

### Important Information for Group Plan Administrators

This special insert for group plan administrators is the third in a series (sent October, November & December 2016) to help you prepare for the changes to Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums and premium assistance effective Jan. 1, 2017.

Please take note of the following:

#### 1. Early Arrival of Group Invoice for January 2017:

This insert is accompanying your January 2017 group invoice. The invoice was sent early to allow you additional time to prepare for the changes. This early production is a ONE TIME ONLY occurrence. You will receive your February 2017 group invoice in late January 2017, as usual.

#### 2. Identifier “9” on Invoice for Accounts Changing Premium Rates:

Accounts on your group with changing premium amounts from 2016 to 2017 will be indicated on this one invoice only with a “9” in the CODE column. See reverse for sample scenarios to assist you.

#### 3. MSP Premium Rates Transition Table Available:

The complete MSP Premium Rates Transition Table was posted in July on the group plan administrator section of the MSP website: [gov.bc.ca/groupplanadministrators](http://gov.bc.ca/groupplanadministrators) and click “MSP Premium Changes”. This table was also included in the October and November inserts, and is available in a printable PDF format (right hand column – Special Inserts for Groups). It provides a helpful reference from 2016 to 2017 premium rates.

#### 4. Updated Group Procedure Guide now Online:

An updated Group Procedure Guide is now available in a printable PDF format on the MSP website. This new version is effective Jan. 1, 2017 and outlines changes to premiums, premium assistance, definitions, income levels and the elimination of premiums for children.

#### 5. Automatic Adjustments for Premium Assistance:

Anyone on your group currently receiving premium assistance will be automatically adjusted for the new rates. However, if you have members who will qualify based on the new income levels (i.e., \$30,001 - \$42,000), please have them complete and submit the premium assistance application (HLTH 119) as soon as possible.

#### 6. Processing of Premium Assistance using 2016 Income begins Jan. 2, 2017:

Applications using 2015 income should be mailed to Health Insurance BC as soon as possible. Beginning Jan. 2, 2017, applications using 2016 income can also be submitted. The updated premium assistance form (HLTH 119) is now available: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/forms/119fil.pdf>

#### 7. Adding Premium Assistance:

If your group does not currently administer MSP Regular Premium Assistance for your employees – but you would like to – please send a letter with your group contact information to:

Health Insurance BC  
PO BOX 9140 STN PROV GOVT  
VICTORIA BC V8W 9E5

Additional details on these items and more are available on the group section of the MSP website.

### Sample Invoice and Scenarios – December Invoice for January 2017 Premiums

While the group invoice design did not change, the data in the existing invoice design is modified FOR THIS ONE OCCASION ONLY, as indicated in the invoice sample below. The “RATE” column reflects the new premium rate codes, the “CURRENT” column shows the new premium rate amount, and the “CODE” column with a number “9” indicates accounts where the premium amount for 2017 is different than 2016:

ACCT	NAME	SIZE	RATE	CURRENT	ADJUST	CODE	BALANCE
0000001	M O Smith	04	C	150.00	0.00		150.00
0000002	J L Jones	03	C	150.00	0.00		150.00
0000003	B F Johnson	04	C	75.00	0.00	9	75.00
0000004	T R McDonald	10	J	23.00	0.00	9	23.00
0000005	R H Green	06	L	92.00	46.00	C9	92.00
0000006	K G Anderson	02	C	150.00	0.00	9	150.00
0000007	O P Douglas	03	K	35.00	-35.00	D9	35.00

Looking at this invoice sample and using the MSP Premium Rates Transition Table (on group website and October and November inserts), the following can be determined:

1. Smith, family of 4 = 2 adults, 2 children with Adjusted Net Income (ANI) over \$42,000.00. Same premium rate as 2016.
2. Jones, family of 3 = 2 adults, 1 child with ANI over \$42,000.00. Same premium rate as 2016.
3. Johnson, family of 4 = 1 adult, 3 children with ANI over \$42,000.00. New premium rate for 2017 as indicated by “9” in Code column.
4. McDonald, family of 10 = 1 adult, 9 children with ANI \$26,001 - \$28,000. New premium rate for 2017 indicated by “9” in Code column.
5. Green, family of 6 = 2 adults, 4 children, including new spouse/dependent added with ANI \$30,001 - \$34,000. New premium rate for 2017 indicated by “9” in Code column, as well as “C” for “Add Dependent”.
6. Anderson, two adults with ANI above \$42,000 – no longer discounted for couples. New premium rate for 2017 as indicated by “9” – increase of \$14.
7. Douglas, family of 3 = 1 adult, 2 children with ANI \$28,001- \$30,000. Spouse has been cancelled from account since the last invoice. New premium rate for 2017 as indicated by “9” in Code column, as well as “D” for “Cancelled Coverage”.

#### Questions?

For general questions about your invoice or payment related questions, please call Revenue Services of British Columbia at **1 844 248-6631**.

For questions regarding the MSP Premium rates and Regular Premium Assistance project, please email: [dist.EnrolmentPremiumsAndPremiumAssistance@maximusbc.ca](mailto:dist.EnrolmentPremiumsAndPremiumAssistance@maximusbc.ca).

MSP is administered by Health Insurance BC on behalf of the Government of British Columbia.

Phone (Lower Mainland): 604 683-7520

Toll-free (Rest of B.C.): 1 877 955-5656

Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/medicalservesplan](http://www.gov.bc.ca/medicalservesplan)