



MEDICAL MUTUAL®

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December 2011

Annual Notification of the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

Dear Group Official:

In accordance with the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, group health plans, insurance companies and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) offering mastectomy coverage must also provide coverage for reconstructive surgery in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient. Medical Mutual® and its Family of Companies take this responsibility seriously. Coverage includes:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed.
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.
- Prosthesis and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas (swelling of the hand and arm on the operated side).

This law requires that health plans cover reconstructive breast surgery only if the health plan provides coverage for mastectomies.

Other important points:

- The law applies to fully insured plans, self-insured plans and non-group plans.
- The law is applicable to plan years beginning on or after October 21, 1998.
- Group health plans must deliver this notice to their members in accordance with the Department of Labor's disclosure regulations applicable to furnishing Summary Plan Descriptions.

If you have not already given your employees the annual notice required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, please distribute the notice on the back of this letter by the end of the year.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Patricia Bunn Decensi
Vice President, Assistant General Counsel

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Subject: The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

On October 21, 1998, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act was signed into law. Effective as of that date, group health plans, insurance companies and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) offering mastectomy coverage must also provide coverage for reconstructive surgery in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient. Medical Mutual® and its Family of Companies take this responsibility seriously. Coverage includes:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to present a symmetrical appearance.
- Prosthesis and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy procedure, including lymphedemas (swelling of the hand and arm on the operated side).

If you have any questions about this or other healthcare benefits, please contact your healthcare benefits representative, or call the Customer Service number listed on your identification card.