

Benefits of Having Covid-19 Insurance Policies

OPEN ACCESS

Manuscript ID:
ASH-2022-09034493

Volume: 9

Issue: 3

Month: January

Year: 2022

P-ISSN: 2321-788X

E-ISSN: 2582-0397

Received: 10.07.2021

Accepted: 25.09.2021

Published: 01.1.2022


Citation:
Sangamithra, A., and
P. Dhavamani. "Benefits
of Having Covid-19
Insurance Policies."
*Shanlax International
Journal of Arts, Science
and Humanities*, vol. 9,
no. 3, 2022, pp. 85–89.

DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.34293/sijash.v9i3.4493>




This work is licensed
under a Creative Commons
Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0
International License

A. Sangamithra

Professor, Department of Economics
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4761-8150>

P. Dhavamani

Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Economics
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6609-2820>

Abstract

COVID-19 is a highly infectious virus that shows symptoms comparable to those of ordinary flu. In this connection, Covid-19 Health Insurance Policy is a personalized insurance policy aimed at covering hospitalization, pre-hospitalisation and post-hospitalization expenditures, and other medical expenses arising due to the treatment of COVID-19. Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA) introduced the new Corona health insurance policies namely Corona Rakshak and Corona Kavach policy and comprehensive Health Insurance policies that also covers the Coronavirus among other illnesses, diseases and healthcare benefits. Corona Rakshak Policy is an affordable Health Insurance policy that offers lump sum uses to the insured if diagnosed with COVID-19. The coverage starts from the day people get diagnosed with COVID-19 infection. Corona Kavach Policy is an affordable Health Insurance policy that protects you and your family against hospitalization expenses due to COVID-19. The coverage starts from the day the patient gets diagnosed with COVID-19 infection. It is always good to have insurance to keep ourselves and family to keep our family safe.

Keywords: COVID-19, Corona Virus, Health Insurance, Corona Kavach Policy, Corona Rakshak Policy, Financial Problem, Treatment.

Introduction

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a cluster of viruses that assault the immune system of a human being that results in diseases as gentle as the common cold to as severe as Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). It is a transmittable disease that originated in China's Wuhan in late December 2019. COVID-19 is an extremely infectious disease that shows symptoms comparable to ordinary influenza. These incorporate fever, dry cough, tiredness, and sore throat. However, the disease affects dissimilar populace in dissimilar behavior. As acknowledged beyond, it is innovative damage of the disease that does not have any treatment. In this connection, Covid-19 Health Insurance Policy is a customized insurance policy covering hospitalization, pre-hospitalization and post-hospitalization expenses, and other medical expenditures arising due to the treatment of COVID-19. Almost all health insurance policies now offer cover for the treatment of Coronavirus in India. The envelope is accessible from day one after the insured is experienced Corona virus-positive. Since COVID-19 is a new disease, it does not reduce under pre-existing diseases. All the infected patients with Coronavirus are treated in hospitals and the treatment expense are very high. But, they we have comprehensive health insurance, they can easily avoid the financial burden and take care of hospitalization expenses.

In this ongoing pandemic situation, where Coronavirus (COVID-19) is not looking to go away soon, having Coronavirus (COVID-19) insurance. A specially designed Coronavirus health insurance plan covers the people against the heavy expenses associated with treating this highly infectious disease. A COVID-19 Health Insurance Policy covers the people for various in-patient hospitalization expenses, pre-hospitalization and post-hospitalisation expenses, thereby letting them focus entirely on their quick recovery.

Disease and Economic Burden

From an Economic perspective, the unfold of COVID-19, the ever-increasing variety of patients, and the sickness issues have imposed high direct medical and indirect costs on patients, the health system and the authorities. As a long way as the monetary burden of direct clinical expenses is concerned. However, the prices differ with the variety of the contaminated people, the severity of the disease, suggest the size of remain in the hospital, suggest the size of remain in the ICU, and different elements, worldwide research confirmed that systematic cost of the sufferers with COVID-19 had been drastically greater than these of different infectious illnesses due to the greater likelihood of hospitalization and mortality. These situations are additionally appropriate concerning the need for COVID-19 victims for one of a kind be concerned assistance and the connected charges. Therefore, related to the unnecessary price of the organization of the victims with COVID-19 and its consequent financial trouble on the physical condition device and the country usually, and due to the impending monetary crisis, it appears fundamental to calculate direct medical and indirect cost of treatment of the disease.

COVID 19 Insurance: A Literature Review

Sakshi Chatterjee, Dr. Arunangshu Giri, et al., (2018) made a study on the Health insurance sector in India: The study is descriptive and explains various health insurance products offered in India. It tries to analyze the insurance models of healthcare in selected other countries as well. Nonamalgamation between public and private companies is identified as a major hindrance in developing the health insurance

sector in the countries. Health insurance is regarded as an unsaturated promotion in India. The focal point income comes together, i.e. the targeted population of this diligence will create an explosion in health insurance in years to come. Predictably, the overall insurance area will value in the order of USD 280 billion by the end of 2020. The health insurance zone is essential to be complete worldwide irrespective of the income level and environment of human beings and relatives.

According to Pius Baubuna et al., 2020, The impact of COVID-19 on the insurance industry with a parallel comparison to previous pandemics such as SARS-CoV, H1N1 and MERS, have developed outlines for simulating the collision of the deadly disease on the insurance industry. The study used qualitative and quantitative interviews to approximation the collision of the epidemic. Presently, the tendency is an economic depression with declining profits but rising claims. Due to the termination of travels, proceedings and other economic losses, the insurance industry witnesses a defeat. Their comparison and forecast predict the normalization of economic indicators from January 2021. In the intervening time, while the plague persists, insurers should adapt to working from a distant location, train and equip staff to work underneath social distancing conventions, augment cyber security protocols and make simpler claims/premium processing using e-payment channels. It will require the collaboration of the Ministry of Health, Banking Sector, Police Department, Customs Excise and Preventive Service, other relevant Ministries and the international community to bring the pandemic to a stop.

K Swathi and R Anuradha (2017), submitted a report entitled Health insurance in India- An overview. This study highlights the concept and benefits of health insurance besides presenting an overview of the health insurance sector in India. A brief of several persons covered under different schemes such as government-sponsored, group insurance, family insurance, individual policies is portrayed in this study. Sector-wise health insurance policies along with several persons covered by public, private and specialized insurers are depicted in this study. Suggestions of the revision are for the

administration to introduce new health insurance schemes for the interests of the ordinary populace. The Insurance Regularity and Development Authority (IRDA) is recommended to endorse struggle in health insurers as available in telecom service providers. The government is also advised to conduct awareness campaigns to inform people about the benefits of taking health insurance policies, particularly during pandemic times.

Policy Period	3½ months(105 days), 6½ months (195 days) and 9½ months (285 days)
Waiting period	15 days
Eligibility	Adult Age 18 yrs to 65 yrs*
Coverage	100% of Sum Insured if diagnosis confirms presence of COVID-19 & requiring hospitalization for continuous 72 hours

COVID 19: Health Insurance Policies in India

A Coronavirus health insurance is a customized health insurance policy dedicated to covering hospitalization and treatment prices of the covid-19. There are various kinds of covid-19 Health Insurances in India, such as the Corona Rakshak cover, Corona Kavach policy, and comprehensive Health Insurance policies that also cover the Coronavirus among other illnesses, diseases and healthcare benefits.

Corona Rakshak Policy

Corona Rakshak Policy is an affordable Health Insurance policy that offers lumpsum benefits to the insured if diagnosed with COVID-19. The coverage starts from the day people get diagnosed with COVID-19 disease. However, this health insurance has a standard waiting time of 15 days. All the infected patients with Coronavirus are treated in hospitals & the treatment expense are very high. But, if the patients have comprehensive health insurance, they can easily avoid the financial burden & take care of hospitalization expenses.

Table 1: Benefits of Corona Rakshak Policy

Benefits	Description
Product Type	Individual
Sum Insured	50k, 1L, 1.5L, 2L, 2.5L

*Hospitalization should be as per the Government-authorized clinic.

**Hospitalization is mandatory for 72 hours.

Source: star health and Allied Insurance

Exclusion of Corona Rakshak Policy

All endless exclusions shall apply individually for each insured person under the Corona Rakshak Policy and claims shall be assessed accordingly.

- The treatment is taken for any pre-existing disease
- Travel to any restricted countries
- Diagnosis is made at the unauthorized testing center
- Diagnosis/Treatment taken outside India

Corona Kavach Policy

Corona Kavach Policy is an affordable Health Insurance policy that protects you and your family against hospitalization expenses due to COVID-19. The coverage starts from the day the patient gets diagnosed with COVID-19 infection. However, this health insurance has a standard waiting period of 15 days. Corona Kavach Policy is an affordable Health Insurance policy that protects the patient and your family against hospitalization expenses due to COVID-19. The coverage starts from the day they get diagnosed with COVID-19 infection. However, this health insurance has a standard waiting period of 15 days.

Table 2: Benefits of Corona Kavach Policy

Benefits	Description
Product Type	Individual & Floater
Sum Insured	50K, 1L, 1.5L, 2L, 2.5L, 3L, 3.5L, 4L, 4.5L, 5L
Policy Period	3½ months (105 days), 6½ months (195 days) and 9½ months (285 days)
Waiting Period	15 Days waiting period
Eligibility	Child Age: 1 day to 25 yrs* Adult Age: 18 yrs to 65 yrs*

Base Covers for Corona Kavach Policy	
Hospitalisation Cover	Covers Medical Expenses incurred on Hospitalisation due to Diagnosis of presence of COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room, Boarding, Nursing Expenses as provided by the Hospital/ Nursing Home • Surgeon, Anesthetist, Medical Practitioner, Consultants, Specialist Fees# whether paid directly to the treating doctor/ surgeon or to the hospital • Anesthesia, blood, oxygen, operation theatre charges, surgical appliances, ventilator charges, medicines and drugs, costs towards diagnostics, diagnostic imaging modalities, PPE Kit, gloves, mask and such other similar expenses (Expenses on Hospitalization for a minimum period of 24 hours are admissible) • Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Intensive Cardiac Care Unit (ICCU) expenses • Expenses incurred on road Ambulance subject to a maximum of Rs.2000/- per hospitalization
Home Care Treatment Cover	Covers the medical expenses during home treatment for COVID for a maximum of 14 days during the policy period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnostic tests undergone at home or at diagnostics center • Medicines prescribed in writing • Consultation charges of the medical practitioner • Nursing charges related to medical staff • Medical procedures limited to parenteral administration of medicines • Cost of Pulse oximeter, Oxygen cylinder and Nebulizer
AYUSH Treatment	The medical expenses for in-patient treatment** taken under Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy for COVID positive diagnosis are covered up to the sum insured without any sub-limits.
Pre-Hospitalisation Cover	Covers the Medical Expenses incurred up to 15 days prior to date of Hospitalisation
Post-Hospitalisation Cover	Covers the Medical Expenses incurred up to 30 days post discharge from the Hospital
Coverage: Add-On	
Hospital Daily Cash Cover	Daily cash pay-out for each 24 hours of hospitalisation for a maximum up to 15 days. Applicable for hospitalisation cover only.

**Treatment was taken in government authorized hospitals

Source: Star Health and Allied Insurance

Exclusion of Corona Kavach Policy

All permanent exclusions shall apply individually for each insured person under the Corona Kavach Policy, Reliance General and claims shall be assessed accordingly

- Treatment took for any pre-existing disease
- Travel to any restricted countries
- Diagnosis done at unauthorized testing centers

- Diagnosis/Treatment taken outside India
- Expenses incurred on Day Care & OPD Treatment
- Claims related to COVID where the diagnosis before policy start date
- Dietary Supplements and Substances purchased without prescription
- Expenses did for Unproven Treatments which lacks significant medical documentation

Conclusion

Health Insurance policies are one of the best policies available to help us through the pandemic. It is always good to have insurance to keep ourselves and family to keep our family safe. With a Corona Kavach and Rakshak Policy, we can easily find and avail of the best treatment for Covid-19 near our area of residence. It promises cashless hospitalization and quality medical care at the time of need. All standalone and general insurance companies in India offer this plan to ensure prompt treatment and financial security during the novel Coronavirus crisis.

References

- Baubuna, Pius, et al. "The Impact of COVID-19 on the Insurance Industry." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, vol. 17, 2020.
- Chatterjee, Satakshi, et al. "Health Insurance Sector in India: A Study." *Tech Vistas*, vol. 1, no. 1, 2018, pp. 105-15.
- "Covid-19: Understanding Health Insurance Policies and Ideal Indemnity-based Plans for You." *IndiaToday*, <https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/covid-19-understanding-health-insurance-policies-and-ideal-indemnity-policies-for-you-1795144-2021-04-26>
- Corona Kavach Policy, Liberty General Insurance Ltd. IRDAI, <https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/Uploadedfiles/HealthProducts/2020-21/CoronaKavach/LIBHLIP21089V012021.pdf>
- "Corona Kavach Policy-National." *National Insurance*, 2021.
- "A Comprehensive Guide on Corona Rakshak Plan." *Turtle Mint*, 2021.
- "Corona Rakshak Health Insurance Plan: All you Need to Know." *The Economic Times*, 2021.
- "Corona Kavach, Corona Rakshak Insurance Policies on Offer from Today: Premium, Tenure, Benefits." *Hindustan Times*, 2020.
- "Corona Rakshak Policy." *Insurance Dekho*, 2021.
- "A Comprehensive Guide on Corona Rakshak Plan." *Turtle Mint*, 2021.
- "Corona Rakshak Health Insurance Plan: All you Need to Know." *The Economic Times*, 2021.
- "Corona Kavach, Corona Rakshak Insurance Policies on Offer from Today: Premium, Tenure, Benefits." *Hindustan Times*, 2020.
- "Impact of COVID-19 on the Insurance Industry." *Deloitte*, 2021
- "Understanding COVID-19's Impact on the Insurance Sector." *Deloitte*, 2021.
- Prabhakar, Bhavani. "Corona Kavach, Corona Rakshak: What these and Other Insurance Policies Cover." *Citizen Matters*, 2021.
- "Tips to Buy Corona Kavach or Corona Rakshak Policy." *Reliance General Insurance*, 2021.
- "Corona Kavach Health Insurance Policy Evokes Good Response: Insurers." *Business Standard*, 2021.
- "Five Things to Know about Indemnity - Type Corona Kavach Health Insurance." *Live Mint*, 2021.
- Special Correspondent. "Insurers unveil Corona Kavach Policy." *The Hindu*, 2020.
- Special Correspondent. "Health Covers for COVID-19 get More Life." *The Hindu*, 2021.
- Surabhi. "Insurers seek re-pricing of Corona Kavach, Corona Rakshak Policies." *The Hindu Business Line*, 2021.
- Swathi, K., and R. Anuradha. "Health Insurance in India - An Overview." *IOSR Journal of Business and Management*, 2017, pp. 49-52.

Author Details

A. Sangamithra, Professor, Department of Economics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, Email ID: sangamithra@buc.edu.in

P. Dhavamani, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Economics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, Email ID: dhavamaniperumal@gmail.com