

Ambulance Service Fee Policy

Purpose

Ambulance services are not an insured service under the New Brunswick Medicare program. Ambulance service fees are charged to the public to offset the cost of service provision.

Definitions

“Air Ambulance” means an aircraft designed or adapted to be used for the transportation of patients;

“Ambulance” means a motor vehicle designed or adapted to be used for the transportation of patients, but does not include an air ambulance;

“Entitled” means a person lawfully entitled to be or to remain in Canada, who makes his home and is ordinarily present in New Brunswick, but does not include a tourist, transient or visitor to the Province;

“Facility” means a building or premises in or from which health services are provided for the purposes of in-patient care and monitoring and operated by a Regional Health Authority. Facility includes the client’s place of residence for eligible Extra-Mural Program clients;

“Inter-facility Transfer” means the transfer of a patient by ambulance from in-patient care facility to another for the purpose of in-patient care, diagnostic testing or active treatment. Inter-facility transfer includes the client’s place of residence for eligible Extra-Mural Program clients;

“Out of Province Resident” means a person who does not reside in New Brunswick and is not the holder of a valid New Brunswick Medicare Card;

“Patient” means a person who needs or may need medical attention;

“Un-entitled” means a person lawfully entitled to be or to remain in Canada, who makes his home and is ordinarily present in New Brunswick and is:

- a) a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
- b) a member of the Canadian Forces,
- c) an inmate of a Federal prison or penitentiary,
- d) a person with a work related illness or injury and who is eligible for coverage under the *Worksafe New Brunswick Act*.

1. Fees

- a) Fees for transportation by ambulance shall be billed according to the following table:

| | |
|----------|---|
| \$130.60 | Entitled Resident of New Brunswick |
| \$130.60 | Entitled Resident of New Brunswick – Motor vehicle collision |
| \$0 | Inter-facility Transfer for an Entitled Resident of New Brunswick |
| \$650.00 | Un-entitled Resident |
| \$650.00 | Out of Province Resident |

b) Fees for air ambulance shall be billed according to the following table:

| | |
|------------|---|
| \$0 | Entitled Resident of New Brunswick |
| \$0 | Inter-facility Transfer for an Entitled Resident of New Brunswick |
| \$6,500.00 | Out of Province Resident |

- c) Fees for a ground ambulance transportation from and to a facility and an air ambulance is deemed to be an Inter-facility Transfer;
- d) Fees for current recipients of entitled services of Social Development will be waived, including those subsidized residents in receipt of a health card who reside in Nursing Homes, Special Care Homes or their own homes, and those in Foster Care. Fees for low income seniors are waived if:
 - 1. They are in receipt of the guaranteed income supplement; and/or
 - 2. They qualify for the New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program by virtue of low income or the guaranteed income supplement.
- e) Fees for patients in the Extra-Mural Program will be waived for eligible clients under medical care as appropriate, based on medical condition and/or mobility challenges;
- f) Fees will be waived for those under Provincial Remand or an inmate of a Provincial Jail.

2. Billing

All fees must be billed directly to the individual who is transported, except in the case of a person who is under the age of 19 years and who continues to reside with a parent or guardian, in which case the parent or guardian will be billed directly.

3. Proof of Residency

A valid New Brunswick Medical Care card must be given to a service provider to prove residency.

4. Residents of New Brunswick living in areas served by the State of Maine (Mutual Aid)

A person who lives in an area that may receive mutual aid from the State of Maine for 911 calls will be billed the Resident of New Brunswick fee of \$130.60 for ambulance service unless exclusion criteria are met in section 1(d), (e) or (f) above.

5. Fee Dispute Resolution

A person who disagrees with a fee charged for ambulance transportation may request a review to the Service Provider within thirty (30) days of mailing of the bill.