

mcp newsletter

August 30, 2023

23-11

TO: ALL FEE-FOR-SERVICE FAMILY PHYSICIANS

RE: UPDATE ON MEDICAL EXAMS FOR DRIVERS 75 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER: BILLING PARTIAL ASSESSMENTS (FEE CODES 124, 424)

As part of Budget 2023, and in consultation with the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA), the Department of Health and Community Services has introduced a new fee code for the administration of medical examinations for drivers 75 years of age and older. Please see newsletter 23-10 <https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/files/23-10-MEDICAL-EXAMS-FOR-DRIVERS-75-YEARS-OF-AGE-AND-OLDER.pdf> for further information.

Please be advised that the billing rules for this new fee code stipulate that “No other Consultation and Visits fee codes are billable by the same physician for the same patient on the same date as a Driver Medical Examination is provided”.

However, in consultation with the NLMA, the Department of Health and Community Services has agreed to pay for a Driver Medical Examination (DME) when fee code 124 or 424 (“Partial assessment of a patient who is 75 years of age or older”) has already been billed from April 1, 2023 up to and including August 25, 2023. Claims already submitted for fee codes 124 or 424 billed for the same patient, by the same physician, on the same day as a DME, will have no impact on payment for a DME claim that is also submitted by the physician from April 1, 2023 to August 25, 2023. Both visit fees will be paid under these circumstances as long as all other preamble and documentation requirements for payment for these services are met.

After August 25, 2023, the recently published billing rule “No other Consultation and Visits fee codes are billable by the same physician for the same patient on the same date as a Driver Medical Examination is provided” will be in effect. MCP will not accept claims for fee codes 124 and 424 from the same physician for the same patient on the same date as a DME after August 25, 2023.

Questions relating to this newsletter should be directed Dr. Colleen Crowther, Assistant Medical Director at (709) 758-1557 or by email at ColleenCrowther@gov.nl.ca.