

REPORT TO ALBERTANS
SUMMARY OF FACILITY DESIGNATIONS UNDER THE *HEALTH CARE PROTECTION ACT*

Purpose: This document is intended to inform Albertans of non-hospital surgical facilities (NHSFs) that received facility designation under the *Health Care Protection Act* (HCPA) during the period of April 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014.

Zone: Edmonton and North

Insured Surgical Service:
Dermatology-Edmonton
Ophthalmology-Edmonton
Oral and Maxillofacial- Edmonton and Grande Prairie

Background:

The HCPA came into effect September 2000. The purpose of the HCPA is to protect Alberta's publicly funded health care system while allowing NHSFs that have been designated by the Minister of Health (the Minister) to provide select insured surgical services to Albertans. The HCPA prohibits the operation of private hospitals for the provision of insured surgical services.

Proposal Assessment Summary:

- AHS enters into agreements with operators of NHSFs to provide insured surgical services to Albertans. The associated NHSFs must be designated by the Minister of Health, prior to delivering the contracted insured surgical services.
- Proposals from AHS are reviewed by Alberta Health (the Ministry) to determine whether there is a public benefit from the agreement for the publicly funded health system.
- When the Minister approves an agreement between AHS and the operator of a NHSF, many factors are taken into consideration. These factors include:
 - maintenance or increase of public access to the services,
 - whether or not the quality of services provided in the NHSF is equal to or better than the same services provided in a hospital setting,
 - flexibility in accommodating patients (whether or not the agreement provides increased choice of service providers for patients),
 - efficient use of existing surgical capacity, and
 - cost effectiveness and other economic considerations.
- In reviewing the cost effectiveness of a proposal, AHS compares the cost of providing the proposed insured surgical service in a NHSF with the cost of providing the same insured surgical service within a public hospital. By delivering specialized services, many NHSFs are able to maintain significantly lower overhead costs than a public hospital.
- The proposals submitted to the Ministry by AHS were assessed to confirm that they meet the legislated requirements.
- Pursuant to the terms of any agreement as between AHS and a NHSF operator, AHS agrees to pay a contracted "facility fee" to the operators of NHSFs. This fee covers such costs as office space, staff salaries and benefits, supplies, utilities, debt servicing and other overhead costs.
- Physicians who provide insured surgical services to patients in a NHSF are paid on a fee-for-service basis through the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan. These fees are the same regardless of whether the physician provides the insured service in a hospital setting or in a NHSF.
- The HCPA also requires that NHSFs providing insured surgical services to be accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

The following table summarizes the facility designations granted or amended by the Minister of Health (the Minister) under the HCPA during the period of April 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014:

Category of Surgical Services	Designated Facility Name	Reason for Designating the Facility or Amending the Designation
Dermatology	Groot Dermasurgery Centre	The designation was amended to allow the agreement term to be extended.
Ophthalmology	FYidoctors Oliver Village	The previous operators had entered into Asset Purchase Agreements to sell the NHSFs and their equipment to the new operators. Subsequently, designations were amended to reflect the information related to the new operators.
	Royce L.C. Johnson PC	
Oral and Maxillofacial	Kingsway Oral Surgery-Edmonton	The designation was amended to include a new facility in Grande Prairie.
	Kingsway Oral Surgery-Grnde Pr	
	South Edmonton Oral Surgery	
	Groat Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	
	Renew Oral and Facial Surgical Centre	

Approval: Original Signed
 Janet Davidson, Deputy Minister

Date: November 26, 2014