M_H for your benefit

What Happens at Age 65?

When you reach age 65, several changes may occur within your group benefits program, in relation to the life insurance, long-term disability, and prescription drug benefit. It will be important to refer to your Employee Benefits booklet for specific details on your program. Here's what you should know:

Life Insurance

At age 65, your group life insurance will typically reduce by 50%. However, within the first **31** days, you may have the opportunity to convert the reduced portion of your life insurance to a personal policy. This allows you to maintain most, if not all, of the same level of life insurance protection. Also, by converting within this timeframe, you are not required to provide any medical evidence.

Long-Term Disability Insurance

It's important to note that LTD benefits typically do not continue beyond age 65 in Canada. This is largely due to the fact that at age 65 you are eligible for the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), which provides either disability or retirement income. Your LTD premiums will automatically cease a few months prior to your 65th birthday (in line with the waiting period outlined in your contract), and you will no longer be required to pay premiums for long-term disability coverage.

Prescription Drug Coverage

Ontario Resident:

When you reach age 65 in Ontario, you become eligible for the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program. The ODB program provides subsidized prescription drug coverage for eligible seniors. At this point, your pharmacist will automatically enroll you in the ODB program, and your employer-sponsored benefit plan becomes second payor.

Quebec Resident:

When you reach age 65 in Quebec, you become eligible for the Quebec Health Insurance Plan (RAMQ). RAMQ provides basic health coverage including drugs, hospital care, physician services, and various other medical services. At this point, you will automatically be registered for coverage under RAMQ and will need to contact them directly if you wish to opt out. You may have the option to continue to be insured under the private plan only, under the public plan only, or coordinate benefits under both programs. For more information, please visit RAMQ's website.

* As a Quebec Resident, here are some key points to consider as you make this decision:
Coverage Comparison: While RAMQ offers basic health care, most benefit programs provide additional benefits that RAMQ does not cover. You should review the details of both plans to understand the differences.
Costs: The cost of RAMQ varies based on household income and is funded through Quebec's taxation system. Your employer-sponsored benefit program may have premiums associated with it. Take a moment to evaluate the financial implications of each option.

* This is not a legal document, and is intended solely for informational purposes.

