

August 16, 2017

To: Benefit Administrators / Human Resource Personnel

**From: Jade Lea-Wilson
Manager, Employee Benefits**

Re: Extended Health Care and Dental Plan Enhancements effective July 1st, 2017

We are pleased to let you know that three benefit enhancements were added to the Extended Health Care and Dental Plan effective July 1st, 2017.

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine

Coverage for a CPAP machine increased to a maximum of \$2000 once every five years. Prior to July 1, CPAP machines were covered once per lifetime to a maximum of \$2000. CPAP machines include the initial purchase of; compliance package, filters, head gear, humidifier, masks, nasal pillows, smart card, tubing and water chamber.

This plan enhancement brings our extended health care plan in-line with the industry standard for CPAP machines.

Prescriptions are not required for CPAP machines.

Replacement accessories are eligible if the machine was previously approved or paid. Masks are limited to 3 purchases in a benefit year and the reasonable and customary amount is \$300.00 per mask. Eligible replacement accessories include: masks, humidifiers, nasal pillows, tubing, and water chamber.

Hearing Tests

Hearing tests are now eligible under the extended health care plan. The benefit allows for one hearing test once every four years. Hearing tests must be performed by an audiologist who is registered with the Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists to be eligible under the plan.

In the 2017-18 provincial budget the Government of Saskatchewan announced that they were phasing out the hearing aid plan that provided subsidized coverage for hearing aids and visits to an audiologist. In response, hearing tests are now covered under the extended health care plan for all members.

Fluoride Frequency Change

The frequency for fluoride (procedure code 12101) has changed from once every six months to twice per calendar year.

This change was made to align fluoride with the frequency for dental exams of twice per calendar year.

If you have any questions about these plan enhancements, please contact me at jade.leaf-wilson@3shealth.ca or 306-347-1723