

To: All Members of the Section on Urology
From: OMA President Dr. Sohail Gandhi

I wanted to reach out to you personally and provide important information about recommended fee schedule changes specific to Urology that will be in effect on April 1, 2020. This is a long email (apologies) but it does deal with finances, and how decisions were made.

I want to (briefly) recap the process that has led to the decisions on fee code changes. As you are all aware, for the first time in the history of Ontario, physicians were given an Arbitrated Award for a Physician Services Agreement (PSA). This is why there was no ratification vote. The Award is binding both on the OMA and the Ministry of Health (MOH).

As part of that process, the Arbitrator agreed that we must deal with the issues of relativity. The official OMA model for relativity is CANDI (the FAIR model you may have heard about is not final yet, it is in development). The government refused to accept CANDI. The official MOH model for relativity is RAANI. The OMA feels that there are serious, significant and unresolvable issues with RAANI, and we refused to accept it. The Arbitrator (acting in this case as a mediator), worked with both sides, and came up with the Hybrid model, and the Hybrid model will be used for all 4 years of the current PSA. *Please note, it has yet to be decided what relativity model will be used in the next PSA (2021-2025).*

As a result of the award and the Hybrid process, the Section on Urology was awarded a 1.7% normative increase.

This Hybrid model is not perfect. It does not address the fact that some services are provided by members in multiple Sections. If those fees go up, then the allocation to that Section will rise automatically.

In order to come up with fairest way of making changes, we tasked the Medical Services Payment Committee (MSPC) with the enormous responsibility of doing this for every Section. The timelines were tight as the MOH insisted they had to have a decision by December 18, 2019, in order to program their computers for April 1, 2020. I ask that you keep in mind that MSPC is a bilateral committee — half OMA and half MOH. For a decision to be made, both sides have to agree. If they don't agree, then we go to arbitration on those issues. By now, I believe all members are keenly aware of just how long arbitration takes.

In July, the MSPC sent letters to all Section executives outlining this process. In August, the MSPC surveyed members of each Section to see what fee codes were in need of change. On September 20, the Section executives were sent the survey results, and asked to provide input by October 14 (as mentioned the timelines were tight). This was to allow the OMA staff to model the effect of proposed changes on the members. It also allowed time for the MSPC to contact Sections as needed, to clarify their submissions. Our goal was to ensure that the fewest possible members had a negative impact.

The majority of Section executives, including the Section Executive for Urology, provided feedback, which helped inform the MSPC recommendations. I thank the Section Executive for all their hard work.

The MSPC went through multiple modeling exercises and came up with the best possible recommendations they could for Urology. The final recommendations indicate that with these changes, in the Section on Urology:

- 300 physicians will see an increase in their income (average of \$6,945, representing 1.63% of their billing).

The specific changes recommended by MSPC for your Section are provided below and also posted online [here](#). Recommendations for all OMA Sections and Medical Interest Groups, along with background documents related to the MSPC, are available on the OMA website [here](#).

As with all fee schedule changes, the MSPC recommendations will be submitted to Cabinet for final approval.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact mspc@oma.org.

Ontario's Doctors Rock!

Sohail Gandhi
OMA President

Section on Urology

April 1, 2020 Recommended OHIP Schedule of Benefits Fee Changes

Highlighted Fee Changes

Fee Increases to Urology Consultations and Assessments

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
A/C/W355	Urology - Consultation	\$80.00	\$83.15	3.94%
A/C/W356	Urology - Repeat consultation	\$55.75	\$56.40	1.17%
A/C353	Urology - Specific assessment	\$45.00	\$45.55	1.22%
A354	Urology - Partial assessment	\$26.00	\$26.70	2.69%
C354	Urology - Specific re-assessment	\$26.00	\$26.70	2.69%

Fee increases to Urology – non-emergency hospital in-patient services

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
C352	Urology - non-emergency hospital inpatient services - subsequent visits - up to five weeks - per visit	\$31.00	\$31.60	1.94%
C357	Urology - non-emergency hospital inpatient services - subsequent visits - 6th-13th weeks inclusive (max. of 3/week) - per visit	\$31.00	\$31.60	1.94%
C358	Urology - non-emergency hospital inpatient services - concurrent care - per visit	\$31.00	\$31.60	1.94%

Increases to Various Urogenital and Urinary Surgical Procedures and Female Genital Surgical Procedures

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
S411	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Excision - Partial or heminephrectomy	\$875.00	\$890.80	1.81%
S416	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Excision - Nephrectomy - Thoraco- Abdominal or radical nephrectomy	\$875.00	\$890.80	1.81%
S422	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Repair - Pyeloplasty (with or without nephropexy)	\$679.25	\$890.80	31.14%
S424	Nephrectomy - Extrophy - Plastic closure of bladder with closure of abdominal wall and urethral lengthening with closure of pelvic floor with or without reimplantation of ureters	\$939.70	\$1,237.25	31.66%
S428	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Repair - Symphysiotomy for horseshoe kidney with or	\$437.20	\$494.90	13.20%

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
	without nephropexy and associated procedures			
S449	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Excision - Ureterectomy - Including ureterovesical junction	\$437.20	\$445.40	1.88%
S458	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Repair - Ureterostomy - Cutaneous - Unilateral	\$260.85	\$494.90	89.73%
S484	Bladder - Cystectomy - Complete cystectomy, without transplant	\$657.75	\$791.85	20.39%
S512	Bladder - Repair of ruptured bladder	\$330.90	\$346.45	4.70%
S513	Bladder - Repair - Cystoplasty, using intestine	\$657.75	\$692.85	5.34%
S518	Bladder - Repair - Plastic repair of bladder neck - Child	\$331.70	\$494.90	49.20%
S523	Urogenital and Urinary Surgical Procedures- Bladder/Female Genital Surg Procedures - Vagina - Suture/Repair - Closure of fistula/Vesicovaginal - Vaginal approach	\$772.40	\$791.85	2.52%
S524	Bladder - Suture - Closure of fistula - Vesicovaginal - Transvesical approach (with or without omental flap)	\$467.00	\$544.40	16.57%
S535	Urethra - Repair - Urethroplasty - First stage - One stage repair and may include skin grafting	\$381.60	\$445.40	16.72%
S536	Urethra - Excision - Caruncle	\$85.30	\$118.80	39.27%
S537	Urethra - Excision - Urethral papilloma, single or multiple	\$85.30	\$118.80	39.27%
S543	Urethra - Excision - Prolapse urethra	\$85.30	\$118.80	39.27%
S544	Urethra - Excision - Urethrectomy - Radical	\$215.80	\$296.95	37.60%
S553	Urethra - Suture - Posterior urethra - Late repair	\$552.30	\$643.35	16.49%
Z604	Urethra - Incision - Urethrotomy - Meatotomy and Plastic repair	\$31.60	\$39.60	25.32%
Z621	Urethra - Manipulation - Dilatation of stricture - Male, local anaesthetic	\$13.65	\$14.85	8.79%
Z622	Urethra - Manipulation - Dilatation of urethra - Female	\$5.65	\$9.90	75.22%
Z627	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Percutaneous procedures - Removal of renal calculi	\$167.85	\$168.25	0.24%
Z628	Kidney and Upper Urinary Tract - Endoscopic Procedures - Cystoscopy and diagnostic ureteroscopy - Above intramural	\$125.65	\$125.70	0.04%

Increases to Various Male Genital Surgical Procedures and Add-On Code

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
E755	Male Genital - Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - With inflatable prosthesis add	\$55.15	\$69.30	25.66%
S569	Penis - Incision - Slit of prepuce (complete care) - Adult or child	\$30.25	\$39.60	30.91%
S571	Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - One stage repair - With advancement of meatus into glans	\$383.50	\$420.65	9.69%
S572	Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - One stage repair - Into glans using island flap pedicle (penoscrotal)	\$662.45	\$722.55	9.07%
S573	Penis - Excision - Circumcision - for Physical symptomatology only - for patients aged one year or older	\$179.40	\$188.05	4.82%
S574	Penis - Excision - Amputation - Partial	\$170.65	\$197.95	16.00%
S577	Penis - Excision - Circumcision - for Physical symptomatology only - for infants less than one year of age	\$90.05	\$188.05	108.83%
S581	Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - Closure urethro- Cutaneous fistula	\$92.10	\$296.95	222.42%
S588	Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - Surgical removal of prosthesis	\$110.15	\$148.45	34.77%
S591	Testis - Repair - Orchidopexy - for undescended testis, any type, one or two stages to include hernia repair where required	\$331.70	\$346.45	4.45%
S593	Testis - Repair - Orchidopexy - Exploration for undescended testicle, without orchidopexy	\$260.85	\$346.45	32.82%
S595	Testis - Repair - Orchidopexy - Ruptured testicle	\$170.65	\$247.45	45.00%
S596	Testis - Repair - Orchidopexy - Insertion of testicular prosthesis	\$170.65	\$197.95	16.00%
S597	Penis - Repair - Hypospadias or Epispadia - Penile prosthesis for impotence	\$306.85	\$395.90	29.02%
S598	Testis - Biopsy - Radical orchidectomy for malignancy - Unilateral	\$235.35	\$267.25	13.55%
S600	Testis - Repair - Orchidopexy - Reduction of torsion of testis or appendix testis and orchidopexy (one or both sides) if required	\$235.35	\$296.95	26.17%
S601	Epididymis and Tunica Vaginalis - Epididymis - Spermatocele or spermatic granuloma excision	\$205.35	\$207.85	1.22%

Fee Code	Description	Current Fee Value	New Fee Value	Percent Increase
S611	Epididymis and Tunica Vaginalis - Tunica Vaginalis - Hydrocele excision - Unilateral	\$205.35	\$207.85	1.22%
S616	Scrotum - Incision - Abscess or haematocoele - And exploration - Unilateral	\$85.30	\$99.00	16.06%
S647	Prostate - Excision - Prostatectomy - Suprapubic - With or without removal of bladder stones	\$600.75	\$643.35	7.09%
S650	Prostate - Excision - Retropubic - With or without removal of bladder stones - Simple	\$600.75	\$643.35	7.09%
Z702	Penis - Excision - Biopsy	\$23.55	\$39.60	68.15%
Z708	Epididymis and Tunica Vaginalis - Tunica Vaginalis - Hydrocele aspiration	\$16.25	\$19.80	21.85%
Z709	Scrotum - Incision - Abscess or haematocoele - Local anaesthetic	\$20.10	\$39.60	97.01%
Z768	Scrotum - Incision - Abscess or haematocoele - General anaesthetic	\$55.15	\$99.00	79.51%

Other Fee Changes of Interest

- **R852** (Peritoneal dialysis - Insertion of peritoneal cannula by laparotomy or laparoscopy) will be increased from \$256.10 to \$352.50.
- **Hospital inpatient MRP subsequent visits (C122, C123, C124, C142 and C143)** - fee increases by approximately 4%.
- **Selected GP/FP Time Based K-code fee increases** - fee increases between approximately 8% and 25%.
- **Surgical Assistant Unit Fee Value** - surgical assistant unit fee increase from \$12.04 to \$12.25.

Note: These codes represent fee codes most commonly billed by your Section. A comprehensive list of ALL recommended fee code changes is available on the OMA website [here](#).

Notes:

1. The Schedule of Benefits changes listed above are recommended by the bilateral OMA-MOH Medical Services Payment Committee — Cabinet approval is pending.
2. Best efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this document. In the event of any errors, the Schedule of Benefits to be published April 1, 2020 is the definitive source. Further details about the Schedule will be available on the Ministry of Health OHIP Bulletins webpage [here](#).
3. This update was sent to you based on your primary affiliation with an OMA Section. Fee code recommendations for all OMA Sections and Medical Interest Groups are available on the OMA website [here](#).

Questions? Please email mspc@oma.org