



iCare Connect

NEWS Letter

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NEWS

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Exposure Draft on Standardization of Health Insurance

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) released an exposure draft on standardization in health insurance. In the exposure draft, the IRDA suggests the following to be stipulated in respect of all health insurance policies issued by life and general insurers in the country:

1. Standard Definition for 46 commonly used terms in health insurance policies:
2. 11 Critical Illness terms have been standardized to be adopted uniformly across industry
3. Standard Pre-authorization and Claim Form:
4. Standard List of Excluded Expenses in Hospitalization Indemnity Policies:
5. Standard File and Use Application Form, Database Sheet and Customer Information Sheet:
6. Standard agreement between the TPA & Insurer and Provider (Hospital) & Insurer:

As per the exposure drafts list of expenses generally excluded (Non – Medical) in hospitalization policy are as follows:- [See the details of list of expenses.](#)

1. Toiletries/cosmetics/personal comfort or convenience items.
 2. Items specifically excluded in the policies.
 3. Items which form part of hospital services where separate consumable are not payable but the services is.
 4. Elements of room charge.
 5. Administrative or Non- Medical charges
 6. External durable devices.
 7. Items payable if supported by a prescription.
 8. Part of hospital's own costs and not payable.
- Others.

Random investments in insurance products to save tax can cost you dear in long-run.

1. Most people don't think about tax planning until their finance department asks for details of investments,
2. They end up buying insurance products in hurry leded with huge hiding cost which makes ROI (Return On Investment) for the insured or investor very less in the first few years.
3. They also have to forego some more money because of surrender charges.

Soon, diabetics to get a tailor-made medical policy.

1. The Oriental Insurance Company (OIC) plans to launch a policy that would cover the cost of treating diabetics and diabetes-related ailments.
2. Presently, diabetics can file a claim for diabetes-related treatment only if the treatment is received at least four years after the patient takes the policy.
3. An insured can avail of insurance cover a month after the policy is issued.

General insurance rates to remain flat

1. General insurance rates are not going to pinch this year when they come up for renewal in April, thanks to reinsurance rates not going up.
2. Market is still soft since there are no major disasters and having enough capacity.
3. The fact that there have been no major natural calamities in 2012 will help lower reinsurance rates during renewals.
4. Insurance premium depends on the reinsurance rates being offered by the General Insurance Corporation and other global reinsurers.

MetLife India is now PNB MetLife India Insurance

MetLife India on Monday announced re-branding of its insurance venture to PNB MetLife India Insurance after Punjab National Bank (PNB) picked up 30 per cent stake in the life insurance company.

Third party motor insurance premium may rise further.

1. The third party motor insurance premium is likely to go up within the range of 15-50 per cent in 2013, the second hike in the last one year.
2. As the third party motor insurance is still regulated by IRDA, it has already decided to hike the rates to make up the huge losses in this portfolio — a lion's share of total losses of over Rs 10,000 crore suffered by the insurance sector is accounted by third party motor cover.

Tax breaks likely on home, accident cover

1. Soon you may be able to get tax deduction on buying an insurance plan for your home or a personal accident cover.
2. The finance ministry is considering a proposal to give additional tax benefits for purchasing these general insurance policies.
3. The proposal, currently under examination, suggests hiking the tax deduction limit under Section 80-D of the Income Tax Act to provide an additional deduction of at least Rs 10,000 per year for purchasing a home or a personal accident cover.

Cushion against a wrong step

1. Insurance is not limited to risk like death, accident, illness etc. But there are cases when because of a doctor's mistake, the patient needs to suffer.
2. This may end up a doctor's career. This is where a professional indemnity cover can help.
3. The policy identifies against compensation claims arising out of breach of duty by a negligent act, error or omission while discharging professionally duty.

No Mediclaim for weight-loss surgeries: IRDA

1. Weight-loss (Bariatric surgery) is categorized by the insurance companies as a procedure done for cosmetic purposes; hence it is not covered in the insurance.
2. Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) rejected the demand to include bariatric surgery in the medical insurance.
3. Even as the surgeons argued that the process "saves lives" and most of the patients who opt for weight-loss surgery are suffering from life-threatening ailments and cannot go ahead with the surgery because of lack of funds.

Health Insurance rates to be hiked by 20-25%

1. All public sector insurers combined ratio in health insurance is over 120%
2. All PSU's insists increase in premium rates on health insurance marginally every year to keep pace with medical inflation
3. Hence, all PSU's are pressing hard with the regulator for increase in rate by 20-25% from the current year level.
4. Existing rates for youth in India on health insurance is approx. 2% of sum insured ; cheapest in the world.
5. Regulator is more interested for arresting frauds & more study & analysis of claim occurrence ,cross subsidization, claim propensity of different cross sections rather than to every year increase in premium.

Birla Sun Life launches BSLI Vision LifeIncome

1. Private insurer Birla Sun Life Insurance launched its first participating plan, BSLI Vision LifeIncome, offering regular guaranteed payouts, long-term savings and life Insurance benefit.
2. It is suitable for individuals, whose key objective is secured savings, earning a steady income for life and providing their family with comprehensive financial protection.

Tata AIG General Insurance introduces claim approval service within 4 hours

1. Tata AIG General Insurance has introduced a service where it will settle health claims within four hours of filing for a claim to prevent a medical emergency from becoming a financial burden on customers.
2. Normally it takes over six hours for claims approvals due to processing.

New policy from Max Bupa to charge lower premium in non-metros

1. Good news for those living in Tier II cities and smaller towns. A new health insurance policy launched by Max Bupa charges a lower premium if you live in a Tier II city or small town.
2. The Health@Companion is an online product that can be bought on the Net.
3. The policy has a three-tiered tariff. Customers living in the eight metros will pay the highest charges then come the state capitals, and finally the rest of India.
4. There is another 10% discount if you buy a two-year policy.
5. The premiums are based on the area in which the buyer resides. If you change your residence and move to a metro after buying the policy, you may have to pay a small additional charge for the upgrade.

Non-Life insurance companies unlikely to hit IPO Street soon: GIC

1. Non-life insurers are unlikely to hit the capital market to raise resources and are expected to wait for a year or two because of weak financials.
2. None of the insurance companies are in a position to list their shares as they are short in solvency and losing money on underwriting, not making a profit and their finances are fragile.
3. Most of the non-life companies have already taken steps to improve their financials by revising the tariff in health schemes.
4. The draft norms non-life insurers from capital markets need to have at least 10 years' experience.

IRDA comes out with framework for monitoring insurance frauds

1. IRDA came out with a framework for monitoring frauds in the insurance sector and asked insurers to carry out due diligence on their staff, including agents.
2. Stating that such fraud reduces consumer and shareholder confidence and can affect the reputation of individual insurers and the insurance sector as a whole, the IRDA asked insurers to lay down procedures for monitoring and early detection of frauds.

List of Expenses Generally excluded in Hospitalization Policy

S N O.	List of Expenses Generally Excluded ("Non-Medical") in Hospital Indemnity Policy -	SUGGESTIONS
TOILETRIES/ COSMETICS/ PERSONAL COMFORT OR CONVENIENCE ITEMS		
1	ANNE FRENCH CHARGES	Not Payable
2	BABY CHARGES (UNLESS SPECIFIED/INDICATED)	Not Payable
3	BABY FOOD	Not Payable
4	BABY UTILITES CHARGES	Not Payable
5	BABY SET	Not Payable
6	BABY BOTTLES	Not Payable
7	BOTTLE	Not Payable
8	BRUSH	Not Payable
9	COSY TOWEL	Not Payable
10	HAND WASH	Not Payable
11	MOISTURISER PASTE BRUSH	Not Payable
12	POWDER	Not Payable
13	RAZOR	Payable
14	TOWEL	Not Payable
15	SHOE COVER	Not Payable
16	BEAUTY SERVICES	Not Payable
17	BELTS/ BRACES	Essential and should be paid at least specifically for cases who have undergone surgery of thoracic or lumbar spine.
18	BUDS	Not Payable
19	BARBER CHARGES	Not Payable
20	CAPS	Not Payable
21	COLD PACK/HOT PACK	Not Payable
22	CARRY BAGS	Not Payable
23	CRADLE CHARGES	Not Payable
24	COMB	Not Payable
25	DISPOSABLES RAZORS CHARGES (for site preparations)	Payable
26		Not Payable
27	EYE PAD	Not Payable
28	EYE SHEILD	Not Payable
29	EMAIL / INTERNET CHARGES	Not Payable
30	FOOD CHARGES (OTHER THAN PATIENT's DIET PROVIDED)	Not Payable
31	FOOT COVER	Not Payable
32	GOWN	Not Payable
33	LEGGINGS	Essential in bariatric and varicose vein surgery and may be considered for at least these conditions where surgery itself is payable.
34	LAUNDRY CHARGES	Not Payable
35	MINERAL WATER	Not Payable

36	OIL CHARGES	Not Payable
37	SANITARY PAD	Not Payable
38	SLIPPERS	Not Payable
39	TELEPHONE CHARGES	Not Payable
40	TISSUE PAPER	Not Payable
41	TOOTH PASTE	Not Payable
42	TOOTH BRUSH	Not Payable
43	GUEST SERVICES	Not Payable
44	BED PAN	Not Payable
45	BED UNDER PAD CHARGES	Not Payable
46	CAMERA COVER	Not Payable
47	CARE FREE	Not Payable
48	CLINIPLAST	Not Payable
49	CREPE BANDAGE	Not Payable/ Payable by the patient
50	CURAPORE	Not Payable
51	DIAPER OF ANY TYPE	Not Payable
52	DVD, CD CHARGES	Not Payable (However if CD is specifically sought by Insurer/ TPA then payable)
53	EYELET COLLAR	Not Payable
54	FACE MASK	Not Payable
55	FLEXI MASK	Not Payable
56	GAUSE SOFT	Not Payable
57	GAUZE	Not Payable
58	HAND HOLDER	Not Payable
59	HANSAPLAST/ ADHESIVE BANDAGES	Not Payable
60	LACTOGEN/ INFANT FOOD	Not Payable
61	SLINGS	Reasonable costs for one sling in case of upper arm fractures may be considered
	ITEMS SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED IN THE POLICIES	
62	WEIGHT CONTROL PROGRAMS/ SUPPLIES/ SERVICES	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
63	COST OF SPECTACLES/ CONTACT LENSES/ HEARING AIDS ETC.,	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
64	DENTAL TREATMENT EXPENSES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE HOSPITALISATION	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
65	HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
66	HOME VISIT CHARGES	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
67	INFERTILITY/ SUBFERTILITY/ ASSISTED CONCEPTION PROCEDURE	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
68	OBESITY (INCLUDING MORBID OBESITY) TREATMENT	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
69	PSYCHIATRIC & PSYCHOSOMATIC DISORDERS	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
70	CORRECTIVE SURGERY FOR REFRACTIVE ERROR	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified

71	TREATMENT OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
72	DONOR SCREENING CHARGES	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
73	ADMISSION/REGISTRATION CHARGES	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
74	HOSPITALISATION FOR EVALUATION/ DIAGNOSTIC PURPOSE	Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
75	EXPENSES FOR INVESTIGATION/ TREATMENT IRRELEVANT TO THE DISEASE FOR WHICH ADMITTED OR DIAGNOSED	Not Payable - Exclusion in policy unless otherwise specified
76	ANY EXPENSES WHEN THE PATIENT IS DIAGNOSED WITH RETRO VIRUS + OR SUFFERING FROM /HIV/ AIDS ETC IS DETECTED/ DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY	Not payable as per HIV/AIDS exclusion
77	STEM CELL IMPLANTATION/ SURGERY	Not Payable except Bone Marrow Transplantation where covered by policy
ITEMS WHICH FORM PART OF HOSPITAL SERVICES WHERE SEPARATE CONSUMABLES ARE NOT PAYABLE BUT THE SERVICE IS		
78	WARD AND THEATRE BOOKING CHARGES	Payable under OT Charges, not payable separately
79	ARTHROSCOPY & ENDOSCOPY INSTRUMENTS	Rental charged by the hospital payable. Purchase of Instruments not payable.
80	MICROSCOPE COVER	Payable under OT Charges, not separately
81	SURGICAL BLADES,HARMONIC SCALPEL,SHAVER	Payable under OT Charges, not separately
82	SURGICAL DRILL	Payable under OT Charges, not separately
83	EYE KIT	Payable under OT Charges, not separately
84	EYE DRAPE	Payable under OT Charges, not separately
85	X-RAY FILM	Payable under Radiology Charges, not as consumable
86	SPUTUM CUP	Payable under Investigation Charges, not as consumable
87	BOYLES APPARATUS CHARGES	Part of OT Charges, not separately
88	BLOOD GROUPING AND CROSS MATCHING OF DONORS SAMPLES	Part of Cost of Blood, not payable
89	SAVLON	Not Payable-Part of Dressing Charges
90	BAND AIDS, BANDAGES, STERLILE INJECTIONS, NEEDLES, SYRINGES	Not Payable - Part of Dressing charges
91	COTTON	Not Payable-Part of Dressing Charges
92	COTTON BANDAGE	Not Payable- Part of

		Dressing Charges
93	MICROPORE/ SURGICAL TAPE	Not Payable-Payable by the patient when prescribed, otherwise included as Dressing Charges
94	BLADE	Not Payable
95	APRON	Not Payable -Part of Hospital Services/ Disposable linen to be part of OT/ICU charges
96	TORNIQUET	Not Payable (service is charged by hospitals, consumables cannot be separately charged)
97	ORTHOBUNDLE, GYNAEC BUNDLE	Part of Dressing Charges
98	URINE CONTAINER	Not Payable
	ELEMENTS OF ROOM CHARGE	
99	LUXURY TAX	Actual tax levied by government is payable.Part of room charge for sub limits
100	HVAC	Part of room charge not payable separately
101	HOUSE KEEPING CHARGES	Part of room charge not payable separately
102	SERVICE CHARGES WHERE NURSING CHARGE ALSO CHARGED	Part of room charge not payable separately
103	TELEVISION & AIR CONDITIONER CHARGES	Payable under room charges not if separately levied
104	SURCHARGES	Part of Room Charge, Not payable separately
105	ATTENDANT CHARGES	Not Payable - Part of Room Charges
106	IM IV INJECTION CHARGES	Part of nursing charges, not payable
107	CLEAN SHEET	Part of Laundry/Housekeeping not payable separately
108	EXTRA DIET OF PATIENT(OTHER THAN THAT WHICH FORMS PART OF BED CHARGE)	Patient Diet provided by hospital is payable
109	BLANKET/WARMER BLANKET	Not Payable- part of room charges
	ADMINISTRATIVE OR NON-MEDICAL CHARGES	
110	ADMISSION KIT	Not Payable
111	BIRTH CERTIFICATE	Not Payable
112	BLOOD RESERVATION CHARGES AND ANTE NATAL	Not Payable

113	CERTIFICATE CHARGES	Not Payable
114	COURIER CHARGES	Not Payable
115	CONVENYANCE CHARGES	Not Payable
116	DIABETIC CHART CHARGES	Not Payable
117	DOCUMENTATION CHARGES / ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	Not Payable
118	DISCHARGE PROCEDURE CHARGES	Not Payable
119	DAILY CHART CHARGES	Not Payable
120	ENTRANCE PASS / VISITORS PASS CHARGES	Not Payable
121	EXPENSES RELATED TO PRESCRIPTION ON DISCHARGE	To be claimed by patient under Post Hosp where admissible
122	FILE OPENING CHARGES	Not Payable
123	INCIDENTAL EXPENSES / MISC. CHARGES (NOT EXPLAINED)	Not Payable
124	MEDICAL CERTIFICATE	Not Payable
125	MAINTAINANCE CHARGES	Not Payable
126	MEDICAL RECORDS	Not Payable
127	PREPARATION CHARGES	Not Payable
128	PHOTOCOPIES CHARGES	Not Payable
129	PATIENT IDENTIFICATION BAND / NAME TAG	Not Payable
130	WASHING CHARGES	Not Payable
131	MEDICINE BOX	Not Payable
132	MORTUARY CHARGES	Payable upto 24 hrs, shifting charges not payable
133	MEDICO LEGAL CASE CHARGES (MLC CHARGES)	Not Payable
	<i>EXTERNAL DURABLE DEVICES</i>	
134	WALKING AIDS CHARGES	Not Payable
135	BIPAP MACHINE	Not Payable
136	COMMUNE	Not Payable
137	CPAP/ CAPD EQUIPMENTS	Device not payable

138	INFUSION PUMP - COST	Device not payable
139	OXYGEN CYLINDER (FOR USAGE OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL)	Not Payable
140	PULSEOXYMETER CHARGES	Device not payable
141	SPACER	Not Payable
142	SPIROMETRE	Device not payable
143	SPO2 PROBE	Not Payable
144	NEBULIZER KIT	Not Payable
145	STEAM INHALER	Not Payable
146	ARMSLING	Not Payable
147	THERMOMETER	Not Payable (paid by patient)
148	CERVICAL COLLAR	Not Payable
149	SPLINT	Not Payable
150	DIABETIC FOOT WEAR	Not Payable
151	KNEE BRACES (LONG/ SHORT/ HINGED)	Not Payable
152	KNEE IMMOBILIZER/SHOULDER IMMOBILIZER	Not Payable
153	LUMBO SACRAL BELT	Essential and should be paid at least specifically for cases who have undergone surgery of lumbar spine.
154	NIMBUS BED OR WATER OR AIR BED CHARGES	Payable for any ICU patient requiring more than 3 days in ICU, all patients with paraplegia/quadriplegia for any reason and at reasonable cost of approximately Rs 200/ day
155	AMBULANCE COLLAR	Not Payable
156	AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT	Not Payable
157	MICROSHEILD	Not Payable

158	ABDOMINAL BINDER	Essential and should be paid at least in post surgery patients of major abdominal surgery including TAH, LSCS, incisional hernia repair, exploratory laparotomy for intestinal obstruction, liver transplant etc.
ITEMS PAYABLE IF SUPPORTED BY A PRESCRIPTION		
159	BETADINE \ HYDROGEN PEROXIDE\SPIRIT\DETTOL \SAVLON\ DISINFECTANTS ETC	May be payable when prescribed for patient, not payable for hospital use in OT or ward or for dressings in hospital
160	PRIVATE NURSES CHARGES- SPECIAL NURSING CHARGES	Post hospitalization nursing charges not
161	NUTRITION PLANNING CHARGES - DIETICIAN CHARGES- DIET CHARGES	Patient Diet provided by hospital is payable
162	ALEX SUGAR FREE	Payable -Sugar free variants of admissible medicines are not excluded
163	CREAMS POWDERS LOTIONS (Toiletries are not payable,only prescribed medical pharmaceuticals payable)	Payable when prescribed
164	DIGENE GEL/ ANTACID GEL	Payable when prescribed
165	ECG ELECTRODES	Upto 5 electrodes are required for every case visiting OT or ICU. For longer stay in ICU, may require a change and at least one set every second
166	GLOVES	Sterilized Gloves payable / unsterilized gloves not payable
167	HIV KIT	Payable - payable Pre operative screening
168	LISTERINE/ ANTISEPTIC MOUTHWASH	Payable when prescribed
169	LOZENGES	Payable when prescribed
170	MOUTH PAINT	Payable when prescribed
171	NEBULISATION KIT	If used during hospitalization is payable reasonably
172	NEOSPRIN	Payable when prescribed
173	NOVARAPID	Payable when prescribed
174	VOLINI GEL/ ANALGESIC GEL	Payable when prescribed

175	ZYTEE GEL	Payable when prescribed
176	VACCINATION CHARGES	Routine Vaccination not Payable / Post Bite Vaccination Payable
	PART OF HOSPITAL'S OWN COSTS AND NOT PAYABLE	
177	AHD	Not Payable - Part of Hospital's internal Cost
178	ALCOHOL SWABES	Not Payable - Part of Hospital's internal Cost
179	SCRUB SOLUTION/STERILLIUM	Not Payable - Part of Hospital's internal Cost
	OTHERS	
180	VACCINE CHARGES FOR BABY	Not Payable
181	AESTHETIC TREATMENT / SURGERY	Not Payable
182	TPA CHARGES	Not Payable
183	VISCO BELT CHARGES	Not Payable
184	ANY KIT WITH NO DETAILS MENTIONED [DELIVERY KIT, ORTHOKIT, RECOVERY KIT, ETC]	Not Payable
185	EXAMINATION GLOVES	Not payable
186	KIDNEY TRAY	Not Payable
187	MASK	Not Payable
188	OUNCE GLASS	Not Payable
189	OUTSTATION CONSULTANT'S/ SURGEON'S FEES	Not payable, except for telemedicine consultations where covered by policy
190	OXYGEN MASK	Not Payable
191	PAPER GLOVES	Not Payable
192	PELVIC TRACTION BELT	Should be payable in case of PIVD requiring traction as this is generally not reused
193	REFERAL DOCTOR'S FEES	Not Payable
194	ACCU CHECK (Glucometry/ Strips)	Not payable pre hospitalisation or post hospitalisation / Reports and Charts required/ Device not payable
195	PAN CAN	Not Payable

196	SOFNET	Not Payable
197	TROLLY COVER	Not Payable
198	UROMETER, URINE JUG	Not Payable
199	AMBULANCE	Payable-Ambulance from home to hospital or interhospital shifts is payable/ RTA as specific requirement is payable
200	TEGADERM / VASOFIX SAFETY	Payable - maximum of 3 in 48 hrs and then 1 in 24 hrs
201	URINE BAG	Payable where medically necessary till a reasonable cost - maximum 1 per 24 hrs
202	SOFTOVAC	Not Payable
203	STOCKINGS	Essential for case like CABG etc. where it should be paid.