

HEALTH SERVICES – HEALTH & INSURED HEARING SERVICES		
<b>Section: Medical Travel</b>	<b>Title: Out of Territory Medical Travel By Vehicle</b>	<b>Policy #: MT 001</b>
<b>Date Issued: February 28, 2010</b>	<b>Cross Reference: Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act and Regulations</b>	<b>Manual Page 1 of 4</b>
<b>Dates Revised:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apr 01/14, Oct 01/14,</li> <li>• Apr 01/15, Oct 01/15</li> <li>• Apr 01/16, Oct 01/16</li> <li>• Apr 01/17, Oct 01/17</li> <li>• Apr 01/18</li> </ul>	<b>Legislative Authority: Yukon Travel for Medical Treatment Act and Regulations</b>	

## Definitions

“**Authorized Practitioner**” means a physician, nurse practitioner or nurse designated by the chief medical officer as authorized to make referrals for medical travel.

“**Director**” means the director of the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan appointed as per section 4(1) of the *Health Care Insurance Plan Act*.

“**Medical Travel**” means travel originating within Yukon which is required to allow eligible persons to access necessary insured health services.

“**Yukon Resident**” means a person who is lawfully entitled to be in Canada and who makes their home and is ordinarily present in the Yukon but does not include a tourist, transient, or visitor to the Yukon.

Despite the previous paragraph, a person, other than a newborn child, shall be deemed not to be a resident of the Yukon until they have completed three (3) months of continuous residence from the date of entry into the Yukon for the purpose of establishing residence therein

## Background

This policy provides the amount that a Yukon **resident**, who is approved for medical treatment out of Yukon and who chooses to travel via vehicle, will receive.

## Establishment of the Amount

The Director determines the amount that a resident will receive according to 5(c) of the Regulations (“*Where the patient chooses to travel by private automobile, an allowance may be paid at the rate prescribed by the Director*”). In providing the amount, established as of the policy date, the Director has considered the average costs of the mid-range of air fares charged by those air carriers serving Whitehorse.

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### **Eligibility**

The Regulations, Sections 2(1) through 2.(5) describe the requirements for eligibility. 2(1) medical travel must originate from within the Yukon.

- 2(2) (a) the patient is an eligible person;
- (b) the patient is not otherwise eligible and entitled to receive a subsidy for travel expenses for medical treatment;
- (c) the patient has been found by an authorized practitioner to require a medical service which is not available locally;
- (d) no visiting medical service is available which, in the opinion of an authorized practitioner or chief medical officer, or both in the case of out-of-territory travel, can provide the necessary service within a period of time which would be clinically acceptable given the condition of the patient;

### **Policy**

Those clients who are approved for medical travel outside of the Yukon and who choose to travel to that destination by vehicle will be entitled to the same amount as they would have received had they traveled by airplane. Only 1 (one) subsidy will be paid per vehicle whether an approved escort travels in the same vehicle. This amount will be set by the Director of Insured Health & Hearing Services on April 01 and October 01 of each year.

An Out of Territory Medical Travel Authorization form must be completed and signed off by an authorized practitioner before travel arrangements will be made.

Any exceptions to this policy must be pre-approved by the Director.

**Effective April 1, 2018 through to September 30, 2018, the medical travel amount for travel by vehicle to Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver will be \$460.00**

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### Authority for Payment

The *Travel for Medical Treatment Act*, Section 2(12) states: *Subsidies for out-of territory travel must be approved by the chief medical officer and the Director.*

The Act, Section 8(2) provides that: *Travel expenses from the Yukon to a place outside the Yukon and return shall be paid in accordance with the Regulations.*

The Regulations, Section 2(6), provides further guidance by advising that when a service is not available in Whitehorse, Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver will be accepted as the nearest practical place to obtain the service.

The Regulations, Section 2(7), provide that the Chief Medical Officer may approve medical travel to a center other than Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver in Canada

The Regulations, Section 2(8), state that where the service is available at a center closer to Whitehorse other than Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver, a subsidy for travel to that center may be approved providing the cost is not greater than travel to Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver.

Clients may direct any questions concerning this policy to a Medical Travel Officer at: (867) 667-5203 or (867) 667-5233.

Any requests for exceptions to this policy must be **received in writing and preapproved** by the Director.

### Exclusions

Medical travel originating outside of Yukon is **not eligible** within this program.

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### Appeals

Appeals are to be sent, in writing, to the Director of Insured Health and Hearing Services for review. Letters should be addressed as follows:

Director, Insured Health and Hearing Services (H-2)  
 Department of Health and Social Services  
 Box 2703  
 Whitehorse, YT  
 Y1A 2C6

**Note: All requirements of the Acts and Regulations governing Yukon Health Care Insurance remain in effect. All decisions on interpretation will be referred to the Director of Insured Health & Hearing Services.**

  
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**Shauna Demers**  
**Director**  
**Insured Health & Hearing Services**

*APR 0 4 2018*  
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**April 1, 2018**