

SUN LIFE FINANCIAL SIGNS LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DISABILITY MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH



“As benefits costs continue to rise, managing organizational health is a top business priority for many employers. Our best practice approach, including a dedicated team, distinctive tools, thorough analysis, and evidence-based insight, will generate optimum results and assist plan sponsors along the full organizational health continuum—from wellness and prevention to absence and disability management.”

Lori Casselman, Assistant Vice President, Practice Excellence & Innovation

Effective December 2014, Sun Life Financial became the **first Canadian insurer to enter into a license agreement with the National Institute for Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR)**. The license agreement gives Sun Life Financial access to NIDMAR’s **Disability Management Self-assessment tool (DMSA)**, which reflects the culmination of a multi-year collaborative development process, incorporates the best practice principles of the International Code of Practice for Disability Management and measures against optimum practice standards in return-to-work/disability management.

NIDMAR is the leading body in the absence and disability management industry; as such, the license agreement gives our plan sponsors the assurance that our organizational health consulting programs, and absence and disability management programs, reflect industry-leading practices.

The license agreement supports Sun Life Financial’s continuous aim to provide its plan sponsors with reputable, reliable and calibrated assessment tools to help identify key gaps in international disability management practices.

ABOUT THE DMSA

Administered by NIDMAR, under the auspices of the *International Disability Management Standard Council (IDMSC)*, the DMSA was established by senior representatives in business, labour, government, and other stakeholder groups from around the world. The DMSA is designed to allow individual organizations to undertake a basic self-assessment of their current return to work and disability management efforts and obtain a report that provides an overview of their current performance. The report also identifies best practices, allowing the organization to determine which areas of their program require review and/or improvement.

The 16 elements covered by the DMSA tool come under the headings of disability management policy and workplace resources; disability prevention; and early intervention and timely return to work process. For more information on the DMSA, please visit <http://www.idmsc.org/dmsa/background.php?referral=1>.

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