



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Industrial Accidents

18 Tremont Street, Boston 8

WHEN REPLYING
PLEASE QUOTE I.A.B. **March 23, 1945**
FILE NO.
ATTENTION OF:

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 40

RE: CHARGES APPROVED FOR
MEDICAL SERVICES IN
CERTAIN CASES

To: ALL INSURERS
and
SELF INSURERS

All insurers and self insurers are hereby furnished notice of the charges which are considered by the Industrial Accident Board to be reasonable for various services set forth below:

BLOOD PLASMA

The usual fee for blood plasma is \$25.00 a unit of blood plasma, or \$25.00 a pint for whole blood.

Two units equal a pint.

\$5.00 is charged for each injection, provided it is not given by the house physician.

BLUE CROSS

The Blue Cross agreed to pay the difference in cost between industrial ward rates in compensation cases and the rate of private rooms when selected by an employee who is a member of the Blue Cross.

EMERGENCY TREATMENT

In any case in which an injured employee whose injuries necessitate emergency treatments, and which employee is not acquainted with his right of selection of his own physician, or in which case the insurance carrier is content to make the physician rendering emergency treatment to continue with such treatment -- the insurance carrier will assume charges of such physician for the services rendered by him.

By reason of the serious nature of emergency cases, the insurance carrier will be aware of the circumstances of the case and will be enabled to adequately provide medical and surgical treatment beyond the emergency period by offering to the employee the services of a selected doctor for such purpose, and such care will be offered to the injured employee in order that he may accept it, or select a physician of his own choice.

FIRST AID

The Board allows \$5.00 for the first visit or first aid, unless the first aid requires surgery of a nature requiring a larger fee.

HERNIA1. Injection

A reasonable fee for a hernia injection: unilateral, \$50.00 -- and bilateral, \$75.00 (the same as for a surgical repair.)

2. After Care

The Board allows \$35.00 for after care in a hernia operation, provided the after care is done by the family physician. The \$35.00 includes \$10.00 for assisting at the operation. This is only if the after care is not given by the operating physician.

HOSPITAL CHARGES1. Medication

Hospitals shall not charge for routine medication which shall consist of a sedative (phenobarbital, bromide, etc.); an analgesic (aspirin, etc., not more than two doses); cathartics, as needed; other medicines or drugs may be charged at cost.

2. Routine Laboratory

No charge shall be made by a hospital for routine laboratory work which should consist of blood and sugar examination, white blood count, and quantitative albumen and sugar.

Other laboratory work shall be itemized and charged for according to the ward rate agreed upon by the New England Pathological Society.

HOSPITAL WARD CARE

The rate of hospital ward care is \$4.75 a day, unless the maximum rate charged to the general public in non-industrial ward cases is less than such rate.

This rate, effective, January 20, 1944, is further effective for one year from January 20, 1945.

HOSPITAL RECORDS1. Re: Payment for Same

The insurer shall pay \$2.00 minimum for hospital records up to six pages and 50¢ for each additional page. The maximum fee for any record shall not be in excess of \$10.00.

The records need not include bedside notes unless specifically required.

2. Re: Photostatic Copies

Voted, not to accept photostatic reproductions of hospital records -- to require a typewritten record in duplicate.

IMPARTIAL EXAMINATIONS (Meals)

Where an employee is sent out of town for an impartial examination, the insurer shall pay not more than 75¢ for such meals as are necessary.

MEALS

The value of meals as part of the average weekly wage of hotel and restaurant workers is fixed at 25¢ a meal.

NURSES

Where a case requires a special nurse, each nurse shall be allowed \$42.00 for eight hour service, and for twelve hour service \$56.00. No additional allowance is made for board of nurses in such cases, either to the hospital or to the nurse.

This rate became effective January 1, 1944, to remain in force for the duration of the war.

Such nurses must be necessary and ordered by the physician in attendance.

OXYGEN

Reasonable fee for oxygen shall not exceed \$25.00 a day for tent, plus actual cost of oxygen used.

PATCH TESTS

Where patch tests are recommended, the consent of all parties must be obtained for such procedure.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

For physiotherapy treatments, the Board allows \$3.00 if the treatment is given by a physiotherapist, certified as such, and who does no work other than physiotherapy.

Otherwise, the charge is the same as for an office call - \$2.00.

PODIATRISTS

A Podiatrist, not being a licensed physician, is not entitled to a fee for services under section 30.

SECTION 9A FEES

A minimum fee of \$10.00 under section 9A and a maximum fee of \$25.00 shall be allowed each doctor entitled to such fee, although in exceptional cases an amount in excess of \$25.00 might be allowed in the judgment of the Member.

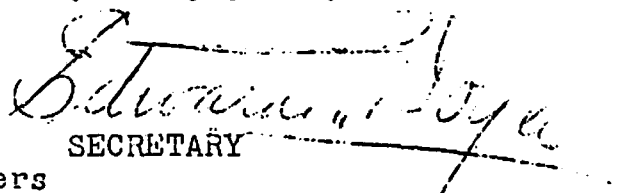
VEIN LIGATION1. Femoral

A reasonable fee for femoral vein ligation is \$50.00 for a unilateral, and \$75.00 for a bilateral -- plus \$5.00 per injection treatment thereafter.

2. Saphenous

A reasonable fee for saphenous vein ligation is \$35.00 for a unilateral, and \$60.00 for a bilateral -- plus \$5.00 per injection treatment thereafter.

Very truly yours,


SECRETARY

EPD/EPD

Distribution:

All insurers - and self insurers
Massachusetts Hospital Association