

Changes to OHIP Coverage for Physiotherapy Services

Effective April 1, 2005

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is making changes to the way OHIP covers physiotherapy services in order to improve access for people most in need.

Effective April 1, 2005, government-funded physiotherapy services will be available for people who are:

- Seniors aged 65 or over
- Residents of long-term care homes
- Aged 19 and under
- Needing short-term physiotherapy services in their home or after being in hospital
- Ontario Disability Support Program, Family Benefits, and Ontario Works recipients
- Receiving physiotherapy through Community Care Access Centres or hospitals

These changes don't affect individuals receiving physiotherapy through the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board.

The government will also expand services beginning in April so that all long-term care homes across Ontario can offer physiotherapy to residents. The government will also increase physiotherapy services in rural and northern communities that have previously lacked access.

Ontarians aged 20 to 64 will continue to have public coverage if they require physiotherapy after overnight hospitalization, in their homes, or if they live in a long-term care home. All Ontario Disability Support Program, Family Benefits and Ontario Works recipients will be covered regardless of age.

All other 20 to 64 year olds will no longer receive OHIP coverage for physiotherapy.

Ontarians should ask their physiotherapist, doctor, CCAC, or long-term care staff if they have questions about physiotherapy services in Ontario. Visit www.health.gov.on.ca or telephone the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care toll-free for information: INFOline: 1-800-268-1154 (TTY: 1-800-387-5559).

Further details and updates will be communicated as they become available.