



Encounter Reporting for Primary Care Nurse Practitioners - MSP Service Code Grouping

Nurse practitioners (NPs) engaged under the primary care network (PCN) NP Contract, as well as health authority-employed NPs working in primary care, will submit encounter records to the Medical Services Plan (MSP) / Health Insurance BC (HIBC) via Teleplan in accordance with the requirements, rules and procedures of MSP/HIBC for services provided.

Encounter records will include the following information:

- a. MSP Payee Number,
- b. Practitioner number,
- c. Patient's/client's personal health number (PHN),
- d. Patient's/Client's name,
- e. Date of services,
- f. Encounter code(s),
- g. International Classification of Disease (ICD)-9 diagnostic codes (1 code mandatory, 3 maximum),
- h. Location code,
- i. Note, and
- j. Referring/referred practitioner number (if the physician is referring patient to or receiving a referral from another practitioner).

With respect to f. above, NPs will use the list of encounter codes provided by MSP/HIBC and outlined in this document, as amended from time to time.

NPs will also submit an attachment record to MSP/HIBC via Teleplan on a one-time basis for each patient where attachment is agreed to by the NP and the patient upon completion of an attachment conversation. For more information on attachment records and attachment conversations, including the list of primary care network (PCN)-specific attachment codes, please see the separate guidance document here: <https://www.pcnbc.ca/en/pcn/permalink/pcn90>.

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Table 1 illustrates how the MSP service codes associated with the primary care core services map to the simplified encounter code groupings. Services provided in primary care will be reported using the following 17 encounter codes.

Fee Code	Encounter Code Grouping
97551	NP Complete Examinations
97552	NP Complex Care Activities
97554	NP Counselling
97555	NP Emergency Visits
97556	NP Immunization
97557	NP Institutional Visits
97559	NP Minor Surgery/Therapeutic Procedures
97560	NP Non-Invasive Tests/Procedures
97561	NP Pathology/Diagnostic Activities
97562	NP Visits
97563	NP Obstetrics
97565	NP Consultation
97566	Telehealth NP Consultation
97567	Telehealth NP Visit
97568	Telehealth NP Counselling
97569	NP Telephone Services with Provider
97571	NP Telephone Services with Patient

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Table 2 maps the individual existing NP encounter codes to their respective Simplified Encounter Code Groupings. NPs should find the existing NP encounter code in Table 2, see which simplified encounter code it sits under, and report using that simplified code.

For example, the existing code ‘36642 – Chronic Disease Management – Heart Failure’ sits below the simplified code ‘97552 – NP Complex Care Activities’, and therefore the NP should report chronic disease management clinical activities relating to heart failure using code 97552.

If the NP provides a service not captured in the list of codes below but for which a previous encounter code exists (e.g., MAiD), the NP should use the pre-existing code.

Notes:

- Simplified NP encounter reporting does not use complexity codes. The Ministry of Health assesses patient complexity via the ICD-9 codes submitted with encounter records using the Johns Hopkins Adjusted Clinical Groups system.
- Simplified NP encounter reporting does not use start and stop times for individual codes.
- Table 2 does not contain the full text of advice for each of the existing NP encounter codes. Please refer to the Ministry of Health website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/practitioner-pro/medical-services-plan/7-encounter-codes.pdf> to reference the existing codes.¹
- Diagnostic ICD-9 codes and V-codes are expected to continue to be submitted as appropriate for the patient encounter.

Table 2. Existing NP Encounter Code Mapping to Simplified Encounter Code Grouping	
Existing NP Encounter Code	Encounter Record Description
97551 – NP Complete Examinations	
<i>Initial visit of new patient in primary location of practice. Includes complete history and physical examination, review of imaging and laboratory findings, and establishing an ongoing plan of care.</i>	
36315	Initial visit (Age 0-1)
36445	Initial visit (Age 2-19)
36316	Initial visit (Age 20-49)
36438	Initial visit (Age 50-59)
36317	Initial visit (Age 60-69)

¹ <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/msp/nurse-practitioners>

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Table 2. Existing NP Encounter Code Mapping to Simplified Encounter Code Grouping	
Existing NP Encounter Code	Encounter Record Description
36318	Initial visit (Age 70-79)
36319	Initial visit (Age 80+)
97552 – NP Complex Care Activities	
<i>Includes chronic disease management, complex mental health management, urgent calls with specialists, risk assessments, and palliative care planning. This code can be submitted on its own or in combination with a visit or examination code (for case management that goes beyond a standard visit).</i>	
36641	Chronic Disease Management – Diabetes Mellitus
36642	Chronic Disease Management – Heart Failure
36643	Chronic Disease Management – Hypertension
36644	Chronic Disease Management – COPD
36646	Complex care plan visit in primary location of practice for patients with two or more chronic conditions
36377	Family conference
36640	Palliative care planning
36372	Case conference
36374	Case management
36202	NP-Advice to Nurse Practitioner code - telephone or in person
97554 – NP Counselling	
<i>Includes both individual and group counselling. This code should not be used when a portion of a usual visit is spent providing patient education or brief assessment/planning for a routine mental health visit. This code should be used when the primary purpose of a standard or extended appointment is to provide counselling.</i>	
36340	Counselling
36342	Counselling for groups of two or more patients

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97555 – NP Emergency Visits	
<i>Simple/Fast Track Visit, ED Visit and Urgent Care Visit – when primary location of practice in an Emergency Department or Urgent Care Centre (includes assessment(s), therapeutic interventions and discharge of patient from the Emergency Department).</i>	
36601	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 0-1)
36447	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 2-19)
36602	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 20-49)
36440	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 50-59)
36603	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 60-69)
36604	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 70-79)
36605	Simple/Fast Track visit (Age 80+)
36606	Emergency Department visit (Age 0-1)
36448	Emergency Department visit (Age 2-19)
36607	Emergency Department visit (Age 20-49)
36441	Emergency Department visit (Age 50-59)
36608	Emergency Department visit (Age 60-69)
36609	Emergency Department visit (Age 70-79)
36610	Emergency Department visit (Age 80+)
97556 – NP Immunization	
<i>Includes all immunizations, all age groups.</i>	
36214	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – DTAPP-P
36215	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – DTAP-P-HIB
36216	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – TD

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36217	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – TDP
36218	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – TDAP
36219	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – INFLUENZA
36220	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – HEP A
36221	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – HEP B
36222	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – HIB
36223	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – POLIO INACTIV
36224	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – MEN-C-C
36225	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – MEN-P-ACYW135
36226	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – MMR
36227	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – PNEU-C-7
36228	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – PNEU-C-23
36229	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – RABIES
36231	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – VARICELLA
36232	Immunization by NP, patient < 19 – INFARIN HEXA
36233	Immunization by NP, patient > 19 – HPV
36235	Immunization by NP, patient > 19 – ROTAVIRUS (ORAL)
97557 – NP Institutional Visits	
<i>Includes tertiary hospital visit, long-term care facility visit and supportive care hospital visit.</i>	
36620	Reassessment visit
36621	Acute/Critical Status visit

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97559 – NP Minor Surgery / Therapeutic Procedures	
<i>Includes IUD insertion/removal, biopsy, wedge resection, lacerations, foreign body removal, I&D, Nail removal, Cryotherapy, small tumor excision, injections to joints, warts treatment.</i>	
36411	Minor procedures including minor lacerations, foreign body removal, incision and drainage of superficial abscess, including furuncles, toenail removal, cryotherapy,
36365	Insertion/removal intrauterine device
36412	Complex procedures including major lacerations
36410	Skin biopsy including punch, ellipse, shaved
36369	Application of splints/casts
97560 – NP Non-Invasive Tests, Procedures	
<i>Includes pelvic exam, subcutaneous/intramuscular injections, trigger point injections, venipuncture and ear syringing.</i>	
36366	Routine pelvic exam including Papanicolaou smear
36292	Syringing ear, irrigation of external auditory canal
36210	Injections including: intramuscular, intravenous, venipuncture, subcutaneous, desensitization treatments, immunization for adults > 19 years (except HPV)
97561 – NP Pathology / Diagnostic Activities	
<i>Clinical diagnostic tests performed by an NP. Includes ECG interpretation, glucose point of care testing, point of care ultrasounds, Urinalysis screening, pregnancy test, urine drug screens, peak flow rates.</i>	
36500	Glucose, semiquantitative
36501	Pregnancy test, immunologic, urine
36503	Candida culture
36504	Examination for pinworm ova
36505	Fern test
36507	Haemoglobin, cyanmethaemoglobin method
36508	Haemoglobin, other methods
36509	Occult blood, faeces

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36511	Secretion smear for eosinophils
36512	Sedimentation rate
36513	Sperm, seminal exam, for presence or absence
36514	Stained smear
36515	Trichomonas and/or candida, direct examination
36516	Urinalysis, chemical or any part of
36517	Urinalysis, micro exam of centrifuged deposit
36518	Urinalysis, complete diagnosis, semi-quant & micro
36519	White cell count only (see haemoglobin protocol)
36520	Examination for eosinophils in secretions, excretions and other body fluids
36521	Nurse Practitioner point of care (POC) testing for opioid agonist treatment
36522	Nurse Practitioner point of care (POC) testing for amphetamines, benzodiazepines, buprenorphine/naloxone, cocaine metabolites, methadone metabolites, opioids and Oxycodone
36243	Anticoagulation therapy, review of coagulation profile and adjustments to therapy
97562 – NP Visits	
<i>Includes in or out of office visits/regional exams for all ages, home visits, and “miscellaneous visits” (e.g., HIV management, on call). Does not include institutional or emergency visits.</i>	
36420	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 0-1)
36442	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 2-19)
36421	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 20-49)
36422	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 50-59)
36423	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 60-69)
36424	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 70-79)

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36425	Patient visit, Complexity Level 1 (Age 80+)
36426	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 0-1)
36443	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 2-19)
36427	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 20-49)
36428	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 50-59)
36429	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 60-69)
36430	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 70-79)
36431	Patient visit, Complexity Level 2 (Age 80+)
36432	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 0-1)
36444	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 2-19)
36433	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 20-49)
36434	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 50-59)
36435	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 60-69)
36436	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 70-79)
36437	Patient visit, Complexity Level 3 (Age 80+)
36523	Walk-in visit (Age 0-1)
36524	Walk-in visit (Age 2-19)
36525	Walk-in visit (Age 20-49)
36526	Walk-in visit (Age 50-59)
36527	Walk-in visit (Age 60-69)

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36528	Walk-in visit (Age 70-79)
36529	Walk-in visit (Age 80+)
97563 – NP Obstetrics	
<i>Includes prenatal visit complete exam, prenatal visit subsequent exam, and postnatal office visit.</i>	
36360	Prenatal visit – Initial, uncomplicated pre-natal care includes a complete examination
36361	Prenatal visit – Monthly visits to 32 weeks, then visits every second week to 36 weeks, and weekly visits thereafter to delivery.
36363	Post natal office visit six weeks following delivery (vaginal or Caesarean Section)
36255	Newborn care – routine, in hospital care until baby is registered
97565 – NP Consultation	
<i>Includes consultation from another practitioner requesting the opinion of an NP and telephone or in person review of patient with NP, general practitioner or specialist.</i>	
36320	Consultation (Age 0-1)
36446	Consultation (Age 2-19)
36321	Consultation (Age 20-49)
36439	Consultation (Age 50-59)
36322	Consultation (Age 60-69)
36323	Consultation (Age 70-79)
36324	Consultation (Age 80+)
97566 – Telehealth NP Consultation	
<i>Includes all consultations delivered as a telehealth service. "Telehealth Service" is defined as a medical practitioner delivered health service provided to a patient via live image transmission of those images to a receiving medical practitioner at another approved site, through the use of video technology such as Zoom. "Video technology" means the recording, reproducing and broadcasting of live visual images utilizing a direct interactive video link with a patient. If the sending and/or receiving medical practitioner are not in a health authority approved site, the medical practitioner is responsible for the confidentiality and security of all records and transmissions related to the telehealth service.</i>	

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97567 – Telehealth NP Visit	
<i>Includes all Patient Visits delivered as a telehealth Service.</i>	
97568 – Telehealth NP Counselling	
<i>Includes all counselling services delivered as a telehealth Service. This code should not be used when a portion of a usual visit is spent providing patient education or brief assessment/planning for a routine mental health visit. This code should be used when the primary purpose of a standard or extended appointment is to provide counselling.</i>	
97569 – NP Telephone Services with Provider	
<i>Includes all practitioner to practitioner telephone calls, not including advice to nurse practitioners which is covered by code 97552.</i>	
36280	Telephone contact (with practitioner)
97571 – NP Telephone Services with Patient	
<i>Includes all patient advice and management provided by telephone, and not covered by telehealth codes.</i>	
36281	Tele-management visit (with patient)

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