

# HCAI Update

Date: January 22, 2014  
To: Health Care Facilities

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## HCAI 2014, the Year Ahead

2014 will be a busy year as we continue maturing the HCAI system in support of industry needs while also responding to regulatory-driven changes introduced in the auto insurance environment by the [Financial Services Commission of Ontario \(FSCO\)](#).

- **Spring Release**
  - *Release 3.11* focuses on implementing the updated version of the OCF-18 Treatment and Assessment Plan, enhancing user experience and introducing Claim and Claimant archiving functionality.
- **Fall Release**
  - *Release 3.12* addresses regulatory changes requested by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO) in relation to Service Provider Licensing.

## Regulatory Amendments – Effective February 1, 2014

In December 2013, FSCO issued [Property and Casualty – Auto Bulletin No. A-07/13](#), which highlights regulatory amendments to the Statutory Accident Benefits Schedule (SABS).

- The amendments to the SABS “provide that a pre-existing condition referred to in s.38 (3) (c) (i) (regarding the Minor Injury Guideline) must be documented by a health practitioner prior to the accident.”
- Following the amendments to the SABS, the language in Part 4 of the OCF-18 Treatment and Assessment Plan has been modified.
- As of February 1, 2014, an updated PDF version of the OCF-18 Treatment and Assessment Plan is available at FSCO’s [online auto insurance claims forms repository](#).

The *modified language in Part 4* requires a *process change* for every HCAI user completing an OCF-18.

## How has the language in the OCF-18 changed?

The language in Part 4, Signature of Health Practitioner has been modified.

- The current version of the OCF-18, Part 4 requests the Health Practitioner to “provide compelling evidence...”
- Effective February 1, 2014, the OCF-18 requests the Health Practitioner “provide compelling evidence why the applicant does not come within the Minor Injury Guideline due to a pre-existing medical condition that was *documented by me or another health practitioner before the accident...*”
- Although not included in Part 4 of the OCF-18 currently handled by the HCAI system, *the modified language in Part 4 is effective from February 1, 2014 onwards.*

As a result of the speed at which the SABS amendments took effect, the modified language in Part 4 will not be visible until HCAI’s Spring Release. *An HCAI process change will be required for completing and adjudicating the OCF-18.*

## HCAI Process Change: OCF-18, Part 4

The modified language in Part 4 impacts the OCF-18 ‘s completion and adjudication processes starting February 1, 2014.

- Health care facilities are expected to
  - complete Part 4 in light of the modified language; and
  - indicate attachments in support of their response are being sent to the insurer, as required.
- Insurers are expected to
  - adjudicate OCF-18s submitted on or after February 1, 2014 in light of the modified language in Part 4; and
  - await receipt of attached documentation, when specified.
- This process change does not affect Practice Management System (PMS) integration with HCAI—if your health care facility interacts with HCAI via PMS and you have questions about this process change, contact your PMS Vendor.

## Next Steps

- Read FSCO’s [Property and Casualty – Auto Bulletin No. A-07/13](#).
- Educate the individuals at your health care facility that complete OCF-18s about FSCO’s change to Part 4 and establish how this change will be managed until HCAI’s Spring Release is implemented.
- Watch the upcoming HCAI video about the OCF-18 change available at [www.hcaiinfo.ca](http://www.hcaiinfo.ca) on January, 31, 2014.