

**VIRTUAL CARE**

- Fee-for-service physicians are compensated for the services they provide in accordance with the rules in the *Manitoba Physician's Manual*.
- Currently, most of the tariffs in *Manitoba Physician's Manual* require that services be provided in person in order to be eligible for payment.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020, the Manitoba government introduced two tariffs to enable physicians to provide services virtually during the pandemic response:
  - virtual visits – this tariff applies to physician visits that do not require complex assessment and where virtual care is clinically appropriate; and
  - virtual psychotherapy by psychiatrists – this tariff enables psychiatrists to provide psychotherapy services by telephone or video conference.
- With the ongoing need for physical distancing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to manage utilization of personal protective equipment, to ensure that Manitobans receive the care they need and where care can be provided virtually, the following tariffs are being introduced for the duration of the pandemic response:
  - virtual consultation by telephone or video – this tariff will enable family physicians to refer patients for consultation by specialists for their patients where a more complex assessment is required;
  - virtual psychotherapy – in addition to the virtual psychotherapy tariff introduced in March, an additional tariff is being introduced to expand the delivery of psychotherapy services to include physicians with whom the patient has an existing relationship;
  - virtual psychiatric care by psychiatrists – in addition to the virtual psychotherapy and virtual visit tariffs introduced in March, an additional tariff is being introduced to enable psychiatrists to provide virtual care for more complex conditions;
  - chronic care - virtual visits – in addition to the virtual visit tariffs introduced in March, the introduction of this new tariff will enable physicians to provide care for residents in personal care homes virtually in consultation with the care team; and
  - virtual chronic pain management initial assessment and followup assessment, and child developmental assessment – the virtual visit tariff introduced in March 2020 will be expanded to include chronic pain management and child developmental assessment.