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April 6, 2005

Dear Primary Care Physicians:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is pleased to introduce the following system enhancements related to the Preventive Care program.

Cumulative Preventive Care Bonus Claims

Now that the 2004/05 fiscal year has come to a close, primary care physicians will begin calculating their achieved preventive care coverage rates for the past year and preparing to submit their claims for payment. In previous years, the group or the individual physician (depending on the contractual model) provided a *Preventive Care Coverage Report* informing the ministry of the preventive care coverage levels achieved.

Beginning in April of this year, system enhancements will allow individual physicians to submit Cumulative Preventive Care bonus claim requests through the Medical Claims System in a manner similar to fee-for-service claims. The enclosed *Cumulative Preventive Care Bonus Management Procedures* document will provide you with relevant information pertaining to the Cumulative Preventive Care bonus, including details on the new process for submitting Cumulative Preventive Care bonus claims.

Relevant technical information regarding this systems change has been provided to vendors. Please contact your software vendor for any systems changes you may require.

Preventive Care Reports

In previous years, physicians received both a *Target Population for Preventive Care Report*, which identified eligible enrolled patients in each preventive care category, and a *Preventive Care Service Report*, which listed the preventive care services received by patients in each target group. Effective April 2005, these will be merged into one comprehensive report, known as the *Preventive Care Target Population/Service Report*.

Target Population/Service Reports will be sent to each physician every April and September. Two separate reports will be sent in April. The first report will assist physicians in calculating achieved coverage for the previous fiscal year (i.e., the 2004/05 fiscal year ending on March 31st). This report contains the most current information available to the ministry regarding:

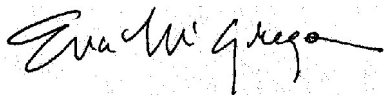
- a) the target population for each preventive care category as at March 31, 2005; and,
- b) the preventive care services received by eligible targeted patients within the previous 30 months.

The second April report will assist physicians in managing preventive care services for the coming year. It shows a projected list of targeted patients for the new 2005/06 fiscal year beginning April 1st, and lists any preventive care services received by these patients within the past 18 months. Physicians can thus identify service gaps and focus on providing any preventive care services not yet received by targeted patients in the coming year.

The *Target Population/Service Report* to be sent to physicians in September updates the projected information for the 2005/06 fiscal year as reported in April and will show mid-year changes to target populations and preventive care services received by patients to date.

Thank you for your continuing participation in primary care renewal and for your emphasis on providing comprehensive care and preventive measures for your patient base. Should you have any questions regarding your Cumulative Preventive Care bonus claim, please contact your local ministry District Office. For general questions about the Preventive Care Program, please contact your site consultant at 1-866-766-0266.

Sincerely,



Eva McGregor
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Primary Health Care Team
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

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