

Important News about over-the-counter medicines

New Federal Regulations and Restrictions

Beginning January 2011, many over-the-counter (OTC) medicines will no longer be eligible for spending account reimbursement *without a prescription* from a medical provider. These changes are required by federal healthcare reform legislation passed in March 2010.

- Items such as cough medicines, pain relievers, allergy medicines, acid controllers, and diaper rash ointments will no longer qualify for reimbursement unless accompanied by a doctor's prescription and Reimbursement Request form.
- These items cannot be purchased using your Benny™ Prepaid Benefits Card.
- The new regulation applies to when the expense was incurred, not when the claim was submitted.
- OTC expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2011 will require a doctor's prescription; no prescription will be required for expenses incurred prior to January 1, 2011.
- The change applies to the tax year (calendar year) beginning 2011, not your FSA or HRA plan year. For example, if your company's plan year begins on a date other than January 1, the change is still effective January 1, 2011.

Items that will remain eligible for reimbursement without a doctor's prescription

The following is a list of sample OTC items that qualify for reimbursement without a doctor's prescription, and are eligible to be purchased with your Benny™ Prepaid Benefits Card:

- Band Aids
- Birth control
- Braces and supports
- Catheters
- Contact lens supplies and solutions
- Denture adhesives
- Diagnostic tests and monitors
- Elastic bandages and wraps
- First aid supplies
- Insulin and diabetic supplies
- Ostomy products
- Reading glasses
- Wheelchairs, walkers, canes

Items that *will* require a doctor's prescription for reimbursement

Though the specific list of items affected has not been finalized, the following categories of items **will require a doctor's prescription** and therefore cannot be purchased using your Benny™ Card:

- Acid controllers
- Allergy and sinus
- Antibiotic products
- Anti-diarrheals
- Anti-gas
- Anti-itch and insect bite
- Anti-parasitic treatments
- Baby rash ointments/creams
- Cold sore remedies
- Cough, cold and flu medicines
- Digestive aids
- Feminine anti-fungal/anti-itch
- Hemorrhoidal preps
- Laxatives
- Motion sickness medicine
- Pain relievers
- Respiratory treatments
- Sleep aids and sedatives
- Stomach remedies

We will keep you updated on these changes as we learn more. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact us at 800.422.7038.