

GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR OUT-OF-PROVINCE / COUNTRY CARE

NOVA SCOTIA

Source: <http://novascotia.ca/DHW/>

For More Information:

Nova Scotia Health – Medical Service Insurance

Telephone 1-902-496-7008
1-800-563-8880 (toll-free in Nova Scotia)
1-800-670-8888 (TTY/TDD)

E-mail MSI@medavie.ca

Mail Medical Services Insurance Programs
PO Box 500
Halifax, NS B3J 2S1

Office Location 230 Brownlow Ave
Dartmouth, NS B3B 1Y2

Out-of-Province

Nova Scotians who are medically referred outside the province for insured treatment are eligible for coverage under the provincial plan.

Prior approval is required from the Nova Scotia Department of Health before referring a patient out of province for addiction or psychiatric treatment, unless the treatment is provided in a general hospital. Approval must be sought through the Medical Consultant, Medavie Blue Cross.

Nova Scotians who are approved to travel out of province for insured medical care that is not available here are eligible for some assistance via the province's travel and accommodations assistance policy.

Transportation costs for an escort to travel with the patient will be covered if medically required, or the patient is under 19 years of age.

Patients will need to have their specialist seek approval from MSI for the treatment. It needs to be medically insured treatment and it has to be a service that is not available in Nova Scotia.

Insured services are generally those determined by experts to have proven medical benefits for patients. This does not include cosmetic procedures, procedures still being researched, or drug therapy.

Travel and Accommodation Policy

The policy provides a maximum of \$1,000 in travel assistance (round trip) and \$125 per night up to \$1,500 per month in accommodation assistance. This provides assistance for short term stays. If a longer term stay is anticipated, patients are encouraged to seek longer term accommodations, such as apartment rental.

To get assistance, your specialist must send a letter to MSI explaining why you need this treatment. MSI will review it and inform your specialist if you are eligible for coverage. Your specialist will then arrange for a referral for you to receive treatment out of province. Your specialist must confirm in writing that an escort is medically required.

If you are eligible for coverage from MSI you will receive information from the Department of Health and Wellness which will include an application form. Keep all receipts – including any boarding passes – and submit them to the Department of Health and Wellness.

Out-of-Province Travel and Accommodation Assistance information and Expense Claim form: <http://novascotia.ca/DHW/Travel-and-Accommodation-Assistance/>.

Out-of-Country

In order for a patient to be referred outside Canada for treatment, prior written approval is required from the Department of Health and Wellness. The referral must be from a specialist registered in Nova Scotia. If the claim receives prior approval from the Department of Health for out-of-country treatment, all medically necessary services, whether provided on an in-patient or out-patient basis, will be insured at 100%. Preferred accommodation, take home drugs, etc., are not covered under the provincial health plan.