



PCC Agent – Quick Reference Guide

Acceptable Documents for Medical Diagnosis

To meet the PCC Eligibility Criteria, the Tobacco-Victim must have been diagnosed in Canada between **March 8, 2015 and March 8, 2019 (inclusive of those dates)** with any one of the following Tobacco-related diseases:

1. Primary Lung Cancer;
2. Primary Throat Cancer (Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the larynx, oropharynx, or hypopharynx); or
3. Emphysema or COPD (GOLD Grade III or IV).

Documents that may be accepted as proof of diagnosis for Lung Cancer or Throat Cancer

- **Pathology Report** that clearly states (i) the Tobacco-Victim was diagnosed with Lung Cancer or Throat Cancer; and (ii) the date of diagnosis between March 8, 2015 and March 8, 2019 (inclusive).

Note: If your pathology report meets both criteria, no additional medical records or written physician statement are required.

If the Tobacco-Victim is **unable** to provide a pathology report confirming diagnosis of Lung Cancer or Throat Cancer, then they may submit one of the following documents confirming the diagnosis of Lung Cancer or Throat Cancer between March 8, 2015 and March 8, 2019 (inclusive):

- A copy of an extract from a medical file confirming the diagnosis between the required dates;
- A completed Physician Form found [here](#);
- A written statement from a Physician with access to the Tobacco-Victim's medical record, confirming the diagnosis between the required dates and providing at least one of the following records:
 - A pathology report (e.g. one that references or supports the diagnosis of Lung Cancer or Throat Cancer within the period from March 8, 2015, to March 8, 2019, but does not itself clearly confirm both the diagnosis and date).
 - operative report
 - biopsy report
 - MRI report
 - CT scan report
 - PET scan report
 - x-ray report
 - sputum cytology report

Documents that may be accepted as proof of diagnosis of Emphysema or COPD (GOLD Grade III or IV)

- **Spirometry Test** performed on the Tobacco-Victim between March 8, 2015, and March 8, 2019 (inclusive) that first demonstrated a FEV1 (non-reversible) of less than 50% of the predicted value.

- About the GOLD classification system:
 - COPD is graded using the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) system.
 - A diagnosis of COPD is confirmed when the FEV1/FVC ratio after bronchodilator is less than 0.7.
 - The GOLD grade is then determined by the FEV1 percent of predicted (also after bronchodilator), as shown below:

The GOLD Grade Classification System

Grade	Severity	FEV1 % (post-bronchodilator)
GOLD 1	Mild	FEV1 ≥80% predicted
GOLD 2	Moderate	50% ≤ FEV1 <80% predicted
GOLD 3	Severe	30% ≤ FEV1 <50% predicted
GOLD 4	Very Severe	FEV1 <30% predicted

For the purposes of the PCC Compensation Plan, the diagnosis of COPD **must be GOLD Grade III or IV** (i.e., FEV1 < 50% predicted) for the first time between March 8, 2015, and March 8, 2019 (inclusive of those dates) to be eligible for compensation.

Note: If your spirometry test meets the above criteria, no additional medical records or written physician statement are required.

If the Tobacco-Victim is **unable** to provide a spirometry test, then they may submit one of the following documents to prove the diagnosis of Emphysema or COPD (GOLD Grade III or IV) between March 8, 2015 and March 8, 2019 (inclusive):

- A copy of an extract from the Tobacco-Victim’s medical file confirming the diagnosis between the required dates;
- A completed Physician Form found [here](#).
- A written statement from a Physician having access to the Tobacco-Victim’s medical record, confirming the diagnosis between the required dates and providing at least one of the following records:
 - o spirometry report (e.g. that is consistent with or suggestive of a diagnosis of COPD (GOLD Grade III or IV) within the period from March 8, 2015, to March 8, 2019, but does not clearly meet the requirement noted above).
 - o CT scan report

If a Tobacco-Victim meets all eligibility criteria and has been diagnosed with more than one tobacco-related disease, compensation will be awarded for the single disease associated with the highest payment.

Because medical records can take considerable time to locate and retrieve, it is strongly recommended that you begin requesting medical records **as early as possible** in the claims process.

Need Help?

If you require assistance obtaining the necessary documents, please review the [Quick Reference Guide - Requesting Medical Records](#). Also, the PCC Agent can provide free guidance and support during the claims process. This includes help understanding what records to request and how to submit your request. However, the PCC Agent cannot guarantee that records will be located or that the documents received will meet the PCC Compensation Plan's evidentiary requirements. The PCC Agent is not responsible if records are missing, incomplete, inaccurate, or insufficient to support your claim.

The PCC Agent can be contacted at:

- Phone: 1-888-482-5852
- Email: PCCAgent@TobaccoClaimsCanada.ca
- Website: www.TobaccoClaimsCanada.ca