



GROUP COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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MEDAVIE BLUE CROSS

Medavie BC to cover medical marijuana

- EHC optional stand-alone coverage for fresh and dried cannabis as well as cannabis oil. Everything else is ineligible.
- Plan members can choose different annual benefit maximum options.
- Preauthorization is required. Eligible conditions include chronic pain, cancer treatments and MS.

MEDAVIE BLUE CROSS

Medavie BC and Medaca Health Group launch virtual CBT pilot project

- Medavie BC is partnering with Medaca Health Group to launch a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy pilot project to provide virtual mental health care.
- Members with anxiety/depression can receive therapy from a professional by phone or online.

MANULIFE

Manulife sees lower STD claims following increase to mental-health benefits

- After increasing their STD mental health benefit limit from \$1,000 to \$10,000 (per person per year) in 2017, Manulife has seen a decrease in short-term disability claims related to mental health.

DESJARDINS

Desjardins plans to offer telemedicine consultation for group clients

- Desjardins is planning to launch a telemedicine consultation pilot project for group insurance clients.
- Service would likely involve real-time consultation with health professionals via video or written communication.
- No official release date has been confirmed.

SUN LIFE

Sun Life to offer AI-aided second opinion for oncology patients

- Teladoc Health has made Best Doctors' oncology services available to plan members through their EHC plan.
- Patients can obtain a medical review from an oncologist who utilizes the AI capabilities of IBM's Watson for Oncology.
- Oncologist validates diagnosis and provides personalized treatment options.