



Date:

Patient Name:

Hello,

I recently received a request for a referral from one of your employees for the purpose of accessing paramedical services (e.g. massage therapy, chiropractic, etc.) under your group benefits plan.

As you may be aware, the Nova Scotia government is working to reduce administrative burden for physicians, which includes limiting unnecessary paperwork, to give physicians more time to care for patients.

At one time, it may have been common for physician referrals to be required for employees to access services such as massage therapy, chiropractic, physiotherapy, psychology, etc., to help manage plan costs. In most instances, this is no longer the case.

Now, most plans offered in the province do not require a physician referral for plan members to be reimbursed for the covered cost of eligible treatments provided by paramedical providers.

Removing physicians from this process helps free up our time so that we can spend more of it seeing patients, and allows for easier, faster access to care for plan members and their dependants.

If your plan does not require such referrals, I would encourage you to communicate this to your employees. Both your employees and I would be very thankful to have this step in the process removed.

Thank you very much in advance for doing what you can as an employer to help reduce unnecessary burden in our healthcare system and improve access to health care for Nova Scotians.

Provider Name:

Clinic: