

FEE CODE 520: SHARED CARE CODE

- Payable to fee-for-service family physicians for two-way collaborative conferencing, either by telephone or in person, between the family physician and at least one other primary health care provider, excluding other family physicians and specialists. The conferencing provider must be a licensed or regulated primary care professional in the province of NL. Examples include:
 - Licensed Practical Nurses
 - Paramedics
 - Registered Nurses
 - Nurse Practitioners
 - Psychologists
 - Social Workers
 - Licensed Therapists and Counsellors
 - Registered Dieticians
 - Physiotherapists
 - Occupational Therapists
 - Pharmacists
 - Audiologists
 - Respiratory Therapists
 - Speech-Language Pathologists
 - Conferencing cannot be delegated.
 - Participation of the patient is not required for the code to be billed.
 - If the patient is present, the conference is payable at \$30 per 15 minutes (i.e. one unit), in addition to the normal visit fee.
 - If the patient is not present, the conference is payable at \$30 per the greater part of 15 min (e.g. after 8 minutes of visit time).
 - The fee is payable on the same calendar day as a visit.
 - Conferences are payable to a maximum of 2 units per patient per day.
 - Conferences are payable to a maximum of 100 units per physician annually.
 - The care plan must be recorded in the patient's chart and must include:
 - Patient's name
 - Date(s) and time(s) of service
 - Diagnosis
 - Reason for need of clinical action plan
 - Health Care Providers with whom the physician conferred and their role in the provision of care
 - Clinical plan determined (including tests ordered and/or administered)
 - This fee is not payable for situations where the purpose of the conference is to:
 - Book an appointment
 - Arrange for expedited consultation or procedure
 - Arrange for laboratory or diagnostic investigations
 - Arrange a hospital or long term care bed for a patient
 - Provide notification of services performed
- The conference must:
- Be pertinent to the treatment of the patient's current condition
 - Involve two-way collaboration to determine an appropriate care plan for the patient
- If multiple patients are discussed, the billings shall be for consecutive, non-overlapping time periods.
 - The payment is made to the family physician regardless of who initiates the consultation.
 - The fee is not payable to physicians who are working under salary, service contract or sessional arrangements.