



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO OVER-THE-COUNTER ELIGIBILITY FOR REIMBURSEMENT

NOTICE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS:

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (collectively "the Act"), over the counter drugs (OTC), medicines and biologicals **will no longer be eligible for reimbursement through a cafeteria plan** unless accompanied by a doctor's prescription.

Since this change applies to all expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2011 **it will affect all plans and participants at the same time, regardless of the plan year.**

Effective January 1st, 2011, OTC items such as cough medicines, pain relievers, acid controllers and diaper rash ointment will not be reimbursed under a health FSA, HRA or HSA unless accompanied by a doctor's prescription. If the doctor's prescription is written as a refillable prescription then it only needs to be submitted with the initial claim. Professional Benefit Services will maintain a copy of the prescription on file, however with each new plan year a new prescription will be required. Insulin and some other OTC items, such as band-aids, will continue to be eligible for reimbursement without a prescription.

If your company offers a benefits card, you will no longer be able to purchase OTC items that are not eligible effective 1/1/2011. Only OTC items that are still allowed will continue to be approved at the point-of-sale; those that are not will be denied. Unfortunately even if you have a prescription on file with Professional Benefit Services, your benefits card will still not work at the point-of-sale and you will always have to submit a claim for reimbursement of that item.

THOUGH THE SPECIFIC LIST OF ITEMS AFFECTED HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY ASSESSED, THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES OF ITEMS WILL **NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT** WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION AND THUS, CANNOT BE PURCHASED USING A BENEFITS CARD:

- Allergy & Sinus
- Antibiotic Products
- Anti-Diarrheals
- Anti-Gas
- Anti-Itch & Insect Bite
- Anti-Parasitic Treatments
- Baby Rash Ointments/Creams
- Cold Sore Remedies
- Cough, Cold & Flu
- Digestive Aids
- Feminine Anti-Fungal/Anti-Itch
- Hemorrhoid Remedies
- Laxatives
- Motion Sickness Products
- Pain Relievers
- Respiratory Treatments
- Sleep Aids & Sedatives
- Stomach Remedies

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF SOME OF THE OTC ITEMS THAT **WILL REMAIN REIMBURSABLE** WITHOUT A DOCTORS PRESCRIPTION AND WILL APPROVE AT POINT-OF-SALE WITH THE BENEFITS CARD.

- Band Aids
- Birth Control
- Braces & Supports
- Catheters
- Contact Lens Supplies & Solutions
- Denture Adhesives
- Diagnostic Tests & Monitors
- Elastic Bandages & Wraps
- First Aid Supplies
- Insulin & Diabetic Supplies
- Ostomy Products
- Reading Glasses
- Wheelchairs, Walkers, Canes

Please contact your plan administrator if you have any questions.

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