

Health & Benefits News - CARES Act Information

Part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that was recently signed into law reinstates coverage of over-the-counter (OTC) drugs and medicines as qualified medical expenses for tax-advantaged accounts such as HSAs, FSAs and HRAs without need for a prescription. It also expands the definition of qualified OTC items to include menstrual care products. This change is effective for expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2020, and currently has no expiration date.

Pinnacle is ready to accommodate these provisions today, but full roll-out requires action on the part of SIGIS (the group that manages the industry standard to support IRS requirements) and merchants. The key driver is the creation by SIGIS of an updated list of eligible products by April 15 and the implementation of that list by participating merchants over the next couple of months. Merchants, not card processors, control the timeline.

Note: The UPC code scanner available in Pinnacle | Health & Benefits mobile app will not show OTC products as eligible until the new SIGIS list is in place.

We expect temporary inconsistencies in shopping experiences for the consumer using the Pinnacle | Health & Benefits Debit Card (i.e. OTCs may be allowable at one merchant, but not another) as the industry makes this important transition.

Please share this information with your employees, along with the tips below on paying for OTC products that may get declined initially while merchants take time to update their systems.



Tips for Paying for OTC Items

- 1. Pay for declined OTC items with another source
- 2. Take and store photos of the receipt(s)
- 3. Reimburse yourself for the amount from your HSA or file a claim to be reimbursed from your FSA or HRA

To be reimbursed by direct deposit, account holders must first connect a checking or savings account to their HSA, FSA or HRA using the instructions on page 22 of the Consumer User Guide under "Add a Bank Account." Otherwise, the reimbursement will be mailed in the form of a paper check.

HSA holders: To reimburse yourself, please see instructions on page 8 of the Consumer User Guide under "Requesting HSA Distributions."

FSA/HRA holders: To file a claim for reimbursement, please see instructions on page 14 of the Consumer User Guide under "File a Claim for HRAs and/or FSAs."

Please email us at health@pnfp.com if you have questions. We are here to help.

This email was sent to: egibbons@ajaxturner.com

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