

Contract Amendment – Coverage for Continuous Glucose Monitors for Type 1 diabetics to be added to your Extended Health Care benefit

We're excited to announce an enhancement we're making to our Extended Health Care (EHC) product – both for our standard product and for our existing clients with EHC plans.

What is changing?

Effective **November 1, 2017**, we are adding Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM) to our list of covered medical devices for plan members and dependents diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.

If your EHC plan already includes coverage for CGMs, this change will not apply to your contract. Your existing coverage will remain the same.

Why are we adding this coverage?

Clinical studies have shown that CGMs can help Type 1 diabetics reduce the ongoing and potentially life-threatening challenges associated with their illness, such as nocturnal hypoglycemia and hypoglycemic unawareness. This device can be purchased as a stand-alone monitoring system – or it can be integrated into an insulin infusion pump.

Currently, CGMs are not covered under provincial health care plans and most insurance plans. With annual costs for CGM equipment and sensors, averaging between \$3,500 and \$5,500, affordability can be an additional challenge for some plan members. But we are changing this. Sun Life is introducing CGMs to help ease part of the financial burden for Type 1 diabetics so they can better manage their health.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month and Sun Life continues to make efforts in the fight against the disease. Since announcing diabetes as our key business and community giving priority across our global footprint, Sun Life has committed over \$17 million to the cause.

Sun Life is leading the fight against diabetes. We are the first insurance carrier to offer CGMs to all Type 1 diabetics as a standard benefit under our group EHC product. Technology is constantly improving, and CGMs can help Type 1 diabetics control glucose levels more effectively – and potentially prevent life threatening hypoglycemic events from occurring.

New wording

The following is the new contract wording which will be included in your contract and in employee benefits booklets under the **Medical Services and Equipment** section, at the time of your next plan revision.

- Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) receivers, transmitters or sensors, for persons diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, up to a combined maximum of \$4,000 per person per benefit year. Sun Life must be provided with a doctor's note confirming the diagnosis.

What you need to do

Keep this Focus Update as a record of this change and file it with your Sun Life group contract(s) for future reference – this serves as an amendment to your contract(s) effective November 1, 2017. The next time your contract is revised, updated wording will be included to reflect the above change.

Next Steps

There is no immediate rate adjustment for this change. Instead, your group's claims experience will determine any adjustment needed at your next renewal. We anticipate that adding this coverage will have a minimal impact to EHC rates.

Plan sponsors who wish to opt out of this coverage for select plans only, or defer the effective date to a later date, will need to opt out of this contract amendment. In place of this, plan sponsors should request a plan revision to make the appropriate changes to their contract. All plan sponsors wishing to opt out, should contact their Sun Life Financial group benefits representative no later than September 30, 2017.

For plan sponsors who do not contact their Sun Life Financial representative by September 30 to opt out, their contract will be amended effective November 1, 2017 without any further notice.

FOCUS update

group benefits news

August 31, 2017

Plan Member Communication

We have prepared a [communication](#) explaining this contract enhancement to plan members. Please share this communication with your plan members as it provides information, instructions and serves as a contractual amendment to their plan.

Questions?

Contact your Sun Life Financial group benefits representative.

Group Benefits are provided by Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies.

31/08/17 EM

