymnasts and registered remedial gymnasts may provide the physical therapy treatment and services authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

In most cases, the Board limits payment to a maximum of one visit per day up to eight weeks, or 22 visits, whichever is earlier, from the date of the injured worker's first visit, unless otherwise stated in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery. The Board may pay for extensions of physical therapy treatments and services beyond eight weeks or 22 visits based on a review of the evidence.

16. PROSTHETISTS AND ORTHOTISTS

Registered members in good standing with the Canadian Board for Certification of Prosthetists and Orthotists may provide prosthetic or orthotic services and devices to injured workers. Prosthetists and orthotists may provide prosthetic or orthotic services and devices as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for prosthetic or orthotic services and devices as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for prosthetic or orthotic services and devices according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

17. PSYCHOLOGISTS AND COUNSELLORS

Registered members in good standing with the College of Psychologists of British Columbia may provide psychological treatment and services to injured workers. Psychologists, registered psychologists, psychological associates and registered psychological associates may provide psychological treatment and services as authorized by the *Health Professions Act* and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

Registered clinical counsellors in good standing with the British Columbia Association of Clinical Counsellors, or Canadian certified counsellors in good standing with the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, may provide counselling treatment and services to injured workers. Registered clinical counsellors and Canadian certified counsellors may provide counselling treatment and services as authorized by their governing bodies and corresponding regulations and bylaws, and as outlined in any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

The Board determines whether it will pay for psychological or counselling treatment and services as part of an injured worker's claim. The Board pays health care accounts for psychological or counselling treatment and services according to any current Board contract and/or fee schedule in place at the time of service delivery.

When psychological or counselling treatment and/or services are required, the Board arranges for a psychologist or counsellor to provide treatment and/or services to the worker according to the Board's Agreement for Mental Health Providers for Psychology Assessment Services, the Mental Health Treatment Service Agreement, and accompanying guidelines.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 18, 2018

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