

# OPTOMETRY BULLETIN

## March 30th, 2021

### Important Information on Interim Non-Face-to-Face Services Provided During Pandemic.

Eligible dates of service have been extended to **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

Optometrists may claim for the following services when they are provided non-face-to-face (via telephone or *Personal Health Information Act* [PHIA] compliant virtual care platform):

- 03.03 CNTC
- 03.03 CCDX

Please submit your claims for encounters as you normally would, using your normal practice location. For all services not rendered face-to-face at that location, **include the following text on the claim to denote the mode of synchronous care delivery:**

- If the service was provided via phone call: Pandemic telephone
- If the service was provided over a PHIA-compliant virtual care platform: Pandemic virtual care

These will be paid at the current tariff remuneration rates, consistent with current frequency limits. Eligible dates are March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

The terms of the non-face-to-face services remain consistent with the previously published bulletin from May 2020: <http://msi.medavie.bluecross.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/05/May-29-2020-Optometry-Bulletin.pdf>

### ***Provincial Virtual Care Policy Now Available***

DHW has released a policy on the *Provision of Publicly Funded Virtual Health Services*, which is available from the Nova Scotia Association of Optometrists. The policy applies to all publicly funded health services including optometry professional services.