

AMBULANCE BENEFIT

A BULLETIN FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

AMBULANCE RATES FOR PATIENTS WITH GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL HEALTH COVERAGE

As of January 1, 2015, Alberta Blue Cross uses the standardized billing rates approved by Alberta Health for patients with ambulance coverage through our group or individual health plans.

Rates for patients with group or individual coverage

The individual payer billing rates for patients with group or individual coverage are as follows:

- \$385—transport fee.
- \$250—no transport fee.

Kilometer and level of service charges do not apply after January 1, 2015.

Rates for patients with government coverage

For patients with government coverage, please use the rates that have been in effect since April 1, 2000.

- \$146—basic life support
- \$191—advanced life support
- \$2.29/km—distance transported
- \$98—response fee (no transport)
- \$96/hr—standby fee (3 hr max)

How do I know if a patient has government coverage?

Patients with government coverage will fall into one of the categories listed below.

Alberta government program breakdown

| Group | Plan name |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 | Non-Group Coverage |
| 66 | Coverage for Seniors |
| 19823 | Income Support |
| 19823 (section X) | Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped |
| 19824 | Children's Services |
| 20400 | Alberta Child Health Benefit |
| 20401 | Alberta Child Health Benefit |
| 20402 | Alberta Child Health Benefit |
| 20403 | Child and Youth Support |
| 20514 | Palliative Care |
| 23609 | Alberta Adult Health Benefit |

For patients with multiple coverages (an Alberta Blue Cross group plan and group 66 coverage, for example), please refer to the following reference guide:

| Coverage | Rates to be charged |
|--|---------------------|
| Group 66 and Alberta Blue Cross plan* | Government rates |
| Group 66 and External insurer** | Government rates |
| Alberta Human Services and Alberta Blue Cross plan* | Group rates |
| Alberta Human Services and External insurer** | Group rates |
| Palliative care and Alberta Blue Cross plan* | Government rates |
| Palliative care and External insurer | Government rates |
| Group 1 and Alberta Blue Cross plan* | Group rates |
| Group 1 and External insurer** | Group rates |
| Group 1 and Alberta Blue Cross plans 2008/2009/4009/4010 | Government rates |

* Includes groups 2007, 3007, 3008 and 4007. Excludes groups 2008, 2009, 4009 and 4010.

** Excludes NIHB (ESI).

Please note: normal coordination of benefit rules will apply so rates may differ depending on whether the patient is the cardholder, a spouse or a dependent.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Provider Services team at 780-498-8083 or toll free at 1-800-588-1195.

We appreciate our close working relationship with ambulance service operators across the province, and thank you for your continued cooperation in serving our mutual customers.



For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Provider Services contact centre representative at:

- **780-498-8083** (Edmonton and area)
- **1-800-588-1195** (toll free)
- **healthinq@ab.bluecross.ca**

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