

Critical Illness Recovery Plan policy

Why do I need critical illness insurance? Individual lifestyle protection.



Insurance



Did you know...?

Fact #1

Critical illness insurance provides a lump sum benefit to support you financially upon the diagnosis and survival of any one of the covered critical illnesses.

Fact #2

A critical illness can present many challenges that go beyond the need for financial resources. Access to Assistance Services may ultimately have a more significant impact on your ability to cope with – and recover from – a critical illness.

Fact #3

Critical illness insurance is an idea that started with medical professionals. They know from experience that doctors work to save patients' lives, but at the same time, the financial drain during recuperation can be devastating.

Fact #4

A critical illness can happen to anyone:

- One in two heart attack victims are under 65 years old.¹
- Each year, 50,000 Canadians suffer a stroke. Of all stroke victims, 75% will be left with a disability.¹
- One in three Canadians will develop a life threatening cancer.²

Fact #5

Sixty-three percent of Canadians say they should be able to buy upgraded medical services!³

¹ Heart and Stroke Foundation, www.heartandstroke.ca

² Canadian Cancer Society, www.cancer.ca

³ Southam News/National Post

What if you suffered from one of these conditions?

How would it affect your life?

- Alzheimer's disease
- Coronary artery bypass surgery
- Cancer
- Heart attack
- Kidney failure
- Major organ transplant
- Multiple sclerosis
- Paralysis
- Parkinson's disease
- Stroke



Why critical illness insurance?

In the event of a critical illness, having greater financial resources can help you:

1. Access quick and cutting-edge medical services

- In Canada, pay for drugs and treatment not covered by provincial health plans
- Outside Canada, pay for timely treatment that may not be available at home, and for the family's travel and lodging expenses

2. Reduce your financial stress

- Reduce or pay off your debts (mortgage, credit card, etc.)
- Maintain your business or practice

3. Maintain your independence

- Modify your home for improved mobility
- Receive assistance by hiring domestic help during recovery
- Allow for a family member to take a leave of absence to help you recover

4. Spend more time with your family

5. Use the benefit any way you choose to assist in your recovery



Where would the money come from today to cover extraordinary expenses?

OPTION 1

Your retirement savings or other investments

- Do you want to jeopardize your retirement by reducing the accumulated growth in your savings? Yes No

OPTION 2

Government health care plans

- Will it be enough? Yes No
- Is this funding likely to increase in the future? Yes No
- Do you rely on the government for all of your retirement needs? Yes No

OPTION 3

Borrowing the necessary funds

- Do you want to go into debt to help your recovery? Yes No

OPTION 4

Other insurance plans

- Will other plans provide for you if you become critically ill? Yes No

Life Insurance	Will it pay, if you die, for your dependants to be financially taken care of?	✓	
	Will it pay for your recovery from a critical illness?		X
Disability Insurance	Will it ensure an income for your everyday expenses if you cannot work?	✓	
	Will those funds be sufficient to pay for extraordinary expenses that may result due to a critical illness?		X
Health Plan	Will it reimburse most covered medically related expenses?	✓	
	Will it cover your expenses if you choose to go out of province for a non-emergency or experimental procedure?		X
Critical Illness Insurance	Will it provide you with funds if you are diagnosed with and survive a covered critical illness?	✓	
	Will you be able to use the money any way you choose to enhance your recovery?	✓	

- If you were diagnosed with a critical illness today, would you like additional money to cover extraordinary expenses? Yes No

What other new realities are created by critical illnesses?

IF YOU DO SUFFER A CRITICAL ILLNESS, YOU'LL FACE A NUMBER OF NON-FINANCIAL CHALLENGES. YOU MAY NEED TO:

1. Access quick and cutting-edge medical services

- Get advice about your illness and available treatments from experts all over the world
- Take advantage of treatment options that may not have been available otherwise

2. Reduce the stresses of day-to-day life

- Get assistance to find resources that can help with your day-to-day activities, so you can focus on getting well

3. Cope with the emotional aspect of your illness

- Learn ways to reduce and deal with the fear and anxiety that often accompany a diagnosis of a critical illness



Where would this assistance come from today if you needed it?

OPTION 1

Medical community

- They focus their expertise on the medical aspects of your illness. Should they also be expected to attend to your emotional and day-to-day needs? Yes No
- Canada's health care system is comprehensive, but would you be comfortable if you didn't know all of your options? Yes No

OPTION 2

Yellow Pages/Internet

- Can these resources be trusted in a critical situation? Yes No
- Will you have the time and energy to do your own research? Yes No

OPTION 3

Charities/support groups/family and friends

- No doubt about it, we all need these various types of support. But do you want to be totally reliant on their funds and resources? Yes No
- Regardless of the type of assistance you need, do you want to spend your time and energy on research when you should be focused on your recovery? Yes No

If you were diagnosed with a critical illness today, would you want access to Assistance Services that allow you to focus on your recovery? Yes No



How much critical illness coverage would you need?

Although each situation is different, there are many types of expenses that arise when a critical illness strikes:

NEED 1

Financial need

Jack suffers a heart attack. His primary need is to reduce any additional financial stress by paying off:

- part or all of his mortgage
- other debt obligations

Assistance service need

Jack would also like help in locating possible assistance for the care of his children and maintenance of his property.

NEED 2

Financial need

Mary has been diagnosed with a life-threatening cancer. She has been told she has a choice, to either wait to receive treatment in Canada or access immediate treatment at a leading research and treatment centre in the United States.⁴ In addition to Need 1, Mary will incur the following expenses:

- travel and lodging expenses for herself and her husband
- her husband's leave of absence
- treatment, hospitalization and medication expenses
- child care for their two children

Assistance service need

Also, Mary needs help:

- determining the most appropriate treatment for her cancer, the best U.S. facility for that treatment, and how to avoid paying the excessive "foreigner" charges she has heard about
- coping with the fear and anxiety that she has been overcome with since being diagnosed

NEED 3

Financial need

Tom's daughter was in a car accident that left her paralyzed.⁵ Tom learns of an experimental treatment that is available. He wants to cover both Needs 1 and 2 and:

- buy a wheelchair
- modify his home and
- get nursing care and rehabilitation services

Assistance service need

In addition to researching the treatment options, Tom needs information about home modifications for wheelchair accessibility.

Determine your own need by listing the expenses you may want to cover.

POTENTIAL EXPENSES TO BE COVERED

NEED 1

Mortgage \$ _____

Credit cards \$ _____

Loans and other debts \$ _____

NEED 2

Need 1 \$ _____

Cost of treatment and travel* \$ _____

Child care \$ _____

Other \$ _____

NEED 3

Need 1 \$ _____

Need 2 \$ _____

Home care and rehabilitation* \$ _____

Wheelchair and home* modification \$ _____

Other \$ _____

Total expenses \$ _____

Amount you want to protect \$ _____

⁴ “Canadians are upset and frustrated by long waiting lists and clogged emergency rooms and are going to the United States to buy the medical treatment they need.” Source: The Globe and Mail, January 19, 2000.

⁵ More than 30,000 people in Canada suffer from paralysis of two or more limbs. Source: The Canadian Paraplegic Association.

⁶ These figures are estimates only and are intended for use as an idea as to what could be involved to change your lifestyle in the event of dealing with the long term results of a critical illness.

⁷ “Total access,” The Canadian Paraplegic Association, Summer 2001.

⁸ Medicare U.S. prices, converted to CDN dollars. Source: myhealthscore.com

* APPROXIMATE COSTS

- \$80,000/year for daily nursing care⁶
- \$4,000 to \$10,000 for a wheelchair⁶
- \$20,000/year for non-covered prescriptions⁶
- \$30,000 to \$100,000 for home modifications for wheelchair accessibility⁷
- \$7,000 for surgery to treat spinal disorder⁸
- \$25,000 for chemotherapy⁸
- \$45,000 to \$145,000 for bypass surgery⁸

The RBC Insurance® comprehensive Critical Illness Recovery Plan™ policy is designed with your needs in mind. The plan provides a lump sum payment to assist with your financial needs, but also valuable Assistance Services to help you cope with the reality of a critical illness.

Contact your insurance advisor for more information.



For more information, please visit www.rbcinsurance.com



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