

## mcp newsletter

June 4, 2020

20-07

**TO: ALL APPLICANTS OF THE FFS PHYSICIAN WORK DISRUPTION POLICY  
FOR PANDEMIC EVENT**

**RE: PAYMENT PLAN FOR FFS PHYSICIAN WORK DISRUPTION TOP-UPS**

As agreed to with the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association, all FFS physicians who have applied and are approved under the FFS Physician Work Disruption Policy for Pandemic Event (PWDP) are guaranteed 80% of their average income for the 106 days from March 18 to July 1, 2020, or until or such time the Department of Health and Community Services deems pandemic health care delivery no longer necessary. Physicians who provide “additional services”, as described in the policy, will qualify for a 100% top-up, for the duration of their “additional services”. The details of the top-ups for each of the 80% and 100% top-ups is set out in the payment plan on Pages 3 to 5 of this newsletter.

The **90-day MCP claims submission window** must be factored into the administration of these top-up payments. For physicians who have applied to begin receiving payments under the PWDP, initial payments will be before the 90-day submission window closes. In the absence of this measure, payments would not begin processing until 90-days after March 18, 2020. However, to avoid a delay all payments and billing submissions will be reconciled on a rolling basis before determining the actual top-up amount, which thus minimizes the potential for overpayments and recoveries.

As per the Policy, if a physician bills more than their billing average, they will receive the greater amount.

**Payment Plan for FFS Physician Work Disruption Top-Ups:** Refer to the table on **pages 3 to 5**. The daily billing average, referenced in this table, is the physicians’ pay period average for 2019 divided by the 14 days in a pay period that a physician may bill MCP. This amount will be compared to each of the 14 days of the bi-weekly pay periods in view for each top-up payment.

Note: If the FFS Physician Work Disruption Policy is extended beyond July 1, 2020 by the Department of Health and Community Services an updated new payment plan will be released.

**Pay Period Monitoring:** Refer to the table on **page 6**.

**Update on Retroactivity of Disruption Top-Ups:** The FFS Physician Work Disruption Policy for Pandemic Event was announced in MCP Newsletter 20-04 on April 15, 2020 and allowed for retroactivity for applicants to March 18, 2020. Since that time over 530 applications have been received by the Department of Health and Community Services (HCS).

Effective **Wednesday June 10, 2020** retroactivity will no longer be applied to applications received after this date by the Regional Health Authority.

**Advance Payment:** To alleviate cash flow pressures in a time sensitive manner, the Department of Health and Community Services on May 20, 2020 issued an Advance Payment of \$10,000 to physicians who had their application received by the Department by noon on **May 5, 2020**. This advance payment is deducted from future Disruption Top-Up amounts, as per explanation in the payment plan.

**Rolling Balances and Recoveries:** In the event of an overpayment in any of the Disruption Top-up Payments, these funds will be deducted from future Disruption Top-up payments. A Rolling Balance of the remaining amount to be deducted from the next Disruption Top-up. If, at the end of 90 days, there is still an outstanding Rolling Balance, a recovery of this amount will be required. Upon closure of MCP's 90-day billing submission window, a full review of all provider billing activity, relevant to the Policy, will be completed to close out the FFS Physician Work Disruption Policy for Pandemic Event. If overpayments have occurred appropriate steps will be taken to recover funds. However, it should be noted that this payment plan was designed with the intent of limiting such outcomes. If a recovery is necessary, the Physician will be advised, and a recovery/repayment plan will be established with MCP's Audit Division.

Note: it is recommended that physicians ensure their claims are submitted as soon as possible, regardless of the 90 window, so that the possibility of a larger rolling balance does not occur.

**Links to Relevant MCP Newsletters:**

**1) "Claim Submission Deadlines and Payment Dates for 2020":**

[https://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/providers/mcp\\_newsletters/Newsletter\\_19-11.pdf](https://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/providers/mcp_newsletters/Newsletter_19-11.pdf)

**2) "FFS Physician Work Disruption Policy for Covid-19 Pandemic Event":**

[https://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/providers/mcp\\_newsletters/Newsletter\\_20-04.pdf](https://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/providers/mcp_newsletters/Newsletter_20-04.pdf)

Payment Plan for FFS Physician Work Disruption Top-Ups	
<b>Advance Payment (Complete)</b>  <b>Payment date - May 20, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Top-up advance payment of \$10,000</b> made on May 20, 2020.</li> <li>• \$10,000 to applications received and verified by HCS as of noon May 5, 2020.</li> <li>• This advance payment will be deducted from future 80% Disruption Top-Ups.</li> <li>• This advance payment was intended to bridge the period of time between the declaration of the Covid-19 pandemic and HCS being able to complete the administrative work of compiling historical averages along with processing each physician application.</li> </ul>
<b>80% Disruption Top-Up #1</b>  <b>Payment date - June 3, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment of the 80% Disruption Top-Up for the <b>March 18 to April 29 period (43 days)</b>.</li> <li>• April 29 was chosen as it is the MCP claims submission deadline for Pay Period 20-04.</li> <li>• Individual top-up amounts are calculated factoring in each physician's MCP submissions.</li> <li>• Payments for billing submissions made in Pay Periods 20-01, 20-02, 20-03, 20-04 will be reviewed for all claims with service dates from March 18 to April 29 in order to calculate the top-up amount.</li> <li>• For those who received the \$10,000 advance payment on May 20, \$5,000 will be deducted from the 80% Disruption Top-Up #1 to partially balance that advance payment.</li> <li>• <b>Calculation of 80% Disruption Top-Up #1:</b>   <div> [Your 80% daily billing average x 43 days]  – [MCP billings with applicable service dates in Pay Periods 20-01 to 20-04]  – [\$5,000 to balance May 20<sup>th</sup> advance payment, only if applicable]  <hr/> = Amount for 80% Disruption Top-Up #1 </div> </li> </ul>
<b>80% Disruption Top-Up #2</b>  <b>Payment date - July 15, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment of the 80% Disruption Top-Up for the <b>April 30 to June 10 period (42 days)</b>.</li> <li>• June 10 was chosen as it is the MCP claims submission deadline for Pay Period 20-07.</li> <li>• Payments for billing submissions made in Pay Periods 20-05, 20-06, and 20-07 will be reviewed for claims with service dates from March 18 to June 10 to calculate the top-up amount.</li> <li>• For those who received the early \$10,000 advance on May 20, 2020 \$2,500 will be subtracted off 80% Disruption Top-Up #2 to continue reconciliation of that advance payment.</li> </ul>

<b>Payment Plan for FFS Physician Work Disruption Top-Ups</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Calculation of Top-Up Amount for 80% Disruption Top-Up #2:</b> [Your 80% daily billing average x 42 days]</li> <li>– [MCP billings with applicable service dates in Pay Periods 20-05 to 20-07]</li> <li>– [\$2,500 to help balance May 20<sup>th</sup> advance payment, only if applicable]</li> <li>– [Any outstanding rolling balance amount, only if applicable]</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>= Amount for 80% Disruption Top-Up #2</p>
<b>100% Additional Services Top-Up #1</b>  <b>Payment date – September 9, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment for recognition of “additional services” provided within the <b>March 18 to April 29</b> period.</li> <li>• The 90-day MCP billing submission window for April 29 ends on July 28, 2020 and corresponds with Pay Period 20-11.</li> <li>• The 100% Additional Services Top-Up occurs only for the duration of time (start date to end date) that an individual physician provided “additional services” at the request of the Regional Health Authority.</li> <li>• The 80% Disruption Top-Up amount that was paid separately will be subtracted, and consideration provided in the event a physician billed above their 80% threshold.</li> <li>• <b>Calculation of 100% Additional Services Top-Up #1:</b> [“100% daily billing average” x “# of days additional services provided”]</li> <li>– [The <b>GREATER</b> of either: (“Your 80% daily billing average” x “# of days additional services provided”) <b>OR</b> (“Physician billings, by service date, for the period additional services was provided”)]</li> <li>– [Any outstanding rolling balance amount, only if applicable]</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>= Amount for 100% Additional Services Top-Up #1</p>
<b>80% Disruption Top-Up #3</b>  <b>Payment Date – November 4, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 80% Disruption Top-Up #3 is the final payment of 80% Disruption Top-Up and will cover the <b>June 11 to July 1 period (21 days)</b>.</li> <li>• The 90-day MCP billing submission window for July 1 ends on September 29, 2020 and corresponds with Pay Period 20-15 that is paid October 21, 2020.</li> <li>• Payments for billing submissions made in Pay Periods 20-08, 20-09, 20-10, 20-11, 20-12, 20-13, 20-14, and 20-15 will be reviewed for claims with service dates from March 18 to July 1 2020 to calculate the top-up amount.</li> <li>• For those who received the early \$10,000 advance on May 20, 2020 \$2,500 will be subtracted off 80% Disruption Top-Up #3 to finalize reconciliation of that advance payment.</li> </ul>

Payment Plan for FFS Physician Work Disruption Top-Ups	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Calculation of Disruption Top-Up #3:</b> [Your 80% daily billing average x 21 days] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– [MCP billings with applicable service dates in Pay Periods 20-08 to 20-15]</li> <li>– [\$2,500 to balance May 20, 2020 advance payment, only if applicable]</li> <li>– [Any outstanding Rolling Balance amount, only if applicable]</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <p>= Amount for 80% Disruption Top-Up #3</p>
<b>100% Additional Services Top-Up #2</b>  <b>Payment Date – November 18, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment for recognition of “additional services” provided within the <b>April 30 to July 1</b> period.</li> <li>• The 90-day MCP billing submission window for July 1 ends on September 29, 2020 and corresponds with Pay Period 20-15.</li> <li>• The 100% Additional Services Top-Up occurs only for the duration of time (start date to end date) that a physician provides “additional services” at the request of the Regional Health Authority.</li> <li>• The 80% Disruption Top-Up amount that was paid separately will be subtracted, and consideration provided in the event a physician billed above their 80% threshold.</li> <li>• <b>Calculation of 100% Additional Services Top-Up #2:</b> [“100% daily billing average” x “# of days additional services provided”] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– [The <b>GREATER</b> of either: (“Your 80% daily billing average” x “# of days additional services provided”) <b>OR</b> (“Physician billings, by service date, for the period additional services was provided”)]</li> <li>– [Any outstanding rolling balance amount, only if applicable]</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <p>= Amount for 100% Additional Services Top-Up #2</p>

### Monitoring Pay Periods by Service Dates Explained

The table below provides an overview of the pay periods and the relevant service dates that will be monitored with each 80% Disruption Top-Up that all physicians in the program will receive. Only billings with **service dates between March 18, 2020 and July 1, 2020** will be used when calculating the top-up amount for each physician.

Disruption Payment (80% top-up) in which the services dates of the pay period is monitored	Information by Pay Period			
	Pay Period	Claim Submission Deadline for the Pay Period	Payment Date for the Pay Period	Relevant service dates in view within the March 18 to July 1 window due to the 90-day MCP submission rule*
<b>Monitor in 80% Disruption Top-Up #1 (To be paid on June 3)</b>	20-01	March 18	April 8	<b>March 18</b>
	20-02	April 1	April 22	<b>March 18 to April 1</b>
	20-03	April 15	May 6	<b>March 18 to April 15</b>
	20-04	April 29	May 20	<b>March 18 to April 29</b>
<b>Monitor in 80% Disruption Top-Up #2 (To be paid on July 15)</b>	20-05	May 13	June 3	<b>March 18 to May 13</b>
	20-06	May 27	June 17	<b>March 18 to May 27</b>
	20-07	June 10	June 30	<b>March 18 to June 10</b>
<b>Monitor in 80% Disruption Top-Up #3 (To be paid on November 4)</b>	20-08	June 24	July 15	<b>March 24 to June 24</b>
	20-09	July 8	July 29	<b>April 7 to July 1</b>
	20-10	July 22	August 12	<b>April 21 to July 1</b>
	20-11	August 4	August 26	<b>May 4 to July 1</b>
	20-12	August 19	September 9	<b>May 19 to July 1</b>
	20-13	September 2	September 23	<b>June 2 to July 1</b>
	20-14	September 16	October 7	<b>June 16 to July 1</b>
	20-15	September 30	October 21	<b>June 30 to July 1</b>

\*The 90-day billing submission window for July 1, 2020 ends September 29, 2020.

Questions relating to the content of this Newsletter should be directed to Matthew Pinsent, Manager of Fee for Service Physicians by email at [matthewpinsent@gov.nl.ca](mailto:matthewpinsent@gov.nl.ca)