

## BILLING BULLETIN

**Re: Umbilical Hernia Repair Billings**

**Bulletin #: 2**

**Date Issued: August 15, 2022**

### Background

This Billing Bulletin provides billing guidance when submitting claims to Manitoba Health (MH) regarding umbilical hernia repairs found in the Digestive section of the Manitoba Physician's Manual (the Physician's Manual), in conjunction with additional surgical services.

The Physician's Manual is the authoritative reference when submitting medical claims to MH. The Billing Bulletin reflects the Surgical Rules of Application and Notes set out in the Physician's Manual.

### Billing Advice

Repair and/or closure of laparoscopic access ports including those placed in the umbilicus are considered an integral part of any laparoscopic procedure. Claims for tariff 3666 (umbilical hernia repair) are generally not payable when the hernia service is performed on the same day, in conjunction with additional surgical services.

Surgical Rule of Application 22 – *Independent Procedure*, provides as follows:

***Certain of the listed procedures are commonly carried out as an integral part of a total service, and as such no separate fee should be charged. When such a procedure is carried out as a separate entity, not immediately related to other services, the indicated fee for “independent procedure” is applicable.***

Closure of laparoscopic ports is included in the benefit for a surgical service. Where an existing hernia in the abdominal wall is used as a laparoscopic port, and additional surgical steps (such as, the excision of a hernia sac or if mesh is used to close the umbilical hernia) are required to close the port, surgical services related to the repair of the hernia are claimable at 75%”.

**The Physician's Manual is the authoritative reference when submitting medical claims to Manitoba Health**

[www.gov.mb.ca/health/manual/](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/manual/)

**Claims information and further assistance is also available by calling the Claims Unit staff at CLAIMS ENQUIRY 204-786-7355**