



Supporting your health



2021 LONMIN MEDICAL SCHEME WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) GLOBAL OUTBREAK BENEFIT

Overview

From time to time, there are viruses or diseases that affect world health. These outbreaks are closely monitored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and are, depending on the severity and spread, declared as epidemics that place the global population's health at risk.

We recognise the importance of being prepared for these public health emergencies. Through careful benefit design and in support of public health initiatives aimed at containing and mitigating the spread of such outbreak diseases, our members now have access to supportive benefits during the outbreak period. The outbreak is actively monitored by a dedicated team within Discovery Health, the Administrator's office. They closely assess the evolution and progression of such outbreaks. Having a timely and effective response to global epidemics help to improve the health outcomes for our members.

This document explains the cover and support we provide to you when faced with a WHO-recognised epidemic.

WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

The WHO Global Outbreak Benefit is available to all members of Lonmin Medical Scheme during a declared outbreak period.

This benefit ensures members with a confirmed diagnosis have access to the out-of-hospital management and appropriate supportive treatment as long as they meet the Scheme's Benefit entry criteria.

The WHO Global Outbreak Benefit provides cover for a defined basket of healthcare services related to COVID-19 disease.

Understanding COVID-19

In January 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global population health threat. With many countries around the world confirming an outbreak, Scheme Medical Aid Scheme is taking proactive steps to respond effectively to COVID-19 infections in South Africa.

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a type of coronavirus. The vast majority of people who contract COVID-19 experience only mild symptoms, potentially including fever, a cough and shortness of breath. In a small percentage of people, it may result in severe disease and even death.

Detailed information about the prevention and transmission of COVID-19 is available on <https://www.discovery.co.za/info/lonmin-novel-coronavirus-update>

How you are covered from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

How you are covered?

This benefit, available on all members of Lonmin Medical Scheme, is covered by the Scheme for cases of

outbreak diseases and out-of-hospital healthcare services related to COVID-19 and does not affect your day-to-day benefits, where applicable.

What you are covered for?

This benefit offers cover for out-of-hospital management and appropriate supportive treatment of global World Health Organization (WHO) recognised disease outbreaks and out-of-hospital healthcare services related to COVID-19.

The basket of care includes:

- COVID-19 screening consultations with a network or contracted GP (by telephone or face-to face)
- A defined basket of pathology tests for COVID-19 positive members
- A defined basket of x-rays and scans for COVID-19 positive members
- Supportive treatment, including medicine for treatment at home

Cover is subject to the Scheme’s preferred providers (where applicable), protocols and the treatment meeting the Scheme’s entry criteria and guidelines. Any recommended treatment and healthcare services that are not included in the basket of care are covered according to the benefits available at Marikana Medical Services or in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits where applicable.

In-hospital treatment related to COVID-19 for approved admissions is covered from the Hospital Benefit based on applicable scheme rules and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.

The benefits covered from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit are outlined below:

<p>These healthcare services are covered from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit up to a maximum of 100% of the Scheme Rate, unless Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB). This cover does not affect your day-to-day benefits, provided you have adhered to the Scheme’s entry criteria and guidelines. Benefit limits, as may be applicable, are set out below. You may apply for additional cover from the Scheme, where clinically appropriate.</p>	
Healthcare service	Description
Screening consultations	You can choose to either access telephone or face-to-face consultation with a network or contracted provider. Telephone consultations provide a safe alternative to face-to-face consultations for patients and doctors, and contributes to the important containment measures that will continue to reduce the impact of the outbreak.
Diagnostic and follow up tests for COVID-19 positive members	You have access to a defined basket of diagnostic and follow up pathology tests if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate.
COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction screening tests	You have access to two COVID-19 PCR tests per beneficiary per annum, regardless of the outcome of the test, provided that you were referred to do the test by the doctor that screened you. This includes pre-admission PCR testing for approved hospital admissions, subject to referral by a doctor.
Diagnostic and follow up consultations for COVID-19 positive members	You have access to a defined basket of diagnostic and follow up consultations if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate. (including telephone consultations and consultations at a casualty unit)
X-rays and scans	You have access to a defined basket of x-rays and scans up to the Scheme Rate
Supportive treatment: medicine	We pay for defined supportive medicines prescribed by your doctor for symptom management and treatment of COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate.

In-hospital	Your hospital admission is subject to approval and preauthorisation. Sub-limits and clinical guidelines apply to certain healthcare services in hospital. In-hospital treatment related to COVID-19 for approved admissions is covered from the Hospital Benefit based on your Benefit Option and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.
Physiotherapy and Mental Health	You have access to a defined basket of physiotherapy treatments and Mental health consultations upto the Scheme Rate.

Healthcare services not covered by the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit will pay from available day-to-day benefits, depending on your Scheme Benefits

How to access the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

To access the benefits outlined above, as part of the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit, you must meet the Scheme's Benefit entry criteria. The following criteria need to be met before claims will be paid from the WHO Outbreak Benefit:

- The disease needs to be a WHO recognised outbreak disease;
- Cover is for diseases during a declared outbreak period;
- May be subject to use of preferred providers, where applicable;
- Subject to the Scheme's treatment guidelines and protocols.

Am I covered if I am in a waiting period?

The Scheme resolved to change its approach to underwriting for the duration of the outbreak, specifically for cover related to COVID-19. Members who are diagnosed with COVID-19 after joining Lonmin Medical Scheme will have access to cover for COVID-19, even if they are subject to a waiting period at the time of being diagnosed with COVID-19.

Members that are diagnosed with COVID-19 before joining the Scheme, are subject to normal underwriting rules and waiting periods, and will not have access to the cover. When will your day to day limits be impacted?

Contact us

For further information please call us on 0860 104 883.