



New qualified expenses added for HSAs, HRAs and FSAs

OTC drugs without prescriptions and menstrual products qualify

Anthem remains focused on our commitment to providing our members access to care and easing their financial burden related to COVID-19. We want to make you aware that a new federal law expands how members can use their health savings accounts (HSAs), health reimbursement accounts (HRAs – Member Pay) and flexible spending accounts (FSAs):



Members can now use these accounts to purchase over-the-counter (OTC) medicines that had previously required a prescription. They can also use the accounts to purchase menstrual products. This will help them save on health care costs because the funds in these accounts are pre-tax.



For now, members will need to pay for these items out of their pockets and file claims for reimbursement. They'll need to keep their receipts for these purchases. All eligible purchases they make after December 31, 2019, qualify.



They'll be able to use their debit cards soon. Retailers are updating their systems to accept the cards for the newly approved items. Some stores may be ready as soon as April 15 for OTC medicines and May 15 for menstrual products. Others may need several weeks for the update.

Employers don't need to do anything to make this change happen.

It was made as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which was signed into law March 27. It went into effect immediately.

We're steadfast in our commitment to support you and ensure our members have affordable access to care. We'll continue to provide you and them with resources and updates related to COVID-19.

To learn more about your health plan benefits and COVID-19, go to [anthem.com/ca/coronavirus](https://www.anthem.com/ca/coronavirus). Please email actwisebrokersupport@anthem.com if you have additional questions.