

Alberta Fee Guide Update

At Sun Life, we advocate for our plan sponsors and members, and we are constantly looking to bring you more affordable dental costs.

What is the current situation?

The Alberta Dental Association & College (ADAC) will be publishing a new fee guide coming into effect on January 1, 2018. It will include lower fees than the previously announced fee guide – with the new fees being reflected in the dental claim bill.

It's important to be aware that the ADAC Fee Guide is a suggested fee guide, not a mandatory one. This is no different than the fee guides published by dental associations in other provinces. As a result, many dentists will continue to set the fees they charge for services, and might not adopt the new fees right away. For now, it is too early to tell whether dentists will follow the ADAC Fee Guide.

What is changing?

The new fee guide takes effect on January 1, 2018.

What is the impact to your plan?

Sun Life's standard contract language states that we limit dental claim reimbursements to published fee guide rates. Therefore, claims with service dates starting January 1, 2018, will be adjudicated based on the ADAC Fee Guide. However, if your dental plan is based on a fee guide other than the current fee guide (for example, current fee guide minus one year), the new ADAC Fee Guide will take effect at a later date.

Where the ADAC fees are lower than Sun Life's reimbursed amounts, your plan could realize savings. However, out of pocket cost for plan members will be dependent upon the willingness of each dentist to adopt the new rates in the ADAC fee guide.

As this situation develops, we will provide you with additional information that may impact your plan.

FOCUS update

group benefits news

December 14, 2017

Plan member communication

We have prepared a [member communication](#) for you to share with your plan members, regarding dental fee costs.

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.

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