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## LONGITUDINAL FAMILY MEDICINE (LFM)

Effective October 1, 2023, Primary Care physician APP's will be replaced by the Longitudinal Family Medicine (LFM) payment model. Remuneration for the LFM model will be comprised of three payment components: Hourly commitment, patient attachment and LFM 30% fee for service (FFS).

**Important:** Please see payment date schedule below for what payments you can expect on October 18, 2023.

As we work to implement this new funding model, physicians can expect changes to their existing business arrangements (BAs) and the creation of new BAs to support remuneration under this model.

**Important:** new BAs under the LFM model will be communicated to physicians the week of October 30, 2023. Physicians do not need to contact Medavie to establish the new BAs. As new BAs are created, they will use your existing banking arrangement. If you'd like to make any changes to the banking arrangements, please contact [MSIproviders@medavie.ca](mailto:MSIproviders@medavie.ca).

Attached is a timeline so you will know what to expect over the next few months in terms of payments, claims, etc. Please review. Below is additional detail.

### What to expect October 1, 2023:

**Existing APP BA** Existing APP Funding will no longer be paid under this BA. Physicians should continue to submit claims for health service codes to this business arrangement during the interim period from October 1-31, 2023 for claims now associated with your LFM contract.<sup>1</sup>

Physicians will be compensated for the 30% billings under the LFM model via an adjustment on their payment statement for the existing APP BA. This BA will be terminated and a new LFM FFS BA will be provided the week of October 30 for continued submission for your health service code claims.

**Existing FFS BA** The existing FFS BA currently used for exclusions to APP contracts will remain open for billing on a go forward basis to capture any FFS billings (payable at 100%) for work outside of the LFM, as well as any WCB or community services billings. If you do not have an existing FFS BA but will require one, send a request to [MSIproviders@medavie.ca](mailto:MSIproviders@medavie.ca), with a cc to [alternative.funding@novascotia.ca](mailto:alternative.funding@novascotia.ca).

**Important** New Interim Fee Codes  
If you've been holding claims waiting for the new fee codes to become active on September 15, please submit those now using your existing APP until October 30. Once you receive your new LFM BA, you will submit these claims on your new LFM 30% BA.

**LFM Annual Hours BA** Physicians will be receiving funding for their LFM hourly contracted hours effective October 1, 2023 to a new BA set up for the purpose of payment of funds for this hourly component of the contract. No shadow billings should be billed to this BA except for the new hourly health service fee codes. These new fee codes will be submitted to capture number of hours worked broken down by daytime and evening/weekend hours. These health service codes will be communicated after October 30, 2023. Between October 1 and October 30, please keep track of your hours each day, broken down by daytime and evening/weekend hours. You must submit those hours on October 30, 2023 or shortly thereafter to ensure your hours worked in October have been claimed.

**LFM Attachment BA** Physicians will be receiving a new BA for the purpose of payment for the patient attachment component for LFM model. Physicians will not be asked to bill any health service codes to this BA.

**LFM 30% BA** Physicians will receive a new BA for the purpose of 30% remuneration of submitted health service code claims. This BA will be provided the week of October 30. As indicated above, physicians will be remunerated on their existing APP BA for this payment component during the interim period of October 1-31.<sup>1</sup>

**October 1 – October 31 Billing Instructions<sup>1</sup>**

For the period of October 1-31 physicians may use their existing APP BA to submit claims for the 30% remuneration. This will be a post-payment adjustment to calculate the 30% FFS value and this will show on your payment statement as a miscellaneous adjustment. This will be in line with the paper cut-off dates.

Submission Dates:	Payment Date:
October 1-6	October 18
October 7-23	November 1
October 24-31	November 15

As of November 1, you will submit claims to your new LFM 30% BA for service dates October 1 onward, which will automatically calculate the 30% remuneration. **Please discontinue submitting claims to the existing APP BA effective November 1, 2023.** The existing APP BA will be terminated; however, you will see a final payment on the existing APP BA November 15.

What to expect after October 30, 2023:

**Billing**

**Hourly Fee Code** Physicians will receive communication detailing the billing instructions related to the new hourly health service codes that will be used to track their working hours. These new health service codes will be communicated after October 30 and will be effective October 1, 2023. Physicians should bill all working hours for October to the LFM hourly BA once communicated.

**LFM 30%** Physicians will receive a copy of their accredited submitter form detailing all new BA's under the LFM remuneration model. Physicians should discontinue billing health service codes to the existing APP BA at this time and transition to the new LFM 30% BA that will be provided.

**Reminder**, new BAs under the LFM model will not be communicated to physicians until the week of October 30, 2023.

**Physician Panel Attachment Reconciliation**

To support implementation, physician panels have been determined based on the existing panel on September 6, 2023. Department of Health and Wellness (DHW) will review the final panel effective September 30, 2023 and complete a reconciliation to account for any change in panel from September 7-30, 2023. This will be paid in a lump sum in the next LFM quarter and will then be smoothed in quarterly panel payments. This is a one-time adjustment to ensure accurate panel sizes as we transition to the LFM model.

**Service Encounters**

Service encounter rate will be reported on the first quarterly report (Jan 2024) for learning/baselining purposes, but the first quarter of LFM will not be considered for contract performance. We will be providing greater detail in the coming weeks on the method/details of service encounter monitoring.

**Payment Statements**

Payment statements for the LFM remuneration model will be available via eLink, in the same format that you retrieve your APP statements. Payment statements will break out hourly and attachment payment components. You can also expect to see an additional item on these statements to detail payment for community complexity modifiers where applicable. Physicians can expect to see changes to their payment statement on the November 15, 2023 payment date to include updated payment types details (e.g LFM Hours, LFM Attachment, LFM 30%). This will be the final payment you should expect to see an adjustment on the existing APP BA for claims submission dates up to October 31, 2023.

### Important Dates

Date	Activity
October 1, 2023	LFM becomes effective (APP payments cease)
October 18, 2023	Payment date – see below
October 30, 2023	Hourly codes become available for billing, physicians can begin submitting for services dates October 1 onward
October 30, 2023	Physicians will receive their new LFM BAs this week
November 1, 2023	Payment date – see below
November 15, 2023	Payment date – see below

### Payment Date Timeline

Payment Date	Remuneration
October 18, 2023	Final APP payment for September 29-30, 2023
	LFM hourly payment for October 1-12, 2023
	LFM Panel Attachment for October 1-12, 2023
	LFM 30% Billings (APP BA) for October 1-6, 2023*
November 1, 2023	LFM hourly payment for October 13-26, 2023
	LFM Panel Attachment for October 13-26, 2023
	LFM 30% Billings (APP BA) for October 7-23, 2023*
November 15, 2023	LFM hourly payment for October 27-November 9, 2023
	LFM Panel Attachment for October 27-November 9, 2023
	LFM 30% Billings (APP BA) for October 24-31, 2023*
	LFM 30% Billings (New BA) November 1-9, 2023*
November 29, 2023	LFM hourly payment for November 10 -23, 2023
	LFM Panel Attachment for November 10 -23, 2023
	LFM 30% Billings (New BA) November 10 -23, 2023*
Next Quarter	Retro panel adjustment to account for any change in panel from September 7-30, 2023.

\*Based on claims submission date for services provided October 1<sup>st</sup> onward.