

Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

Extended Health Benefits
Information Bulletin
March 23, 2017

LOW-COST ORTHOTICS:

The following program change was announced during the March 22nd Budget Speech:

Effective May 1, 2017: Coverage for low cost orthotics will no longer be universally covered for short term conditions, such as fractures or sprains. Low cost orthotics will continue to be benefits for individuals with coverage under Supplementary Health Benefits and Family Health Benefits. For more information, contact the Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL), Prosthetic and Orthotic Program at 306-787-7121 or 1-888-787-8996.

What is changing with low cost orthotics?

Ready-made-off-the-shelf orthotics for short term conditions, such as fractures or sprains are no longer covered universally.

When is this change happening?

This change is effective May 1, 2017.

I receive Supplementary Health Benefits or Family Health Benefits and cannot afford the cost of a ready-made-off-the-shelf orthotic and do not have/cannot afford private insurance. What can I do?

Ready-made-off-the-shelf orthotics will continue to be benefits for those individuals with coverage under Supplementary Health Benefits (SHB – adults and children) and Family Health Benefits (FHB – children).

Which ready-made-off-the-shelf orthotics are no longer benefits?

Some examples of ready-made-off-the-shelf orthotics include, but are not limited to, a rigid cast boot prescribed for a sprained or fractured ankle, any brace prescribed for a sprain or other short-term condition, or a cervical collar.

Are low cost orthotics covered by private insurance?

Individuals are encouraged to contact their private insurer or group benefits administrator directly to see if the ready-made-low-cost orthotic is a benefit under their policy.

Will other orthotics for long term conditions continue to be provided by the program?

This change only impacts certain orthotics used on a one-time or short-term basis. The Ministry will continue to provide universal coverage for orthotics to patients with a chronic or ongoing condition.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information, contact the Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL), Prosthetic and Orthotic Program at 306-787-7121 or 1-888-787-8996.