

# **HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS**

*Department of Human Resource Management  
Office of Health Benefits*

*November 23, 2010*

## ***Health Reform Provision on Over-the-Counter Drug Reimbursement***

Beginning Jan. 1, 2011, a national health care reform provision concerning reimbursement of over-the-counter drugs goes into effect. Employees who participate in Medical Flexible Reimbursement Accounts will **no longer be reimbursed for the cost of non-prescription over-the-counter drugs and medication**. Examples are drugs for allergies, pain relief or cold and cough medicines. Please note that this change in reimbursement rules will not allow employees to make changes to their Medical FRA contributions.

Other OTC items, which are not considered drugs or medication, may still be reimbursed. These include such items as crutches, canes, band-aids and eyeglasses. Fringe Benefits Management Company (FBMC), which administers the Commonwealth's flexible reimbursement accounts, has a two-page flyer on its Web site at [www.myfbmc.com](http://www.myfbmc.com) with additional information that you may want to share with employees. Anyone can access the flyer without logging on to the site. The information includes a list of items that will require or will not require a prescription to be reimbursed starting next year. The direct link is <https://www.myfbmc.com/customer/OTCNotice.PDF>.

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