

HIBC QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT: OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2006

BACKGROUND

This is the third quarterly report for the second operational year of Health Insurance BC. It looks at the performance of the organization against key service measurements. Health Insurance BC (HIBC) administers the Medical Services Plan (MSP) and PharmaCare programs and is managed on behalf of the B.C. government by MAXIMUS BC.

HIBC responsibilities include:

- Administration of MSP and PharmaCare business services (including registration for MSP and processing applications for Premium Assistance and Fair PharmaCare); and
- Registration of health care providers and payment of medical and pharmacy claims.

The Ministry's objective for HIBC is to improve and modernize MSP and PharmaCare services for the public. The Ministry has established service level requirements (SLRs) to monitor performance for a number of functional areas that are critical to service delivery for the public and health care providers including:

- Answering calls promptly and providing accurate assistance;
- Processing enrolment, premium assistance applications and account maintenance requests in a timely manner;
- Processing claims and provider requests in a timely manner; and,
- Maintaining technology that supports health care providers in a timely manner.

STATUS UPDATE

HIBC met all 27 SLRs in November and December of the third quarter and 26 of 27 SLRs in October. Performance on the 27th SLR in October was substantially met.

The Ministry of Health levied no penalties during the quarter making it 14 consecutive months with no service level penalties being applied.

The third quarter saw the continuation of significant service achievements realized by HIBC operations, which included:

- Processing the vast majority of public documents within the service level standard since the end of November 2005;
- Answering telephone calls from the public, on average, within less than three minutes for one year and three months straight;
- Answering telephone calls from service providers, such as doctors and pharmacists, on average within less than one minute, for sixteen months straight;
- Maintaining technology to ensure uninterrupted services were maintained for twenty-one months straight.

Attachment A provides a summary of key SLRs.

ONGOING COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

HIBC remains committed to continual service improvements to make it easier for British Columbians to access MSP and PharmaCare services. These include:

- Daily and weekly monitoring of service level performance and ongoing identification of process improvements to facilitate additional service improvements.
- Future website applications to allow the public online access to MSP and PharmaCare services.

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ATTACHMENT A: KEY SERVICE LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

In the contract there are 27 detailed SLRs that are monitored. Penalties can be assessed for substandard performance. These penalties grow if performance continues not to meet the established standard and are a strong incentive for performance.

Table 1 below outlines performance on some of the key SLRs that are critical to the success of HIBC in its interface with the public and service providers.

Table 1: Key Service Standards

Expected Service Standard	3rd Quarter Performance	Additional Performance Information
General Public Telephone Inquiry Response Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average speed to answer first call – Less than three minutes Health Care Providers and Pharmacists Inquiry Response Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average speed to answer first call – Less than one minute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These service levels were met in October, November and December. 	HIBC received over 334,000 calls during the third quarter.
MSP Enrolment Processing Processing of all MSP enrolment applications and issuing CareCards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% within 10 business days 99% within 20 business days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service level was met in October, November and December. 	HIBC processed over 42,000 enrolments in the third quarter.
MSP Premium Assistance Application Processing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% within 10 business days 99% within 20 business days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service level was met in October, November and December. 	HIBC processed over 26,000 Premium Assistance applications in the third quarter.

<p>MSP Account Maintenance Processing of all changes to accounts such as change of address, change of account from one spouse to another, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% within 10 business days • 99% within 20 business days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October, this service level was met for imaged documents and substantially met for non-imaged documents. • This service level was met for both document types in November and December. 	<p>HIBC processed over 60,000 account changes in the third quarter.</p>
<p>Medical Claims Processing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 96.5% within two weeks <p>Health Care Provider Payments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on-time mid and end of month payments <p>Pharmacy Payments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% on-time weekly payments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These service levels were met in October, November and December. 	
<p>PharmaCare Pharmacist Help Desk, Availability of Pharmacy Claims Processing System and Medical Electronic Claims Processing System (Teleplan), Fair PharmaCare Interactive Voice Response, Web Applications and Travel Assistance Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available 24 hours a day, seven days per week (allows for minor outages and planned maintenance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These service levels were met in October, November and December. 	

PENALTIES

No penalties were applied in the third quarter of the year.

