



VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA

PROGRAM OF CHOICE (POC) 12 – RELATED HEALTH SERVICES

REGISTERED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS (RMFT) – QUÉBEC

August 2010

Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) is committed to further meeting the needs of Veterans by recognizing Registered Marriage and Family Therapists as providers of mental health services.

As of April 4, 2010, Marriage and Family Therapists licensed to practice in the province of Québec will be able to become registered and provide services to clients of Veterans Affairs Canada.

Pre-authorization is required from the VAC Treatment Authorization Centre (TAC), for both A and B clients, prior to providing Marriage and Family therapy services.

The following benefit codes should be used to bill for this service:

Benefit Code	Description	Benefit Grid Maximum
249120	Marriage and Family Therapist – Individual Visit	\$110 / Hour
249121	Marriage and Family Therapist – Couple or Family Visit	\$110 / Hour
249122	Marriage and Family Therapist – Group Therapy for Client	\$40 / Hour
249123	Marriage and Family Therapist – Group Therapy for Family Member	\$40 / Hour
249124	Marriage and Family Therapist – Assessment	\$110 / Hour (up to 10 hours)
249125	Marriage and Family Therapist – Progress Report	\$110 / Hour (1 hour)
249126	Marriage and Family Therapist – End of Treatment Summary	\$110 / Hour (1hour)

NOTE: Providers are to charge the usual and customary rate up to the VAC benefit grid maximum for their profession.

Professional Report Templates

Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) has developed professional report templates for registered Mental Health service providers. Effective immediately mental health providers will be required to proceed as follows:

- Provider treatment must be based on an assessment. Thus providers are required to conduct an initial assessment with each client (unless a recent one is available) and submit an assessment report with treatment recommendations to VAC prior to proceeding with treatment.
- If the treatment recommendations (including clinical objectives and number of sessions) are approved by VAC, the provider can proceed to provide the authorized number of treatment sessions.
- Providers are required to submit regular progress reports outlining client progress toward the clinical objectives to VAC at least every 6 months (using objective measures where possible).
- If a provider recommends an extension of the number of treatment sessions, a request must be submitted to VAC in advance of the services being provided with a rationale as part of a progress report.
- Providers are required to provide an *End of Treatment Summary* to VAC at the end of their involvement with the client.

Providers will be paid to conduct and write Assessment Reports, Progress Reports and End of Treatment Summaries. A specific number of hours have been allocated for each profession on the Benefit Grids. Templates are available for download at your convenience on our internet site at www.vac-acc.gc.ca by clicking on the right hand side on *Mental Health, Working with Providers*, then *Tools and Forms*.

Registered Marriage and Family Therapists (RMFT) are asked to use the following four templates:

RMFT Assessment Report Guidelines for Couples & Families (VAC 827)

RMFT Assessment Report Guidelines for Individuals (VAC 828)

RMFT Progress Report for Individuals, Couples and Families (VAC 829)

End of Treatment Summary (VAC 748)

If any of your members would like more information on how to become registered as a service provider, please ask them to contact Blue Cross toll-free at 1-888-261-4033.

In the future we would like to communicate with your Association members by e-mail. Once they become registered providers, they can visit the Medavie Blue Cross website at www.medavie.bluecross.ca and click on the *Health Professionals* link, and then scroll down to the *Update Your Contact Information* link where they would enter their e-mail address on the Provider Application page or update other contact information. E-mail addresses will be added to our electronic mailing list and will only be used to keep you and your Association members up to date on important changes to programs and benefits (i.e. rates, frequencies, etc.) via e-mail. You and your members can also visit the Blue Cross website to view all provider bulletins, and to download and print claim forms.