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AlwaysCare Partners with EPIC Hearing Healthcare to Offer Hearing Benefit

Hearing loss is often thought of as a symptom of old age. But the truth is that it affects millions of working adults as well.

In fact, according to the National Institutes of Health, 20 million working adults (ages 18–64) suffer from hearing loss. It's the third most common chronic disability in the United States.

With concern for these Americans—and their employers—in mind, AlwaysCare Benefits has teamed with EPIC Hearing Healthcare to offer the AlwaysCare Hearing Benefit as a rider with its AlwaysCare Dental and Vision plans. The hearing benefit is currently available in limited markets, but a national rollout is planned.

“This partnership reinforces our commitment to the overall wellness of our customers,” said Erich Sternberg, president of AlwaysCare Benefits. “With millions of Americans in need of hearing coverage, we believe this rider will be a strong addition to our ancillary offerings.”

The hearing rider provides affordable access to services and materials often not covered under general health insurance plans, along with substantial discounts on hearing aids and other hearing-related services and support. The partnership with EPIC Hearing Healthcare will give AlwaysCare Benefits customers access to more than 3,400 hearing physicians and audiologists, on-call support for customer questions and assistance, and lower out-of-pocket costs.

Those covered by the rider will receive an annual hearing screening, advanced testing (if they have been identified from the initial screening to have a hearing problem), and allowances toward hearing aids.

Adult coverage is available for a low monthly cost. When an employer elects coverage, the AlwaysCare Hearing Benefit will automatically be included in AlwaysCare's Dental Plans for children at no additional premium cost. The benefit will also be offered as a rider on AlwaysCare's Vision Plans when a group elects only vision coverage.