



BACKGROUND

Medical transcription costs skyrocket by more than \$6 million over five years

According to financial disclosure statements published by Lower Mainland health authorities and Providence Health Care (PHC), medical transcription outsourcing costs have increased by an average of 26 per cent a year over the last five years.

Annual increases in the volume of medical transcription have historically been in the range of 10 to 15 per cent, according to Providence Health Care, which manages the service on behalf of other Lower Mainland health authorities.

PHC has announced plans to contract out all remaining medical transcription in an effort to save \$3 million. This is part of a government-mandated consolidation exercise which is intended to shave \$100 million from the budgets of Lower Mainland health authorities.

But so far, partial outsourcing of medical transcription has resulted in \$6 million in additional costs to health authorities.

Payments made by Lower Mainland health authorities and Providence Health Care to Accentus Inc. and Expedite Transcription Services fiscal years 2007 through 2012

Fiscal Year ending Mar.31	Providence Health Care	Fraser Health	Vancouver Coastal Health*	Provincial Health Services	TOTAL	Annual Increase
2007	\$129,786.50	\$360,555	\$744,519.93	\$425,667	\$1,660,528.43	41.35%
2008	\$252,040.49	\$755,414	\$1,116,601.20	\$707,354	\$2,831,409.69	29.10%
2009	\$369,823.08	\$1,011,235	\$1,305,693.31	\$1,307,023	\$3,993,774.39	12.72%
2010	\$588,422.95	\$988,846	\$1,455,525.13	\$1,542,796	\$4,575,590.08	26.91%
2011	\$917,214.75	\$1,419,324	\$1,608,610.21	\$2,314,707	\$6,259,855.96	19.48%
2012	\$1,367,506.85	\$1,941,239	\$2,002,234.17	\$2,463,591	\$7,774,571.02	41.35%

AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE: 25.91 per cent

Source: Financial disclosure documents posted by PHC and health authorities on their websites pursuant to the *Financial Information Act*.

***Vancouver Coastal figures include payments made to both Accentus Inc. and Expedite Transcription Services. All other health authorities and Providence Health Care include Accentus Inc. only.**

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