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OHIP doesn't pay all doctors directly. A small proportion of doctors prefer to send their bills to their patients. These doctors are required to complete a claim card that contains all the particulars of the service provided, but which instructs OHIP to send a cheque to the patient. In other words, the patient pays the doctor and OHIP reimburses the patient. In this case, it is equally important that the doctor be supplied with accurate information regarding the OHIP number, name of subscriber, name and address of patient, birth date, and relationship to the subscriber, in order that payment can be made.

Doctor's bills may be higher outside Ontario. If an insured Ontario resident has an accident or illness outside the province, doctor's bills are included among the services for which OHIP provides benefits.

It is usually necessary, however, for the patient to pay the doctor's bill and get an itemized receipt, giving the diagnosis and details of the services provided. This receipt should be forwarded to OHIP, so the patient will be reimbursed. Reimbursement of doctors' bills will be to the extent to which reimbursement is made for the equivalent services provided in Ontario. It is well to remember -

particularly in some centres in the United States where the professional fees may be much higher - that those who provide health services outside the province are not bound to recognize the Ontario scale of payments. This leaves the patient responsible for any difference between their charges and the amount allowed by OHIP.

A special publication (The Traveller's Guide to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan) is available for insured Ontario residents planning to travel outside the province.

For further information and publications on OHIP, contact your Northern Affairs Office at Peninsula Building, (Lower Floor) Marathon, Ontario. Phone 229-1153.

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WS-7



Les motoneiges sont lourdes. Conduisez-les sur la terre ferme!

WS-7F

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