

## Ontario

Source:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ohip/outofcountry/prior\\_approval.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ohip/outofcountry/prior_approval.aspx)

For More Information:

### Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Telephone 1-888-359-8807

Fax 1-866-221-3536 or 1-613-536-3184

E-mail [OOCPRIORAPPROVALINQ.MOH@ontario.ca](mailto:OOCPRIORAPPROVALINQ.MOH@ontario.ca)

Mail Health Services Branch,  
Provider Facility Payment Unit – Out of Country Prior Approval Program  
Ontario Health Insurance Plan  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
1055 Princess Street, PO Box 168  
Kingston, ON K7L 5V1

### Out-of-Province / Out-of-Country

Prior approval from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is required in order for patients to receive funding for OHIP-insured hospital and medical services out-of-country (OOC). Written approval must be received from the ministry before OOC health services are rendered.

Physicians seeking out-of-country treatment on behalf of patients must complete and submit a Prior Approval Application to the ministry before funding will be considered.

Application Form:

[http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/014-4520-84~1/\\$File/4520-84E.pdf](http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/014-4520-84~1/$File/4520-84E.pdf)

Completed application forms may be mailed to the ministry at the address provided at the top of the form, or sent by fax to: **1-866-221-3536 or 613-536-3181**.

### Specialist Confirmation

Requests for prior approval for funding of out-of-country health services require written confirmation from an Ontario physician who is a specialist in the type of service for which funding is requested. The specialist must confirm that the service is:

- Generally accepted by the medical profession in Ontario as appropriate for a person in the same medical circumstances as the insured person, and
- Medically necessary, and EITHER

- An identical or equivalent service is not performed in Ontario, OR
- An identical or equivalent service is performed in Ontario, but it is necessary for the insured person to travel out of Canada to avoid death or medically significant irreversible tissue damage.

General practitioners (GPs) may submit applications that include confirmation from a specialist.

## **Approval**

When a patient's application for OOC Prior Approval has been processed by the ministry a decision letter will be sent to you and a copy sent to your physician. The ministry's decision letter will clearly outline what service(s) have been approved, the facility where the service(s) are to be provided and the approved cost of the service(s).

The decision letter is based on the medical documentation that was provided with the application. If a patient's circumstances change, the physician may submit a new prior approval application to the ministry requesting new treatment and/or services as well as the proposed OOC physician/facility for consideration.

## **Services Not Eligible for Out-of-Country Funding**

In the case of prior approvals, the ministry only covers costs for prior approved medical services. Expenses incurred for non-medical services such as travel, accommodation and meals (except where included as part of insured hospital services) are not insured services of OHIP.