



Massage Therapy - Insurance Coverage Update

With all the confusion regarding MSP “cuts” we would like to take this opportunity to update you on insurance coverage for massage therapy. **Most patients are still covered under some type of insurance;** it is simply the *type* and *amount* of coverage that has changed for some individuals.

*The **Medical Services Plan (MSP)** of British Columbia provides partial coverage (\$23) for patients on premium assistance (individuals or families who make less than **\$25,000** income per year). MSP allows for a combined total of 10 treatments per calendar year from a Registered Massage Therapist, Chiropractor, Physiotherapist, Naturopath or Podiatrist. Also, you no longer require a MD referral to access your MSP treatments.

Most **Extended Medical Plans** will cover 75-100% of treatment fees for massage therapy. Please note that some extended plans are still working under the previous policy. In this case, your plan may only cover 80% of the old user fee of \$10 for the first 12 treatments. It is also important to remember to check if you require an MD referral for access to your plan. Make sure that you **check your policy to determine what amount of coverage you have for massage therapy.**

The **Workers' Compensation Board (WCB)** will cover massage therapy treatments for most work related injuries. Your therapist can help you confirm details with your WCB adjudicator.

****ICBC** will provide coverage (\$23) for injuries sustained in motor vehicle accidents. However, ICBC's policies have changed dramatically since March 01, 2002 and are specific to each case. If you do qualify for coverage, ICBC will only cover 12 treatments over 8 weeks **from the date of the accident.**

For patients with **NO Government or Extended Medical,** some insurance companies are now offering private policies. We can help provide information for any patients wishing to consider this option.

Please remember that you may also receive coverage for massage therapy under **RCMP,** and **Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA)** health plans.

We hope this information clears up some of the confusion regarding coverage for massage therapy services. We look forward to continue working with you and are committed to providing smart, safe and effective healthcare. If you have any further questions about your coverage, please do not hesitate to contact the Langley Sports & Rehabilitation office at **604-888-1533.**

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