

Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology

GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS COMMUNIQUÉ

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

OSTEOPATH COVERAGE

Under the CAAT Extended Health Care Plans (Academic, Administrative, Support), services provided by a Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) are eligible expenses. Osteopath services are also provided by individuals with a Diploma in Osteopathic Manual Practice (DOMP). In May 2007, the services of a DOMP were no longer considered eligible as these individuals were not meeting the criteria to be eligible under a Private Health Services Plan (PHSP) e.g. the CAAT plans, as outlined in the governing legislation.

Since that time, the Council has worked with Sun Life to review the situation in light of decisions rendered by the Federal Department of Finance. Sun Life has determined that where a provincial licensing body does not exist for a profession, a professional association that sets out and manages the requirement of its profession would be viewed as a reasonable proxy. This is the situation that applies to DOMP's, for which there is a reasonable professional association.

This means that the CAAT Extended Health Care (EHC) plans will again allow the payment of claims for the services of a DOMP Osteopath in addition to continuing to cover the services of a DO.

Handling of Claims

As a result, Osteopath claims will be handled as follows:

- Sun Life will immediately recommence payment for the services of a DOMP
- **By April 30, 2010**, plan members should submit claims for Osteopath services incurred since May 2007 that were **not previously submitted** to Sun Life
- Sun Life will re-adjudicate any claims that have been submitted and declined since May 2007 and will issue a payment to the affected plan members.

Please contact your College Benefits Administrator if you have a claim for Osteopath services that was declined and for which you have not received payment by May 31, 2010 from Sun Life.