

INSURED HEALTH & HEARING SERVICES Subsidy Payments for In-Territory Medical Travel Policy	
Section: Subsidy Payments for In-Territory Medical Travel (Medical Travel Program)	Policy #: MT005
Date Issued: July 2020 Dates Revised: August 2015, November 2017	Review Date: December 2021 (Review as needed.)
Legislative Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yukon Travel for Medical Treatment Act (and Regulations) • Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act • Yukon Health Information and Privacy Management Act (HIPMA) • Yukon Temporary Absence from Yukon policy • Canada Health Act (and Regulations) 	

DEFINITIONS

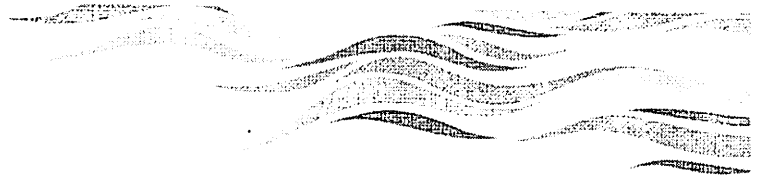
Authorized Practitioner: a physician, nurse practitioner or primary health nurse in charge as authorized to make referrals for medical travel.

Chief Medical Officer: the person appointed by the Commissioner in Executive Council as the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Yukon and includes the Chief Medical Officer of health's authorized deputy.

Director: the director of the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan.

Eligible Individuals: a person who is eligible for and entitled to insured health services as defined in the *Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act*.

Eligible Individual - Exceptions: those clients and their families who are insured through an Act of Parliament (i.e. Status First Nations, members of the Armed Forces, RCMP, Canada Post, Parks Canada, Federal Public Service and Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) applicants) are not eligible for travel for medical treatment as defined in the *Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan Act*. (These individuals are covered by their own medical travel benefits and includes WCB applicants.)



Emergency Travel: travel necessitated by a medical emergency.

Hospital Transfer: medical travel initiated by the discharge of a patient from one hospital and ending with the admission of the same patient in a second hospital.

IHHS: the Insured Health and Hearing Services Branch.

Insured Health Services: those services set out as insured services within the *Health Care Insurance Plan Act* and the *Hospital Insurance Services Act*.

Medical Emergency: an unforeseen medical condition involving a person's physical or mental health that requires immediate medical intervention.

Medical Travel: travel originating within Yukon that is required to allow eligible persons access to necessary insured health care services within or outside of Yukon.

Minor: a person under the age of nineteen years of age.

Non-Emergency Service: medical service that is required for the well-being of a patient, but is not considered a medical emergency.

Non-Resident: a person who does not normally reside in Yukon.

Scheduled Airfare: the actual airfare paid for a flight. Airfare bookings are based on the most cost-effective and medically appropriate options available for a patient.

Subsidy: means an amount of \$75 per day to assist with the cost of meals and accommodation for insured residents on medical travel based on outpatient services which may be paid for each day after the second approved day.

Travel Escort: a person approved to accompany an eligible person on medical travel pursuant to the *Medical Travel Escorts Policy* (MT007 - December 2019).

YHCIP: the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan.

Yukon Resident: a person who is lawfully entitled to be in Canada, ordinarily resides in Yukon, has a valid Yukon healthcare card and makes the territory their home. (Resident status does not apply to a tourist, transient or visitor to Yukon.)

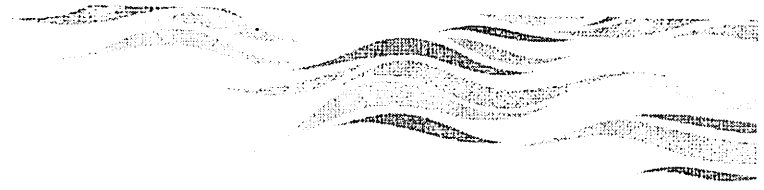
BACKGROUND

- This policy is for eligible individuals who are required to travel by private vehicle from their home community to the nearest health center where required medical treatment is available.
- This destination is often Whitehorse for many residents.

POLICY

Overview:

- All medical travel **within Yukon** must be certified by an authorized practitioner and approved by the Medical Travel Office in advance of travel.
- The authorized practitioner submits an **In-Territory Medical Travel Application** form on behalf of the patient (and a travel escort if applicable) for review by the Medical Officer of Health.
- The eligible individual must also submit an **In-Territory Medical Travel** form clearly indicating their departure and return dates from home community. The individual has one calendar year to submit this form to Insured Health and Hearing Services.
- Once the application is approved, a Medical Travel Officer will contact the eligible individual to explain program coverage.
- Individuals who are approved for travel by private vehicle within the territory are entitled to a mileage reimbursement based upon the approved community listing, as designated by Insured Health Services.
- Eligible individuals who live outside these communities will receive the equivalent reimbursement from the closest center where medical services may be accessed.



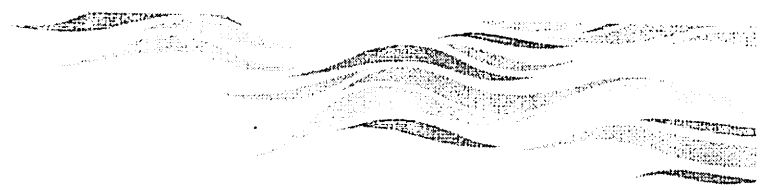
Medical Travel Amount:

Approved mileage reimbursement rates are as follows:

Community	Total Round trip Mileage Reimbursement	Kilometers One Way
Beaver Creek	\$274.20	457
Burwash Landing	\$171.00	285
Carcross	\$44.40	74
Carmacks	\$105.00	175
Contact Creek	\$317.52	529
Dawson	\$321.60	536
Destruction Bay	\$159.00	265
Eagle Plains	\$516.60	861
Elsa	\$271.20	452
Faro	\$213.60	356
Haines Junction	\$94.80	158
Keno	\$280.20	467
Mayo	\$244.20	407
Pelly Crossing	\$169.20	282
Ross River	\$244.20	407
Swift River	\$177.60	296
Watson Lake	\$273.00	455
Tagish	\$67.20	112
Teslin	\$109.80	183

Subsidy Schedule:

- A subsidy of \$75 per day beginning on the second day away from home community will be reimbursed up to fifteen days according to the travel distance guidelines below:
 - **Full subsidy:** Travel distance greater than 200 km
 - **No subsidy:** Travel distance less than 200km
- For one day appointments, the \$75 per day subsidy is different and based on the below guideline for travel from home community:
 - **One day subsidy – Maximum:** Travel distance greater than 200 km
 - **Two day subsidy – Maximum:** Travel distance greater than 500 km
 - **No subsidy:** Travel distance less than 200km



- Subsidy payments are paid based on demonstrated medical necessity.
- Factors such as age, health condition of the patient, time of medical appointment, current road, or weather conditions should be reflected if additional subsidy consideration is being requested.
- When a minor is an outpatient, both the patient and approved escort will receive a subsidy for all eligible days.
- When a minor is an inpatient, only the approved escort is eligible for subsidy while the patient is admitted.
- Eligible individuals who are inpatients at a Yukon hospital do not qualify for the \$75 per day subsidy.

Payment of Travel Mileage Amount:

- The travel mileage amount will be paid on a 'per vehicle' basis.
- This means if one or more patients and travel escorts are in the same vehicle travelling to their approved medical appointment out of Yukon, the mileage amount will be paid to only one person (either the patient or escort).

Travel Escorts:

- All requests for a travel escort must be pre-approved by the Medical Travel Unit.
- Reference: **Medical Travel Escorts Policy (#MT007)**

Exceptions/Exclusions:

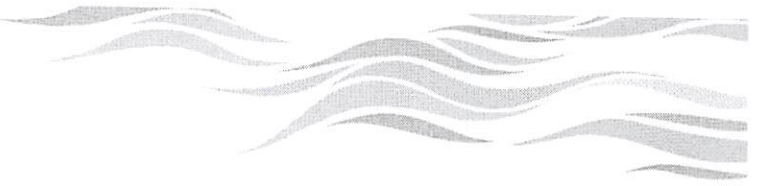
- Medical travel originating outside of Yukon is not eligible within this policy.

Appeals:

- Appeals are to be sent in writing to the Director of Insured Health and Hearing Services for review. Letters should be addressed as follows:

Director, Insured Health and Hearing Services (H-2)
Department of Health and Social Services
Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A2C6

Questions:



- Patients may direct any questions concerning this policy to a Medical Travel Officer. Contact information is as follows:

Email: medicaltravel@gov.yk.ca
Phone: 867-667-5203 or 867-667-5233
Mail: Medical Travel
Health Services, H-2
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

FORMS

- *In-Territory Medical Travel Application*

NOTES

- All requirements of the Acts and Regulations governing Yukon Health Care Insurance remain in effect.
- All decisions regarding interpretation will be referred to the Director of Insured Health and Hearing Services.

APPROVED BY: 

Marguerite Fenske, A/ Director
Insured Health and Hearing Services

Date: July 7, 2020