

## ADVISORY LETTER

BY E-MAIL

June 9,2017

AL- 4-17

**TO: ALL FIR “BENEFITS ONLY”MEMBER COMPANIES**

Gentlemen and Mesdames:

Re: Dental and Extended Health Care Plan Renewal Rates

This Advisory Letter is to inform you that FIR “Benefits Only” Member companies will be faced with increases to their premium rates for the Extended Health Coverage Plan for the coming year, starting July 1,2017.

Pacific Blue Cross annually reviews Plan experience and recommends premium rate adjustments, if required to insure adequate plan funding. On the basis of their recommendations, EHC premiums will rise by 5%. (Some of this increase is also a result of the higher lifetime EHC maximum which, due to 2014 Coastal negotiations, increases June 15,2017.) Dental Care Plan premiums do not require an adjustment at this time and are unchanged.

Shown below are the premium rates for the FIR “Benefits Only” Members who have the standard Coastal forest industry benefits.

<b>FIR BENEFITS ONLY MEMBERS</b>		<b>Current</b>	<b>Renewal July/2017</b>
Dental Care	Single	\$43.47	\$43.47
	Couple	\$81.21	\$81.21
	Family	\$143.95	\$143.95
Extended Health Care	Single	\$35.37/38.40	\$37.14/40.32
	Family	\$89.08/96.69	\$93.53/101.52

Note that there are two Extended Health Care rates shown in the above table. That is because there were differences in the prescription drug plans negotiated in 2014. The lower rate is based on a generic drug based formulary; the higher rate is based on an open formulary.

Those “Benefits Only” Member Companies who have minor benefit difference in their package with the USW may have Dental or EHC rates that vary slightly from the above table.

You should receive separate notification of these adjustments from Pacific Blue Cross.

For further information on the Coastal Forest Industry Benefit Package you can access our website at [www.firrbenefits.com](http://www.firrbenefits.com)

Please call or email us if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,

T.J. Getzie,