



Northern Patient Transportation Program

What Is It?

The Northern Patient Transportation Program subsidizes medical transportation costs for qualifying Manitoba residents in the event they require medical treatment, diagnostic services, qualifying therapeutic services or medical specialist consultation services not available in their home community.

- NPTP Policy Manual

What is a “Qualifying Resident”?

- A qualifying resident is a resident living in the prescribed area covered under the NPTP Program.
- The Prescribed area is:
 - North of the 53rd parallel from the Saskatchewan boundary to Lake Winnipeg
 - North of the 51st parallel from Lake Winnipeg to the Ontario boundary
 - Also applies to Matheson Island when surface travel is not possible by winter road or ferry.

Burntwood Regional Health Authority - NPTP Geographic Area

- NPTP is responsible for providing service to the following communities:
 - Thompson
 - Lynn Lake
 - Leaf Rapids
 - Gillam
 - Thicket Portage
 - Pikwitonei
 - Ilford
 - Wabowden

Who Is Covered by NPTP?

- For emergency travel – all persons located in the region.
- For elective (non-emergent) travel – all persons living in the region that have valid MHSC – (Manitoba health services coverage) for insured services.
- If a person has treaty status and they are living off of the reserve, they receive coverage through the NPTP program.
- If a person is treaty and lives on the reserve, NPTP arranges transportation for in-patients and then we 3rd party bill the First Nation Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB).

A person's permanent address will determine what program provides the coverage.

Who and What Is Covered by NPTP

- If the patient doesn't require an escort, NPTP covers the cost of transportation only, no coverage is provided for accommodation or meals
- If the patient requires an escort, NPTP covers the cost of both patient and escort transportation

*NPTP will also provide for the escort:

- 1 night hotel up to \$62.70 per trip
- \$30.00 taxi, car rental, 3rd party gas or parking
- \$22.80 for meals

Any additional costs are not covered by NPTP

NPTP is a subsidy and does not cover all costs...

Land & Air Subsidy

All land travel are eligible for a return bus fare or upon presentation of gas receipts, equivalent to bus fare will be reimbursed.

If a person qualifies for land subsidy but chooses to fly, then reimbursement for the equivalent of return bus fare will be reimbursed upon presentation of the air fare receipts or boarding pass stubs.

Air Versus Land

The provincial NPTP policy manual states:

“Air travel subsidy for elective cases *may be* provided to all those who have a medical condition the physician warrants will deteriorate causing an increased risk of mortality or significant mortality if other than air transport is utilized.”

Cont...

Examples are:

- Pregnancy
 - All high risk
 - All new born
 - All pregnancies in the last three weeks where medical care not available
 - Following amniocentesis
- *Severely* Physically handicapped
- Orthopaedic
 - Full leg or body cast
 - Prolapsed intra vertebral disc
- Hemo or peritoneal dialysis
- Chemotherapy or radiation therapy treatment
- Penetrating injuries of the eye or recent eye injuries

Cont...

“All those requiring follow up appointments, unless they fall into the above categories, will receive subsidies for ground travel only.”

NPTP policy manual.

Decision for Air or Land

Although there is a guideline for air travel in the NPTP policy manual, there are often factors associated with a person's diagnosis that would permit air travel through the program.

Example: some cardiac patients or patient's with severe arthritis that would experience severe discomfort if they were to travel by land.