

SEAMO NEWSLETTER

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RESUBMISSION/ERROR CORRECTION PROCESS BEGINS

During the difficult development of claims submission processes during the first year of the new SEAMO funding agreement, a significant number of claims failed to be processed or paid. Recognizing the importance of capturing and responding to SEAMO funded clinical activity, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care agreed to work toward a process that would allow resubmission and error correction for these now stale-dated claims.

On October 26, the Ministry, SEAMO, and the OMA met to begin the process of resubmission and error correction for claims made during the first year of the current SEAMO funding agreement, 2005 April 01 – 2006 March 31. At this first meeting a variety of issues related to claims submission were identified. The parties have established a working group to develop processes for resubmission that will be both effective and as efficient as possible. While the timing is as yet uncertain, the parties will work toward as rapid completion of this work as possible.

“APPENDIX L” PAYMENTS

The SEAMO funding agreement provides for payments to SEAMO equivalent to the differential of the fee code adjustments contained in Appendix L of the Ministry/OMA Framework Agreement. As a result of the difficulty in calculating this adjustment, no Appendix L payments have as yet been received.

On October 26, SEAMO management received from the Ministry a proposal with regard to Appendix L payments. This proposal would provide an immediate partial payment to SEAMO for the first six months of the fiscal year and monthly payments for the remainder of the year. These interim payments would be based on the average increases in the province for each specialty. At the end of the year, the OMA would calculate the actual equivalent amounts for the year based on the mix of services as demonstrated by shadow billing. The final month's payment would be adjusted to reflect this amount.

On the recommendation of SEAMO management, the proposal will be provided by the Ministry and the OMA in writing to CTAQ for review and approval.

IN-PATIENT PROFESSIONAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE CLAIMS

SEAMO and the Ministry have considered the issue of the start date for claims submission for inpatient professional diagnostic services. No payments are being made now for any inpatient diagnostic services provided before September 01. Following discussion, the Ministry approved the back date to April 01. Please note that the OHIP system tables need to be updated to allow for these claims. We continue to work with the Ministry to determine the best way to accomplish this.