

BROADCAST MESSAGES

EFFECTIVE DATE (CCYYMMDD): 2025-02-15 TARGET TYPE: AI
CANCEL DATE (CCYYMMDD): 2025-02-28 TARGET KEY: MD
COPY MESSAGE FROM

BROADCAST TITLE (50 char): New Surgical Assist FI 13197

BROADCAST MESSAGE (UP TO 5 PAGES, 12 LINES PER PAGE, 76 CHARACTERS PER LINE):

Effective March 1, 2025, the new surgical assist fee item 13197 has been added to the MSC Payment Schedule. In addition, the fee notes for all the listed surgical assist fees have been amended; the revised descriptions are now the following:

<u>Surgical Assistance - surgical assist code based on total operative fee(s) for procedure(s):</u>		
00195	- less than \$317.00 inclusive.....	\$147.95
00196	- \$317.01 to \$529.00 inclusive.....	\$209.92
00197	- \$529.01 to \$869.00 inclusive.....	\$309.31
P13197	- greater than \$869.00.....	\$450.00
00198	Time, after 3 hours of continuous surgical assistance for one patient, each 15 minutes or fraction thereof	\$34.10

Notes:

- i) Surgical assist fees are based on the total operative fee(s) for the associated surgical procedure(s). Surgical fee modifiers such as BMI modifiers or age modifiers are excluded from the calculation for total operative fee(s).
- ii) When a physician provides surgical assistance for two surgeries at different operative sites under one anesthetic, they may charge a separate surgical assistance fee for each surgery. This applies whether the two surgeries were performed by the same surgeon or by different surgeons. This does not apply to bilateral procedures, procedures within the same body cavity, or procedures on the same limb.

- iii) Visit fees are not payable to the same physician on the same day as surgical assistance fees, unless each service is performed at a distinct/separate time. When this occurs, start and end times must be noted on each billing claim.
- iv) When a surgical assistant is required for minor surgery, a detailed explanation of the need for the surgical assistant is required in the claim note record.

Copy to DoBC: **Yes**

INITIATED BY: **MoH**

AUTHORIZED BY: **David Mills**

IF TARGET TYPE IS

THEN TARGET KEY IS

PY-PAYEES -----	PAYEE NO.
PR- PRACTITIONER -----	PRACTITIONER NO.
SP-SPECIALTY -----	SPECIALTY CODE
AI-ASSOCIATION IDENTIFIER -----	MD – BC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
A -ALL -----	LEAVE TARGET KEY BLANK
PS-PAYEE STATUS -----	C - VESTED INTEREST LAB
	F - PRIMARY CARE
	H - HOSPITAL
	I - INACTIVE PAYEE
	L - LABORATORY
	M - ACTIVE PAYEE
	V - 3RD PARTY- OUT OF PROVINCE
	Y – ALTERNATIVE PAYMENTS PROGRAM