
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP)

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) recently announced that, as of June 30, 2012, there will be significant changes to the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP), which will affect the benefits provided to all current and future beneficiaries.

Changes will limit both who is eligible for coverage and what services are covered. For example:

- Some beneficiaries will only be covered for doctor and hospital services if those services are needed to prevent or treat a disease posing a risk to public health or a condition of public safety concern.
- Prescription drug benefits are being reduced for most beneficiaries. Vaccines and medication will be covered only where it is needed to prevent or treat a disease posing a risk to public health or a condition of public safety concern.

As of June 30, 2012, the services under which you have billed in the past will no longer be covered for the majority of beneficiaries; namely vision care, dental care, devices to assist mobility, hearing aids and testing, interpretation services, oxygen supplies, psychotherapy and counselling, rehabilitation services (physiotherapy and hospital charges), home care and long-term care. However, some beneficiaries, eligible for expanded health care coverage, will continue to be covered for these services

For more detail, please refer to the expanded health care coverage benefit grid at <https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca>.

Services for which providers may have obtained prior approval will not be covered if the date of service is after June 29, 2012. Although we encourage you to submit your claims promptly, you do have six months from the date of service in which to bill for claims incurred up to June 29, 2012.

For additional information on the changes to the Interim Federal Health Program, please visit the CIC website at www.cic.gc.ca/ifhp.

If you have any questions, please call the Medavie Blue Cross Contact Centre at 1-888-614-1880.

