

HEALTH SERVICES – INSURED HEALTH & HEARING SERVICES		
SECTION: Medical Travel	TITLE: Medical Travel By Air	POLICY #: MT 002
DATE ISSUED: August 2012	CROSS REFERENCE: N/A	MANUAL: Page 1 of 4
DATE REVISED: October 2012, May 2013	LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Travel for Medical Treatment Act and Regulations	

Definitions

‘Medical Travel’ means travel originating within Yukon which is required to allow eligible persons to access medically necessary insured health services within or outside of Yukon.

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

‘Chief Medical Officer of Health’ means the person appointed by the Commissioner in Executive Council as the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Yukon and includes the Chief Medical Officer of Health’s authorized deputy.

***** Note:** Those clients and their families insured through an Act of Parliament (i.e. First Nations people, members of the Armed Forces, RCMP and members of the Federal Public Service) are not eligible for travel for medical treatment as defined in the *Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act*.

‘Authorized Practitioner’ means a physician or a nurse designated by the chief medical officer as authorized to make referrals for medical travel.

Background

This policy covers those eligible patients, and their medically required and approved escorts, insured under the *Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act* and the *Travel for Medical Treatment Act*, who are pre-approved to travel by air inside and / or outside of Yukon to receive medically necessary treatment not available in their community.

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Policy

All medical travel out of Yukon must be certified by an authorized practitioner and approved by the Medical Travel Program in advance of the travel.

Air travel **must originate** within Yukon.

The authorized practitioner submits an In Territory and / or Out of Territory Medical Travel Application for a patient, and an escort if applicable, for review by the Medical Travel Program.

Once the application is approved, a Medical Travel Officer will contact the patient to arrange air travel and explain program coverage.

Medical Travel Officers will select the most cost effective and medically appropriate departure and return flights which will be based upon the medical appointments of the patient.

If the medical service required is unavailable in Yukon, travel will be arranged to Vancouver, Edmonton or Calgary.

Changing Flights

Changes to issued airline tickets will only be covered by the Medical Travel Program when:

- the Program receives a revised medical travel application form from the authorized practitioner detailing all appointment dates, or
- the Program receives notification by telephone from a social worker or hospital / clinic staff, advising that an extension is medically necessary

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The return flight will then be rebooked, when medically appropriate for the client, on the most cost effective flight available.

Exclusions

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

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

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

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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.

S. Palmer for S. Demers
Shauna Demers
Director
Insured Health & Hearing Services

May 23, 2013
Date