

# OPTOMETRY BULLETIN

## March 21, 2022

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

Eligible dates of service have been extended another year to **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. 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 until March 31, 2023. 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>

Further, the provincial policy on the Provision of Publicly Funded Virtual Health Services, which applies to all publicly funded health services including optometric services, remains in effect and can be viewed online at:

<https://novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/Provision-of-Publicly-Funded-Virtual-Health-Services.pdf>