Amendment to the Medical Services Commission Payment Schedule

In accordance with Section 26(3) of the Medicare Protection Act, the following modification to the Payment Schedule has been approved by the Medical Services Commission, effective March 29, 2020

New Fee Item:

The following new fee item has been approved on a temporary basis. The cancellation date will be determined by the Provincial Health Officer and will be reflected in a subsequent Minute.

\[ T10050 \] COVID-19 Perioperative Complexity Surcharge .................................................. 60.00

Notes:

i) Payable for surgeries where the patient has been assessed in accordance with the BCCDC and Ministry of Health Infection Prevention and Control Protocol for Surgical Procedures during COVID-19 (Adult, Pediatric and Obstetrical), and falls into the yellow or red risk categories.

ii) This fee includes time spent donning and doffing personal protective equipment.

iii) Payable only for procedures performed under general anesthesia which require airway management.

iv) Restricted to surgeons, surgical assistants, and anesthesiologists.

v) Must be billed by the same physician in addition to one of the following:
   a) a surgical procedure
   b) surgical assist
   c) intensity and complexity level fee item.

vi) Maximum of one surcharge per surgeon/anesthesiologist/surgical assistant per operation unless two surgeons perform two synchronous surgeries, or two anesthesiologists or two surgical assistants are required for clinical reasons.

vii) If a patient requires more than one operation on the same day under separate anesthetics, the fee may be billed again by all perioperative team members if the criteria are met.
viii) Not payable to physicians working under salary, service contract or sessional arrangements.

ix) Out-of-Office Hours operative surcharges (01210, 01211 and 01212) are not to be paid on the modifier.

x) Surgical fee modifiers are excluded from the calculation for total operative fee(s) for which surgical assist fees are based.

Dr. Robert Halpenny  
Chair  
Medical Services Commission  

Dated this 25th day of September AD 20 20.