

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS WITH DISABILITY PENSIONS

The following information from Edmonton Vet Max MORITZ which is extremely valuable data should members who are retired/released RCMP Pensioners and who are eligible to receive a Treatment Allowance.

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Supplementary Benefits

Clients who receive treatment benefits may receive supplementary benefits. These include:

- cost of travel to obtain medical services related to pensioned condition(s);
- cost of travel for an escort when client's health needs are such to require accompaniment;

Remuneration for an escort, where the escort is not the spouse, common-law partner or other member of the client's family or household.

Treatment Allowance

Retired/released RCMP pensioners are eligible to receive a Treatment Allowance, for up to 60 days per calendar year, if they receive "in-patient" care (in-hospital acute care) for their pensioned condition. Treatment Allowance is payable at a rate that is equal to the difference between the monthly pension paid to the client and the amount a client would be paid if in receipt of a pension paid at the 100 percent rate.

When I was in hospital again, I did some thinking and remembered something so did some checking. I'm not sure if members with pensioned conditions are aware of these two benefits (above) and thought I would pass them on. Our guys and gals should know if they have to travel to get treatment, they can apply for help with those travel costs. I remember one day going to the VAC office in Edmonton and the lady asked where I had come from and told her Leduc. She said she would get some of that cost covered. I said not to worry as I get that Attendance Allowance, but she said she would still submit a claim. About 3-4 weeks later there was a cheque for \$25. I know every time I go to the city to see the doctors, MRI's etc., I can submit a claim and just want to make sure members from outside the city are aware of this. They would get paid at the standard Gov't rates.

Another benefit they might not be aware of is the Treatment Allowance. It is one where if a person is "in hospital" for treatment of their pensioned condition they can get an increase in their pension for the time they were in hospital. They need to have a copy of their admission and release documents from the hospital and submit them. They then get their pension prorated for the time they were in hospital to the 100% limit.

Example: A member gets a disability pension rated anywhere from 1% to 99% and is in hospital for one week. By submitting the admission and release documents they can ask for the Treatment Allowance. VAC does their calculations and for the week in hospital they would calculate their pension at 100%. The VAC site indicates this is good for up to 60 days a year.