

# Keeping you informed

Benefit plan news for People Corporation plan sponsors

## Personal protective equipment in the workplace

Provinces are moving into a new phase of our new normal post COVID-19. More businesses and service providers have reopened – but nothing is quite business as usual.

New health and safety standards have been implemented by professional associations, regulatory bodies, and the government to ensure we're doing all that we can to protect the health of Canadians.

### Medical and dental care providers

Medical and dental care providers are required to implement necessary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. They're required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) and allow additional time for cleaning the equipment they use during treatment sessions to help ensure they're providing services safely.

### This means additional costs

Charges related to PPE and additional cleaning aren't eligible expenses under health or dental contract provisions. Most insurance carriers aren't implementing changes to cover these fees as part of their standard practice.

### Covering the costs of PPE

As a plan sponsor, you can choose to update your group benefits plan to cover the cost of PPE surcharges.

If your plan includes a health spending account, PPE, i.e.: face masks, gloves, gowns, etc. are considered an eligible expense under health spending accounts providing the surcharge is in relation to services being provided by an eligible health or dental care provider. Check the Government of Canada's [site](#) for a complete list of PPE.

### For more information

If you have questions or want to discuss PPE surcharges and the options available, please contact your People Corporation benefits consultant.



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