What is hospital indemnity insurance?

Hospital indemnity insurance works to complement your medical coverage — and pays in addition to what your medical plan may or may not cover. It’s coverage that can help safeguard your finances for life’s unexpected events by providing you with a lump-sum payment (one convenient payment all at once) when your family needs it most. The payment you receive is yours to spend however you like. It typically pays, as long as the policy and certificate requirements are met, a flat amount upon your hospital admission and a daily amount paid from each day of your stay (confined to the hospital). It also provides payment if you’re admitted to or have to stay in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU), as well as other added benefits and services too.

Q. How does the payment work?

A: We make payments directly to you. The amount you receive will be on top of any other insurance you might have and you can spend it however you like. You might use it to help pay for medical plan deductibles and copays, for out-of-network care, or even for your family’s everyday living expenses. Whatever you need while recovering from an illness or accident, hospital indemnity insurance is there to make life a little easier.

Q. Am I eligible to enroll for this coverage?

A. Yes, you can enroll both yourself and eligible family members. All you need to do is enroll during the open enrollment period and be actively at work. Some dependents may not be subject to medical restrictions as outlined in the Certificate, but there are a couple of things to bear in mind. Some states require the insured to have medical coverage and some additional restrictions apply to dependents serving in the armed forces or living overseas.

Q. I have a good medical plan at work, so why do I need hospital indemnity insurance?

A. Hospital stays can be pricey, and often unexpected. Even the best medical plans can leave you with extra expenses to pay or services that just aren’t covered. Things like plan deductibles, copays, extra costs for out-of-network care, or non-covered services. Many people aren’t prepared to handle these extra costs, so having this extra financial support when the time comes may mean less worry for you and your family.

Q. Can I enroll for this insurance without having a medical exam?

A. Yes. Your hospital coverage is guaranteed, regardless of your health. You just need to be actively at work. There are no medical exams to take and no health questions to answer, so the whole process might be easier than you first thought.

Q. How much will it cost?

A. Hospital indemnity insurance may cost less than you think. It’s designed to be an economical way for you to supplement your health care plan. Exact rates can be found in the enrollment materials provided by your employer.

Q. How do I pay for my coverage?

A. It’s easy to pay premiums through payroll deductions, so you don’t have to worry about writing any checks or missing payments.
1. Hospital does not include certain facilities such as nursing homes, convalescent care or extended care facilities. See your Disclosure Statement or Outline of Coverage/Disclosure Document for full details.

2. Covered services/treatments must be the result of an accident or sickness as defined in the group policy/certificate. See your Disclosure Statement or Outline of Coverage/Disclosure Document for more details.

3. Coverage is guaranteed provided (1) the employee is actively at work and (2) dependents to be covered are not subject to medical restrictions as set forth on the enrollment form and in the Certificate. Some states require the insured to have medical coverage. Additional restrictions apply to dependents serving in the armed forces or living overseas.

4. Eligibility for portability through the Continuation of Insurance with Premium Payment provision may be subject to certain eligibility requirements and limitations. For more information, contact your MetLife representative.

METLIFE’S HOSPITAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE IS A LIMITED BENEFIT GROUP INSURANCE POLICY. The policy is not intended to be a substitute for medical coverage and certain states may require the insured to have medical coverage to enroll for the coverage. The policy or its provisions may vary or be unavailable in some states. There is a preexisting condition limitation for hospital sickness benefits, if applicable. MetLife’s Hospital Indemnity Insurance may be subject to benefit reductions that begin at age 65. Like most group accident and health insurance policies, policies offered by MetLife may contain certain exclusions, limitations and terms for keeping them in force. For complete details of coverage and availability, please refer to the group policy form GPNP12-AX or GPNP13-HI or contact MetLife. Benefits are underwritten by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York, New York. In certain states, availability of MetLife’s Group Hospital Indemnity Insurance are pending regulatory approval.