

Cessation Aid Provision for Employees and Tobacco Policies in Larger Organizations in BC

March 17, 2008

Organization	Cessation Aid Provision	Does the Organization Recommend QuitNow Services?	Implementation Date for the Organization's Tobacco Policy
Fraser Health Authority	When employees register with QuitNow by Phone they receive a free quit kit from their Occupational Health Nurses that includes 8 weeks of nicotine replacement (NRT) patch with some NRT gum.	Employees need to register with QuitNow by Phone prior to receiving free NRT	March 31, 2008
Interior Health Authority	Employee Health and Wellness Staff will offer tobacco cessation counseling to employees who use tobacco. Transition Nicotine Replacement Therapy starter kits (2 weeks of NRT) will be available to all employees with referrals from a trained Employee Health and Wellness staff member. The kits will help employees who want to quit through the transition to smoke free environments and will be available between March 2008 and August 2008. Some areas will be extending until Dec 2008.	QuitNow Services are recommended to employees	May 31, 2008
Northern Health Authority	Offering employees \$300 lifetime reimbursement for smoking cessation pharmacotherapy.	QuitNow Services are recommended to employees	January 6 - May 27, 2008 depending on the Health Service Area
Vancouver Coastal Health	As of February 1, 2008, full time, part-time, and casual employees who are enrolled in the HBT/EHB plan are eligible for 100% of nicotine replacement therapy expenses (including Zyban and Champix) up to a lifetime maximum of \$300.	QuitNow Services are recommended to employees	May 31, 2008 for Smoke-Free Premise Policy
Vancouver Island Health Authority	As of January 1, 2007, all employees who want to quit using tobacco are eligible for 100% reimbursement of NRT expenses (including Zyban and Champix) up to a lifetime maximum of \$300.	QuitNow Services are recommended to employees	March 1, 2008 for Smoke-Free Premise Policy
Provincial Health Service Authority	As of January 1, 2008, all employees that are covered by PHSA extended benefits are eligible for 100% reimbursement of NRT (gum, patch, inhaler) & prescription cessation aids up to a lifetime maximum of \$300. Riverview Hospital & Forensic Psychiatric Services are covered by the Public Service Agency pilot project Quittin'Time.	QuitNow Services are recommended to employees	March 1, 2008 100% for PHSA owned facilities including many of their agencies. Riverview Hospital will have a 25 foot buffer zone.

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March 14, 2008

Organization	Cessation Aid Provision for Employees	Does the Organization Recommend QuitNow Services?	Implementation Date for the Organization's Tobacco Policy
Provincial Government	<p>PSA Public Service Agency (covers all provincial public servants)</p> <p>Smoking cessation coverage will be included as a benefit under the extended health plan effective October 25, 2007 until March 31, 2008. Employees must be eligible for benefits and enrolled in the extended health plan.</p> <p>Employees must register in the Quittin'Time Program prior to purchasing any smoking cessation product/ drug. Coverage under the extended health plan includes nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) products such as the gum, patch, or inhaler and eligible prescription drugs such as Champix or Zyban. They are reimbursed to a maximum of \$300 per calendar year to a lifetime maximum of \$1,000 per individual.</p> <p>Reimbursement is subject to the normal plan rules such as the annual deductible and up to 80% of cost reimbursed.</p>	Employees enter the Quittin' Time program by contacting QuitNow by Phone through e-mail, fax referral or phone.	
	<p>Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance (MEIA)</p> <p>There was a pilot project in 2007 for free nicotine replacement therapy for MEIA clients who accessed QuitNow by Phone.</p>	MEIA clients accessed service through QuitNow by Phone.	
	<p>Corrections</p> <p>Corrections employees are covered by the Public Service Agency program called Quittin'Time. (No wide-spread use of NRT or Zyban for inmates. If they have been assessed by the prison physician they may be ordered NRT or pharmacotherapy).</p>	Yes, corrections employees access Quittin'Time through QuitNow by Phone.	Secure Centres have had a smoking policy since 2001. 100% ban (inside & outside) of all facilities as of January 2008. Discontinued any sale of tobacco on January 14, 2008.
Federal Corrections	<p>All Federal Government employees and their dependents receive extended benefits of 80% reimbursement to a lifetime maximum of \$1000 for cessation aids that have been prescribed by a doctor and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist.</p> <p>Offenders who smoke will be offered one free course of smoking cessation aids between February 1, 2008 and July 31, 2008. Smoking cessation aids include nicotine replacement therapies (gum, patches and inhalers) and Zyban.</p>	Not currently recommending QuitNow Services to employees but Corrections have been provided with promotional material to encourage use of the service.	May 5, 2008 is the start of the 100% smoking ban. Have had an indoor ban since January 31, 2006. No tobacco except for ceremonial use. Considering outside of fences as well.