

Insurance News Snippets

October 2022, Volume 4, Issue 10

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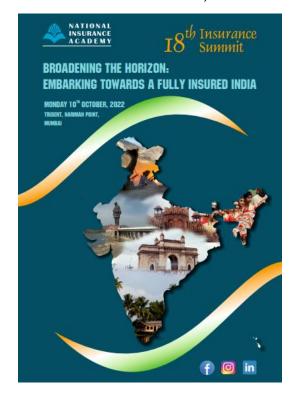
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I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA

1. 18th Insurance Summit

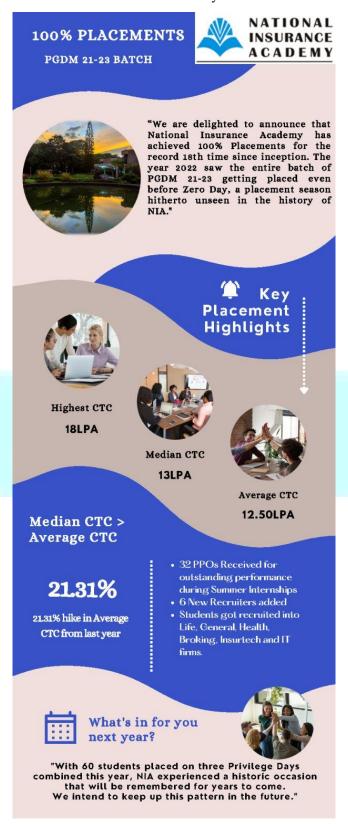
National Insurance Academy, Pune organized its flagship event, the 18th Insurance Summit on 10 October 2022 in Hotel Trident, Nariman Point, Mumbai. The theme for the Summit was "Broadening the Horizon: Embarking Towards a Fully Insured India".

Mr Devesh Srivastava, CMD GIC of India, Mr MR Kumar, Chairperson LIC of India and Mr Saurabh Mishra, Joint Secretary MoFDFS presented the Special Address, while the Keynote Address was presented by the Chief Guest Mr Debasish Panda, Chairman IRDAI.



2. 100% Placements PGDM Batch 2021-2023

National Insurance Academy has achieved 100% Placements for the record 18th time since inception. The year 2022 saw the entire batch of PGDM 21-23 getting placed even before Zero Day, a placement season hitherto unseen in the history of NIA.



II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

1. Circulars:

- a. Master Circular on IRDAI (Investment) Regulations, 2016. Click here for the circular: https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4850&flag=1
- b. Master Guidelines on AML/CFT 2022 Extension of time for Implementation. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4849&flag=1

- c. Repatriation of Assigned Capital by FRBs/Lloyd's India. Click here for the circular: https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4847&flag=1
- d. Providing cover for Mental Illness under Health Insurance policies. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4840&flag=1

e. Insurance cover for new-borns/infants under health insurance policies. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4839&flag=1

f. Product Filing Procedure. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4831&flag=1

g. Filing of Products/Riders for Life Insurance Business. Click here for the circular: https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4820&flag=1

2. Press Release:

a. Standard Operating Procedure for Inter-operable Regulatory Sandbox (IoRS). Click here for press release:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4826&flag=1

3. Exposure Draft:

a. IRDAI (Re-insurance) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2022. Click here for the exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4844&flag=1

b. IRDAI (Assets, Liabilities and Solvency Margin of General Insurance Business) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2022. Click here for the exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4842&flag=1

c. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Actuarial Report and Abstract for Life Business) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2022. Click here for the exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4841&flag=1

d. IRDAI (Registration of Indian Insurance Companies) Regulations, 2022. Click here for the exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4834&flag=1

III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

- 1. <u>Life Insurance</u> (Source: LI Council)
- 2. Non-Life Insurance (Source: GI Council)

IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE

Product Development: Remembering Cuthbert Heath and Looking for Inspiration

Ι

It is generally agreed that there is a lull the world over insofar as creative and empathetic ideas in coverage innovation in non-life insurance product development are concerned. It has been the

case for quite a while now. It is not that things have been in a stand-still. In fact, remarkable progress has been made around technology and distribution related to product development. But D&O in the 1930s, K&R in the '70s, Computer Crime in the '80s, Parametric Insurance in the '90s – the origination of inspirational and pioneering coverage innovations has kind of stopped there. As far as India – a country with low insurance penetration and density despite its status now as the 5th largest economy in the world – is concerned, the scenario is still less inspiring. Tastes have changed. Triggers are many. Tools are handy. Yet, statistically, and qualitatively, product development has been slow, if not stationary.

The non-life insurance product development records for the last 5 FYs have been presented in the tables below. Health insurance products situation has been kept out because it has been helped in recent years by regulatory activism in the standardization of products and terminologies and by the pandemic. Including it would have shown the Indian insurers in more than their due light.

Non-life Product Development in the Last 5 FYs												
Financial	Products Filed			Add-ons Filed			Total Filings					
Year	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total			
FY-18	7	82	89	8	699	707	15	<i>7</i> 81	796			
FY-19	28	201	229	57	703	760	85	904	989			
FY-20	7	113	120	120	814	934	127	927	1054			
FY-21	19	118	137	33	427	460	52	545	597			
FY-22	1	75	76	20	88	108	21	163	184			

Per Insurer Filing [Average]											
Financial	~	\ain Produ	ct	Overall							
Year	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total					
FY-18	1.17	3.15	2.78	2.50	30.04	24.88					
FY-19	4.67	7.73	<i>7</i> .16	14.17	34.77	30.91					
FY-20	1.17	4.35	3.75	21.17	35.65	32.94					
FY-21	3.17	4.54	4.28	8.67	20.96	18.66					
FY-22	0.17	3.00	2.45	3.50	6.52	5.94					

Minus Health, the average new product filing per insurer has been low and has been tapering off despite the opportunities and the market mandates. The PSUs – sadly – are trailing behind their private counterparts. The spikes in FY-19 and FY-21 are because of the product-suit requirement of new entrants, the rush for motor and property add-ons representing much-of-a-muchness and the directed filing of standard products by the regulator.

Under the circumstances, it is worth remembering Cuthbert Heath – someone who has been called "the father of modern insurance", "the maker of modern Lloyd's", and "the father of non-

marine insurance at Lloyd's". The idea is not to eulogize the man as the Archimedes of Non-life insurance but to draw inspiration from someone who has been an unparalleled trailblazer in coverage innovation in the field.

Π

Born in 1859, Cuthbert Eden Heath had deafness since childhood and had to give up on a navy nomination and Indian Civil Service aspirations because of the same. With knowledge of French, German, and elementary chemistry as business-career enablers, he joined Henry Head & Co – a Lloyd's Underwriters firm – in 1880 at the age of 21. Starting from the ranks, Heath rose to unprecedented adulatory fame as underwriter, broker, and syndicate owner at Lloyd's of London. From insurance to reinsurance, products to territorial expansion, risk-modelling to solvency, from what we call SME today to retail – his path-breaking inventive touch was there in everything.

If there was a need, Heath would perceive it. Many of the general insurance products in circulation today were Heath's work. He was the first to design and write the following forms of insurance: Burglary [in 1889 after a spurt in burglary incidents], All Risks [for personal jewellery and valuables], Jewellers' Block [for commercial shop owners], the UK version of Fire Loss of Profits, Bankers' Blanket, Credit-risk, Employer's Liability, Workmen's Compensation [after the WC Act of 1897] and Excess-of-Loss in Reinsurance.

He did peril extension for air-raids [misery for people during war being the trigger], earthquake and hurricane [with research and probabilistic risk assessment]. He promoted Aviation and Fine Arts insurance. In retail and health, he designed the Smallpox-if-Vaccinated product [helping spread of insurance net, inducing vaccination]. He designed procedures to ensure the solvency of all Lloyd's underwriters – measures that would become regulatory norms across jurisdictions. Combining public-pulse and provider prudence, Cuthbert Eden Heath was a colossus and a visionary. He made Lloyds grow out of only marine and out of England. He believed that insurance was for all – the behemoths, small capitalists, and individuals. Like most 'firsts' are always resisted, like Galileo was questioned, Heath had also faced storms and protests. But his convinced response every time was: 'Why Not?'. At a time when product innovation is a critical need for fast-tracked insurance penetration, Heath's creativity and conviction should act as inspiration.

(By Mr Kshitish Mohanty, Faculty Member, NIA)

V. INSURANCE NEWS

Shriram Life Insurance rolls out new plan

Shriram Life Insurance introduced 'Shriram Life Premier Assured Benefit' aimed at helping individuals aged 30 days to 50 years to meet their recurring needs and achieve major financial goals in life. This is a non-participating life insurance savings plan that offers attractive guaranteed returns, the company said.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.thehindu.com/business/shriram-life-insurance-rolls-out-new-plan/article66079042.ece

Going beyond the bare minimum to ensure robust risk management in the insurance sector

With the rising adoption of digital in the post-pandemic era, the incidence of insurance fraud has also surged. While the need for insurance is being recognized more than ever post-pandemic, a recent survey revealed that 1 in 4 of the respondents agreed that frauds have also skyrocketed during this period. The report also revealed that these frauds were generally committed either at the time of application or claim settlement and that nearly 70% of the frauds were committed using false documents. This has cost insurance companies a massive INR 45,000 crore.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-going-beyond-the-bare-minimum-to-ensure-robust-risk-management-in-the-insurance-sector-2997548

Global health cover comes as a lifesaver for high-flyers: Experts

Many affluent Indians prefer to go abroad for treatment, especially when afflicted by a critical ailment. Given the high cost of medical treatment in developed countries, they should buy a health insurance policy that covers treatments abroad. Several general and health insurers now offer these plans.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.business-standard.com/article/pf/global-health-cover-examine-countries-covered-claim-settlement-mode-122103100946_1.html

IRDAI Committee To Study 'Bima Vahak', 'Bima Vistaar' As Part Of 'Insurance For All' Scheme

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is taking up various regulatory reforms toward achieving the objective of "insurance for all."

To this effect, the insurance regulator has set up a 24-member committee to develop and suggest an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population through the Bima Vahaak and Bima Vistaar schemes, it announced in a recent notification.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.outlookindia.com/business/irdai-committee-to-study-bima-vahak-bima-vistaar-as-part-of-insurance-for-all-scheme-news-233771

Singapore: MAS issues exposure draft on capital framework for designated groups with licensed insurance subsidiary

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) is working towards issuing a new Group Capital Notice that will apply to all designated financial holding companies that have a subsidiary that is a licensed insurer established in Singapore (DFHC [Licensed Insurer]).

The Group Capital Notice sets out the valuation and capital requirements for all DFHC (Licensed Insurer) in a transparent manner and based on the consolidation approach of the RBC 2 framework. Currently, group capital requirements are imposed on DFHC (Licensed Insurer) via directions drawing from the powers of the FHC Act that took effect on 30 June 2022.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article?id=82754&Type=eDaily

One-stop for insurance services 'Bima Sugam' a game changer: IRDAI Chairman

Insurance regulator IRDAI is working on Bima Sugam, which will act as a game changer in the insurance sector by providing a one-stop platform for multiple services including the sale of policy, renewal, and settlement of claims.

This tech-led portal will help in expanding insurance penetration in the country by ensuring a hassle-free experience for customers across the country.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/one-stop-for-insurance-services-bima-sugam-a-game-changer-irdai-chairman-122103000244_1.html

Health Insurance - Restoration benefit: Know how it works

With rising healthcare expenses, individuals must look for a health insurance plan with restoration benefits. In such a plan, if the sum insured is exhausted in the policy year due to hospitalisation of the insured, then the insurer will replenish the sum insured along with the accrued cumulative bonus. The restoration benefit in the policy will be valid only once for the entire policy year and cannot be carried forward to the next year.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/health-insurance-restoration-benefit-know-how-it-works/2758614/

Realistic universal health coverage

The insurance regulator's move to set up an expert panel to draw a road map for universal health coverage is a good idea. This would entail extending financial protection for health to the missing middle - about 30% of the population, or 40 crore people - who are not covered by any of the government's national insurance schemes, or private insurance or employer's group health cover. The panel's mandate includes recommending a universal standard health product that is simple. To read the whole article click on: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/opinion/eteditorial/realistic-universal-health-coverage/articleshow/95187204.cms

Asia: Insurance pricing rises by 2% in 3Q 2022 in region

Insurance composite pricing in the third quarter of 2022 in Asia increased by 2%, down from 3% in the prior two quarters, according to a report released by leading global insurance broker Marsh.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82731/Type/eDaily/Asia-Insurance-pricing-rises-by-2-in-3Q2022-in-region

Regulator allows reinsurers to repatriate excess capital

The IRDAI has announced that it is allowing foreign reinsurance branches (FRB) and Lloyd's India to repatriate excess capital.

In a circular, the IRDAI says that repatriation will require the prior approval of the Authority.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82730/Type/eDaily/India-Regulator-allows-reinsurers-to-repatriate-excess-capital

How can a customer choose suitable add-ons for EV insurance?

The EV insurance market is proliferating, and the number of EVs on the roads is expected to increase from over 10 million in 2022 to 300 million by 2050. The emergence of new technology has made it possible for more customers to buy EVs, which implies that there is going to be a huge demand for EV insurance as well. However, you should not just sign up for any EV policy only. You need to know about all add-ons that you might need to choose an appropriate one from among them.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/how-can-a-customer-choose-suitable-add-ons-for-ev-insurance/2753067/

How embedded insurance is gaining momentum in the insurtech segment

India is undergoing a digital revolution, propelled in part by the Covid 19 pandemic. Today we have more than 600 million active internet users, and businesses across sectors are reinventing themselves to leverage this growing consumer pie. The insurance sector too has been swept up by this tide of digitisation. Insurtechs are using technological breakthroughs like AI, IoT, big data, and APIs to offer fast and seamless insurance coverage to a large number of people through embedded insurance. This is creating unique opportunities for businesses to deliver enhanced value to their customers and unlock new revenue streams.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/how-embedded-insurance-is-gaining-momentum-in-the-insurtech-segment/2751006/

Your money: Does your insurance agent look after your interests?

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is actively considering giving insurance customers an option to switch agents anytime during the term of the policy,

provided the policy term is 20 years or less. Customers should use this privilege to bond only with those agents who build enduring relationships.

At present, insurers keep pushing agents to sell policies as much as they can. As a result, regularly visiting customers to review their insurance needs and understanding their grievances take a back seat. While experts talk about low insurance penetration and low insurance density in India, these indicators speak nothing about the growth of insured population or the growth of in-force policies.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/your-money-does-your-insurance-agent-look-after-your-interests/2752996/

4 reasons to consider health insurance as a part of your financial planning

Health insurance, often referred to as medical insurance, is a form of healthcare coverage that, by providing financial support, aids you in meeting your healthcare spending. As such, it is essential to incorporate health insurance in your investment strategy to ease the stress of your financial management. Health insurance policies give coverage towards hefty medical expenses, enabling you to concentrate on your own physical well-being rather than putting pressure on your budget. Health insurance provides subscribers with a variety of advantages and coverage plans in addition to tax deductions under Section 80D of the Income Tax Act of 1961.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.livemint.com/money/personal-finance/4-key-reasons-to-consider-health-insurance-as-a-part-of-your-financial-planning-11666871616131.html

Australia: General insurers say Budget lays foundations to improve climate resilience

The Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) has said that the Federal Budget, announced on 25 October, has laid the foundations for a significant and bold new start to the approach taken by governments to improve community and household resilience to worsening extreme weather.

The ICA notes that the 2022-23 Budget includes a A\$22.6m (\$14.6m) package of positive measures.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82723/Type/eDaily/Australia-General-insurers-say-Budget-lays-foundations-to-improve-climate-resilience

Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches policy issuance service on WhatsApp

Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance (ABSLI), the life insurance subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited (ABCL), has announced the launch of India's first instant policy issuance service on WhatsApp. ABSLI has partnered with Gupshup, a leading conversational engagement platform, Meta-owned WhatsApp, world's most popular communication channel and Karza Technologies, one of the largest data analytics, automation and decisioning solution provider to FIs to launch this service for insurance applicants.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/aditya-birla-sun-life-insurance-launches-policy-issuance-service-on-whatsapp-11666768271689.html

Know the right way to file insurance related complaints

What do insurance policyholders do when they have a grievance? Many of them just take to social media, be it Twitter or Facebook, to complain. They also tag insurers on such posts. But, experts say this may not be the right way to resolve grievances even if the insurer does not act on time.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.livemint.com/money/personal-finance/know-the-right-way-to-file-insurance-related-complaints-11666803872627.html

Australia: Calls made for relief on property insurance premiums for the less affluent

The rising cost of property insurance in Australia has prompted calls on the government to provide relief on insurance premiums.

Ms Julia Davis, senior Policy & Communications Officer at Financial Rights Legal Centre, said, "People on low incomes are going to be the least resilient and the least able to bounce back after a bad event, after a theft or an accident or an electrical fire or something that destroys their home or their rental property or their belongings," she said.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82697/Type/eDaily/Australia-Calls-made-for-relief-on-property-insurance-premiums-for-the-less-affluent

Indonesia: InsurTechs shape distribution channels in domestic insurance market

Digitalisation through InsurTechs or traditional insurers' digital platforms will improve the insurance penetration rate in Indonesia, Fitch Ratings says in a new report. Penetration has been low with financial literacy and inclusion of insurance products improving only slightly in the past five years, according to a national survey.

The report, "Indonesia InsurTech Market", says that the number of InsurTech companies in Indonesia has increased in the past few years, especially at the beginning of the COVID-10 pandemic in early 2020 in response to mass movement restrictions. Most of the funding for InsurTechs was raised during 2020-2022.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82696/Type/eDaily/Indonesia-InsurTechs-shape-distribution-channels-in-domestic-insurance-market

Motor insurance policy as per usage: Has Covid-19 changed your driving pattern?

While the pandemic and the times of restricted mobility may have been over, for now, there's no denying that it has changed the world forever. If we look back, the silver-lining from the Covid-19 era was technological innovation across the globe. One such welcome move at a time when vehicles lay parked in garages or basements, more often than they were driven, was the regulatory sandbox launch of pay-as-you-drive policies by the IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority). The innovative product allowed the policyholder to pay the premium as per usage and save up on the premium.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/motor-insurance-policy-as-per-usage-has-covid-19-changed-your-driving-pattern/2729942/

High inflation and Nat CATs call for disciplined risk management, says Munich Re

High inflation is having a profound effect on loss expectancy in many operating segments, says Munich Re in a commentary released ahead of the Baden Baden Reinsurance Meeting.

In response to high inflation, central banks have hiked their base rates, which, in turn, can impact the balance sheets of (re)insurers as a result of fixed-interest securities falling in value. Soaring interest rates can initially trigger a decline in (re)insurers' capital bases and affect their capacity, despite higher rates having a positive effect on earnings power in the medium term, says Munich Re.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82661/Type/eDaily/High-inflation-and-Nat-CATs-call-for-disciplined-risk-management-says-Munich-Re

Climate change: 62% of reinsurers have coal exit policies, 38% have oil & gas exclusions

Restrictions by insurance companies on oil and gas are starting to catch up with those on coal, according to new data from the Insure Our Future (IOF) campaign, comprising NGOs and social movements that monitor the insurance industry's role in the climate crisis.

At the time of last year's COP from 31 October–13 November 2021, only Suncorp, Generali and AXA had adopted any restrictions on insurance of conventional oil and gas projects. But in the past year, Allianz, Aviva, Fidelis, Hannover Re, KBC, Mapfre, Munich Re, SCOR, Swiss Re and Zurich have followed suit, IOF says in a statement.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82651/Type/eDaily/Climate-change-62-of-reinsurers-have-coal-exit-policies-38-have-oil-gas-exclusions

Australia: Premium hikes could lead to switch to risk transfer alternatives

Long-standing insurance programmes in Australia may need to be revisited and could be challenged as premium increases for certain risks accelerate, says the insurance broker Honan Insurance Group as it comments on likely developments in the insurance sector for FY23-Q2, that is, October to December 2022.

In its "FY23-Q1: Corporate Insurance Market Update" report, Honan notes that businesses with risks relating to flood-exposed areas, high-frequency liability claims, or sexual molestation risks may consider alternate forms of risk transfer, such as mutuals, captives, and aggregate deductibles to limit premium increases.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/82655/Type/eDaily/Australia-Premium-hikes-could-lead-to-switch-to-risk-transfer-alternatives

Top Trends In Health Insurance Industry For 2022

The entire phiz of the health insurance industry has undergone giant strides over the last two years. The predominant reason behind it is the pandemic that has made everyone more aware of life's uncertainties and their lack of readiness for any health-related disaster.

It has altered the overall perception of health insurance, causing individuals to understand the value of having appropriate coverage to handle the rising expenses of medical care. Additionally, insurance companies have been pushed to develop new service models and cutting-edge products in response to the growing need for seamless service and flexible coverage.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.zeebiz.com/agencies/top-trends-in-health-insurance-industry-for-2022-203939

Your Health Insurance coverage widens: Know which modern treatments are now covered

Health insurance companies in India are quite orthodox and were reluctant to cover any disease beyond the traditional list of illnesses without any intervention from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

After compelling the insurers to cover the treatment of Covid, the insurance regulator has now pushed them to cover treatment of a number of modern treatments.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/your-health-insurance-coverage-widens-know-which-modern-treatments-are-now-covered/2721633/

What Are Wellness Benefits In Health Insurance?

Wellness benefits in health insurance come in the form of wellness points that can be encashed either as concessions on premium payments or in the form of membership benefits at any empaneled organization. These wellness-oriented health insurance policies target making individuals proactive towards healthy living.

According to recent IRDAI guidelines on wellness and preventive features, the insurers are asked to incentivize the insured who is eligible for the reward points and fits well with the wellness criteria.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.outlookindia.com/business/what-are-wellness-benefits-in-health-insurance-news-231279

Please share your feedback at http://niapune.org.in/in-feedback

