

## Further extension on process changes impacting massage therapy claims in Alberta

In April of this year, Sun Life provided you with a [communication](#) on changes impacting only those extended health care claims in Alberta for massage therapy services performed by massage therapists belonging to the Natural Health Practitioners of Canada (NHPC).

We previously informed you that, beginning September 1, 2013, for massage therapists belonging to the NHPC, Sun Life will only recognize those members in good-standing who:

- have 2,200 hours of formal training;
- successfully completed the Competency Equivalency Exam (CEE); or
- have exempted from the CEE.

This change to our process impacts those claims for services rendered by NHPC members who have only completed the Massage Therapy Competency Assessment Process (MTCAP).

### New effective date

This notice is to let you know that we have further delayed the effective date of our process change until **January 1, 2014**. This means that we will continue to accept claims for eligible services performed by NHPC massage therapists in Alberta having the MTCAP designation until January 1, 2014.

This extension provides the NHPC with additional time to evaluate current massage therapy members completing the CEE.

### What this means to you and your plan members

After January 1, 2014, claims for services of a massage therapist in Alberta who belongs to the NHPC will only be considered eligible for reimbursement if that practitioner has the required hours of training, has passed the CEE or been exempted from this exam.

Plan members with practitioners who belong to other associations in Alberta recognized by Sun Life are not affected by this change. These associations are:

- London and Counties Society of Physiologists
- Massage Therapist Association of Alberta (MTAA)
- Remedial Massage Therapists Association (RMTA)

### Next steps

We have attached a plan member [communication](#) for you to distribute to your plan members to inform them of this second extension of time during which they may still have their claims for massage therapy services in Alberta processed.

Plan members should check with their massage therapists to see if they belong to the NHPC (or another association recognized by Sun Life), have or will have completed one of the necessary requirements by January 1, 2014, or are otherwise exempt.

### Questions?

Contact your Sun Life Financial group benefits representative.