



May 17, 2010

TO ALL QUEBEC FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Reference: New Medical Reports from the *Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec* (SAAQ)

Doctor,

Within the next few days, you will receive information regarding the latest changes to the SAAQ medical reports as well as to the maximum amount reimbursed to insured persons. I urge you to review these documents and would like to take this opportunity to clarify the involvement of the *Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec* (FMOQ) in this process.

During the last three years, as the SAAQ was reviewing its medical report forms, the FMOQ repeatedly conveyed the frustration expressed by physicians with regard to the current form of the reports, the frequency with which they are transmitted to patients, and hence to their physicians, and the maximum amount reimbursed to an insured person by the SAAQ for their completion. In keeping with regulations, the SAAQ determined the final form of these reports and the maximum amount it must reimburse; these were not negotiated.

I would like to remind you that the filling out of medical reports is a non-insured service and that physicians are free to set their own rate for these services. The Federation will soon update its List of Suggested Fees for Non-Insured Services to take into account the new forms.

At the request of an injured patient, the SAAQ can accept to pay the physician directly, up to the maximum amount set out in the regulation. If a given patient has difficulty paying your fees, he can communicate with an SAAQ agent to request that the payment be made directly to you. In such circumstances, the patient is liable for the balance where your fees are greater than the amount reimbursed by the SAAQ. You may want to conclude an agreement with your patient regarding this point (see attached French and English forms).

Furthermore, in the future, you will have to make a copy of completed reports for your files, as carbon copies are no longer provided. This was a choice of the SAAQ. Do not hesitate to inform the SAAQ if this causes you problems.

Finally, the structure of the form of the medical report on sequelae has been changed. You will notice that the instructions on the form indicate that the SAAQ requires information only for "simple" sequelae. When they are more complex, the information indicated on the front of the form is sufficient to allow the SAAQ to decide which type of professional should be called upon to conduct an expert evaluation.

Hoping this information will be useful to you, please receive my sincere regards.

The President

Dr. Louis Godin