

For our Dental Practitioners

Fall 2005

NEWS AND VIEWS

Welcome to the fall 2005 edition of the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) quarterly newsletter. First Canadian Health (FCH) is now in its seventh year of operations as the claims processor for the NIHB Program of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of Health Canada.

Again, FCH would like to thank you for your support as you continue to provide quality health services to First Nations and Inuit clients of the NIHB Program.

As always, your comments and questions are welcome. Please contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-471-1111**, or send your correspondence to:

FCH Provider Relations
3080 Yonge Street, Suite 3002
Toronto, ON M4N 3N1

NEW NIHB REGIONAL DENTAL BENEFIT GRIDS FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND SPECIALISTS, AND FOR DENTURISTS

The new *NIHB Regional Dental Benefit Grids* for General Practitioners (GP), Specialists (SP), and for Denturists (DT) for the following provinces will be in effect as of:

September 1st, 2005 (Prices effective July 1st, 2005)

- Nunavut, GP & SP
- Northwest Territories, GP & SP

September 1st, 2005

- British Columbia, DT
- Alberta, GP & SP

October 1st, 2005

- Alberta, DT

The new grids reflect the change in prices and eligible procedures. They will be sent to providers prior to the effective date.

Should you have any questions, please contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-471-1111**.

ADDITIONAL ENDODONTIC POLICY CHANGE

Effective October 1st, 2005, claims for procedure codes 33111 and 33100 on anterior teeth 23-13 and 33-43 may be submitted to FCH without a predetermination number and will not be rejected with the R50 reject message (**Frequency of the Claim Exceeds the Maximum Allowed**).

Claims for procedure codes 33111 and 33100 on all other teeth, molars and premolars, will require predetermination and will be rejected if submitted to FCH without a predetermination number.

NIHB DENTAL PROGRAM CHANGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2005

The *NIHB Regional Dental Benefit Grid* has several new important changes to the Program, such as:

- Implementation of a revised grid which clarifies what services require predetermination by placing benefits into one of the following two schedules:
 - o Schedule A: Outlines services that may be completed and billed directly to FCH for Payment; and
 - o Schedule B: Outlines services that require predetermination.

Revised grids which reflect all Program changes will be sent to providers by FNIHB.

The following changes apply:

- Children under the age of 12 will only be eligible for scaling in conjunction with root planing (prophylaxis in Quebec) up to a maximum of 1 unit in a 12 month period.
- Restorations on primary incisor teeth (teeth 51, 52, 61, 62, 71, 72, 81 & 82) will be funded for children under the age of 5 (Not applicable in Quebec). The affected procedure codes are: 21111, 21112, 21113, 21114, 21115, 21121, 21122, 21123, 21124, 21125, 22201, 22401, 23401, 23402, 23403, 23404, 23405, 23411, 23412, 23413, 23414 and 23415.
- Retentive pins (codes 21401, 21402, 21403, 21301, 21302, 21303) will no longer have a frequency limit.
- Pulpotomies (code 32231, 32232) and Pulpotomies (code 32321) will no longer be eligible for primary incisor teeth (Not applicable in Quebec).
- Occlusal adjustments (43311, 16511) will be funded at the cost of one half unit (43317, 16517, 43300, 43320)

Should you have any questions about these changes, please contact the FNIHB Regional Office at the number listed on the Directory insert included with the *NIHB Dental Practitioner Information Kit*.

**REMINDER: SUBMIT CLAIMS WITH PROVIDER
NAME AND CURRENT PROVIDER NUMBER**

Dental practitioners are asked to clearly indicate their provider name, current provider number, and their office identifier or complete address on each claim submission.

FCH pays claims directly to the registered dental practitioner, not to the clinic. For this reason, it is important to have the correct dental practitioner name and current provider number noted on the claim form. Claims missing clear provider information are returned to the provider for completion.

Should you have any questions, please contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-471-1111**.

Providers can download a current version of the *NIHB Dental Practitioner Information Kit* at the NIHB website:

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnih-spni/pubs/dent/2005_kit-trousse_info/index_e.html

Providers without internet access can contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-471-1111**.
