



Supporting you on your transitioning journey

Understanding your *Gender Affirmation Benefit*

Your benefit plan now includes coverage for masculinization or feminization treatments and procedures following gender transitioning surgery.

While most provincial governments currently provide coverage for gender transitioning surgeries, this does not include many additional procedures that members receive to align their features with their transitioned gender.

How do I know if I am eligible?

Eligibility is based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Gender Dysphoria diagnosis
- ✓ Approval through a provincial and/or territorial prior authorization process
- ✓ Be over 18 years of age
- ✓ All treatments and procedures will be performed in Canada

What procedures are covered?

You have the flexibility to choose the procedures you feel will best support your transition.

Covered procedures include:

- Facial feminization
- Tracheal shaving (Adam's apple reduction)
- Laser hair removal
- Vaginal dilators
- Vocal therapy/pitch-raising surgery laryngeal chondroplasty
- Pectoral implants (chest contouring)
- Liposuction and lipofilling
- Nose surgery
- Face/eyelid lift
- Cheek/lip fillers or augmentation
- Hair transplant/implants
- Gluteal lift/implants

Travel costs associated with surgeries and treatment are not eligible for coverage.

Accessing your benefits

You'll need to provide supporting documents demonstrating that you've been approved through your provincial gender affirmation program and submit your paid in full receipt(s) of your procedure(s) to be reimbursed through this coverage.

Get added support from your health plan

The choice to transition takes time and support. Your benefit plan reflects our holistic, inclusive approach to member health with additional coverage options to support you during this time. Related benefits include:

Hormone Replacement Therapy

This coverage is available, with a prescription, to all members regardless of gender, through your prescription drug plan.

Mental Health Benefit

Counselling can play an important role in the transitioning process. Your Mental Health Benefit covers the formal psychological assessment necessary to qualify for provincial gender affirmation programs and our benefit.

For additional support, you can access the counselling services of a range of health practitioners through your Extended Health Benefits including:

- ✓ psychologists
- ✓ social workers
- ✓ counselling therapists
- ✓ psychotherapists
- ✓ psychoeducators

This includes assistance for live and digital therapy services.

Here for you during this important change in your life.



You can find more details on your coverage through the **Blue Cross Mobile app** under your Extended Health Benefits or by logging in at medaviebc.ca.

