

Q&A

Amendments to the Professional Conduct Handbook Part 5 – Changes to Billing Arrangements

What Does this Mean for Registrants and Patients?

- 1. What does this mean to registrants who collect pre-payments?*

Effective February 13, 2020, registrants may no longer enter into billing arrangements or terms with patients.
- 2. I have billing arrangements with patients that are not yet completed. Do I need to terminate them immediately?*

No, provided you comply with the [Terms for Implementation](#), you may continue with the billing arrangement provided it ends by February 12, 2021. The terms also state that you must advise your patient of these new rules and their ability to terminate the agreement. You must also abide by Section 5.2 and Appendix I of the PCH in the form they existed on February 4, 2020 (the day before the Board approved the amendments).
- 3. Will this impact patients who receive care through programs with ICBC, WorkSafeBC, etc?*

No, these programs are not impacted by these amendments. Section 5.3 permits chiropractors from entering into arrangements with insurers, such as WorkSafeBC and ICBC, or the patient's employer or lawyer for the billing or payment of fees for professional services that covers more than one patient visit.
- 4. I work with a sports team and don't receive payments per treatment for this work. Do I need to start charging per treatment?*

No, you do not need to change your billing arrangement with the sports team (the patient's employer).
- 5. My patients like to pay for their treatment before they receive their care at each visit. Is this considered a billing arrangement?*

Registrants may still accept payments at the beginning of a patient visit for professional services to be rendered at that patient visit.
- 6. Do these rules prevent me from offering discounts to my patients?*

No, these rules do not prevent registrants from advertising or offering discounted fees to a patient. These changes only eliminate billing arrangements and pre-payments.

7. *Can I renew or extend an existing billing arrangement with a patient as long as it ends within the transition period?*

No, billing arrangements that are in place as of February 13, 2020 cannot, at any time, be extended or renewed.