

June 22, 2016

3sHealth enhanced employee benefits coverage offers plan members new opportunities to improve their health

After recently completing a full review of its existing insurance contracts, 3sHealth Employee Benefits and Great-West Life identified several areas for improvement to ensure the 3sHealth plans are keeping pace with industry standards. These improvements were approved by the 3sHealth Board of Trustees and will be effective July 1, 2016.

“Supporting the health and wellness of our plan members is the goal of the 3sHealth Employee Benefits Plans,” says Bud Anderson, Director of 3sHealth Employee Benefits. “Working together with our union, employer and stakeholder committee members, we have been able to offer enhanced coverage that can make a real difference for our plan members and their families.”

These new enhancements are provided to plan members at no additional cost. 3sHealth assessed the cost of the plan enhancements and determined there is adequate funding to support plan improvements for all union and out-of-scope employees without an increase to contribution rates. For specific information on benefits coverage, plan members can refer to the Members’ Annual Statement and Newsletter mailed at the end of May. Questions about coverage under the 3sHealth Employee Benefit Plans can be directed to a 3sHealth Benefit Services Officer at 1.866.278.2301 or ebp@3shealth.ca, or visit www.3shealth.ca and use the Live Chat option.

Benefit improvements include:

- Increased dependent life insurance for children, a pre-natal dependent life insurance benefit, and a reduced premium rate for dependent life insurance
- Elimination of the annual maximum coverage for diabetic supplies
- Elimination of the need for a physician’s referral for paramedical services like massage therapy, physiotherapy, counselling and occupational therapy
- Addition of acupuncture as a covered service
- Increased private duty nursing benefit
- Increased coverage for smoking cessation drugs, including a wider array of drugs being covered
- Increased coverage for therapeutic equipment
- Enhanced coverage for vision care including prescription sunglasses, prescription safety glasses, and laser eye surgery

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- Screening for oral cancer