

## **Temiskaming Hospital**

March 10, 2010

### **Why is the Hospital Sending You a Bill for Ambulance Services?**

All patients, except those listed in the Special Exemption categories below, who receive land ambulance transportation must pay a co-payment fee of \$45.00. In most cases, hospitals act as the billing agents.

All Ontario residents travelling within Ontario by ambulance for medically necessary services, and who have a valid Ontario Health Card, are required to pay the co-payment fee, except under the following situations:

- the person receives benefits under the *Ontario Works Act*, the *Ontario Disability Support Program Act* or the *Family Benefits Act*;
- the person receives provincial social assistance (general welfare assistance or family benefits);
- the person is being transferred from one health facility to another for insured, medically necessary treatment;
- the person is receiving certain home care services approved for this exemption;
- the person is living in one of the following facilities licensed or approved by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care:
  - nursing home
  - home for the aged
  - rest home
  - home for special care
  - home or residence for psychiatric patients.

Unless exempt, each person transported in an ambulance is responsible for the co-payment charge. Therefore each patient transported, regardless of the distance or number of patients in the ambulance, is responsible for the payment of the costs.

If the receiving hospital physician or designate determines that the use of an ambulance was not medically necessary, the transportation is not insured under the *Ontario Health Insurance Act* and the patient will be billed \$240.00.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care continues to be responsible for land ambulance communications services and base hospital programs in support of the land ambulance program and the broader health care system.



Temiskaming Hospital  
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*Temiskaming Hospital is a smoke free environment.*