

BILLING BULLETIN

Re: Lysis of Adhesions

Bulletin #: 3

Date Issued: April 15, 2025

Background

This Billing Bulletin provides billing guidance when submitting claims to Manitoba Health (MH) for lysis of adhesions, tariffs 3500 and 3501 found in the Manitoba Physician's Manual.

The Physician's Manual is the authoritative reference when submitting medical claims to MH.

Billing Advice

Lysis of adhesions is a common and expected element of many surgical procedures and is routine. Claims for routine lysis of adhesions are generally not payable unless the conditions set out in tariffs 3500 and 3501 are met.

Tariff 3500 is claimable for the first full thirty minutes of operative time spent performing lysis of adhesions. Any amount less than 30 minutes is **not** claimable. Tariff 3501 is claimable for each additional 15-minute period, or major portion thereof, after the first 30 minutes. Tariffs 3500 and 3501 include the following notes:

1. *Tariffs 3500 and 3501 are claimable when provided with surgical services found in sections I, J, K, M, N, and O.*
2. *The following information must be clearly denoted in the operative report:*
 - i. *Total time of the surgical case, and*
 - ii. *Total time spent performing lysis of adhesions.*

To appropriately adjudicate your claims for this service, your operative report (OR) will be reviewed by MH claims staff. Your OR must clearly denote the total time of the surgical case. Time stamps for the start and end of the surgery are **not** sufficient. Further, you must also include the total time spent performing lysis of adhesions. In the case of intermittent lysis of adhesions, the aggregate time should be stated.

Failure to meet these requirements may result in your claim being rejected.

Additionally, please note that tariffs 3500 and 3501 are **not** payable in addition to the following tariffs: 3201, 3660, 3661, 4605, 4606, 4608, and 4551. These tariffs either include lysis of adhesions in their tariff descriptions or separately provide for the remuneration for lysis of adhesion services. More detail regarding these tariffs can be found in the Manitoba Physicians Manual.

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