UNIONIZED SUPPORT STAFF PROVINCIAL STANDARDIZED EXTENDED HEALTH CARE PLAN BULLETIN

The Unionized Support Staff Provincial Standardized Extended Health Plan (Standard Plan) will be updated, and minimum levels of dental coverage will be put in place **July 1, 2023**. Please see the attached summary showing the bargained extended health plan improvements.

In addition to the Standard Plan enhancements, all school district/local Support Staff dental plans will be updated to provide a minimum level of coverage, which is outlined below:

Plan	Minimum Coverage Provisions
Basic Services	Plan pays: 85%
Major Services	Plan pays: 60%
Orthodontic Services	Plan pays: 60% Lifetime Maximum: \$1,000

- If your current dental plan provides a lower coverage level, the increase will be effective July 1, 2023
- If your current dental plan provides a higher coverage level, there will be no change to coverage.

As your support staff local is currently participating in the Standard Plan, this bulletin provides information on the following:

- How are mid-year improvements to paramedical services and vision care adjudicated?
- Pacific Blue Cross Information microsite
- Next Steps

How are mid-year improvements to paramedical services and vision care adjudicated?

With benefit improvements occurring within the calendar year, you may have questions as to how claims adjudication will be impacted.

- Any eligible expenses incurred prior to the benefits improvement effective date (July 1, 2023) will be adjudicated by PBC based on the current plan provisions.
- Any eligible expenses incurred on or after the benefits improvement effective date (July 1, 2023) will be adjudicated based on the maximums outlined within the attached plan summary.

For example, your current Physiotherapist maximum is \$900 per person per calendar year. If a member has already been reimbursed \$900 for this service, any further Physiotherapist services received on or after the benefits improvement effective date would be eligible up to an additional

\$100 for the remainder of the year (as the calendar maximum for this service will be increasing to \$1,000 per person per calendar year). Expenses over \$900 that were incurred prior to the benefits improvement effective date are not eligible to be reimbursed with the additional \$100.

Pacific Blue Cross (PBC) Information microsite

PBC has developed a website specifically for those groups that are participating in the Standard Plan to provide information regarding the plan design and answers to frequently asked questions. Updates to the microsite, which will include information on benefit improvements to the Standard Plan, will be made shortly. Please check out this site at:

http://www.pac.bluecross.ca/cupek12

We encourage you to visit this site to better understand the changes to your Extended Health Care plan.

Next Steps

Review the plan information included with this bulletin and visit <u>http://www.pac.bluecross.ca/cupek12</u> to learn more about the Standard Plan effective July 1, 2023. You can also sign into PBC's member site to review your coverage details.

If you have any questions please contact your school district benefits administrator or your local union representative.