

**NOTICE NUMBER:** 08-2018

**TITLE:** Updates to the Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols Regulation Interpretative Guide

**DATE:** August 23, 2018

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Notice is to advise all stakeholders of changes made to the Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols Regulation Interpretative Guide (Guide).

The Guide was developed to provide information to insurers, lawyers, claimants, and primary health care practitioners regarding the application of the Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols Regulation (DTPR), as well as claims and billing processes for claimants treated under the DTPR. The guide has not been substantially updated since it was created in 2004.

The updated Guide is posted at <http://insurance.alberta.ca>, under [Information for Health Care Practitioners](#).

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

The following is a summary of the overall changes made to the Guide:

<b>Change</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Updated all medical literature references as necessary (example: the <i>The Canadian C-Spine Rule for Radiography in Alert and Stable Trauma Patients</i> and <i>International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems</i> )	Eliminates outdated references
Simplified the language in the Guide (example: replaced legalese with plain wording and reworded sections dealing with billing practices)	Provides consistency, simplicity, and readability throughout the entire Guide

**Superintendent of Insurance**

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Updated the table of contents, appendices, and subheadings to make the Guide easier to read and search	Provides consistency, simplicity, and readability throughout the entire Guide
Incorporated any relevant Interpretation Bulletins from the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance published after 2004 (example: Bulletin 09-2014 and Bulletin 01-2017)	Ensures the guide is consistent with recent Superintendent Bulletins
Updated the Guide to reflect the clarification amendments made to the Minor Injury Regulation on June 1, 2018 which state that some temporomandibular joint injuries, as well as physical or psychological conditions or symptoms arising from sprains, strains and whiplash injuries and that resolve with those injuries, are considered minor injuries under the MIR and should be treated as such	Ensures the guide is consistent with recent changes in legislation
Replaced outdated contact information and hyperlinks	Eliminates outdated references

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact my office by:  
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 Toll free: 310-0000 followed by 780-643-2237

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