

MEMO

Date: April 16, 2020
To: Manitoba Health Profession Regulator Bodies

From: **Dr. Brent Roussin**
Chief Provincial Public Health Officer
Lanette Siragusa, Provincial Lead
Health System Integration & Quality,
Chief Nursing Officer, Shared Health

Re: **COVID-19 – Updated guidance on the provision of services permitted under The Public Health Act orders**

Following our April 14 email to Katherine Stansfield and copied to all health profession regulator bodies, a number of questions were raised about the public health emergency orders issued by Dr. Roussin under The Public Health Act. We have been advised that members of some professions have taken the position that under the orders they are permitted to continue to provide services that are not urgent or emergent to individuals if:

- (i) The services are being paid for by the WCB, MPI or a private insurance company, such as chiropractic services for an MPI or WCB claimant, dental services to individuals who have private insurance coverage for such services, vision care services for individuals who have private insurance coverage for those services, etc.;
OR
- (ii) The services are insured services under the Manitoba Health Services Insurance Plan, including insured Chiropractic and Optometric services.

We are writing to clarify that the orders do not permit health professionals to provide such services.

The exception to this is if the health professional is providing services **to** WCB, MPI or a private insurance company, including in particular, assessment of an individual to determine if the individual is eligible for coverage, e.g. confirming that an injury is workplace related (in the case of WCB) or a motor vehicle accident (in the case of MPI).