

in  
**safe hands**

Three reasons to invest  
in comprehensive  
medical insurance



benefits that truly benefit

**Your health is an asset. Like any asset, it should be protected. Investing in international private medical insurance (IPMI) for yourself and your family means nothing is left to chance. In times of medical stress, eliminate the pain of financial burdens so you can focus on getting better.**

**This case study shares three examples of people who were left out of pocket due to limited medical insurance and then reveals how the right top-up insurance can help attain peace of mind.**

Whether you are an expatriate living and working abroad or a local, you may have been fortunate enough to have IPMI through your company. Or you may assume that local government healthcare packages cover all of your medical bills.

But assumptions are dangerous. Too often, hidden costs are passed on to individuals who are not adequately covered.

In addition, companies are increasingly challenged by rising medical costs. The Mercer Marsh Benefits Medical Trends Survey reveals that medical expenses continue to outpace general inflation by close to three times, making it difficult for companies to continue to provide generous medical packages. And if you were to lose your job, you'd be exposed immediately.

Furthermore, corporate medical plans are often not fully understood by employees who may be unaware of potential gaps. Many individuals hope that they won't get sick, rather than making the responsible commitment to investing in the right coverage.

Healthcare treatment in most cosmopolitan areas is outstanding, but it comes with a big price tag. Even with government support, recovering the money you have personally paid is a painfully time-consuming process that makes it difficult to retrieve your hard-earned cash.

As these three stories illustrate, the financial pain and suffering experienced by people who are not covered adequately by their insurers make recovery even harder, psychologically.

The alternative is to take your future into your own hands.



# Milestone events in our lives worth paying attention to

Life is a series of moments of joy and triumph, sadness and despair. But no matter how challenging the circumstances surrounding us, humans tend to live in a world of health optimism. From the day a new child is born to the moment when our aging bodies need repair, we hope we won't get cancer and assume that a knee or shoulder injury will recover with rest and time. However, the shock of discovering the cost of treatment is undeniable. When it comes to your health, your focus should be on getting better, not worrying where the money for treatment will come from.

But sometimes life is unpredictable. These are the real financial costs of three medical treatments that typically aren't covered by standard insurance. The mental health costs associated with the uncertainty of insurance coverage are far higher.

## Cancer treatment

No one likes the “c-word,” but one in every four to five people in Singapore may develop cancer in their lifetime, and the number of people living with cancer will continue to increase. For example, the medical costs associated with late-stage colon cancer treatment are, on average, \$135,000 a year. Typically, employee medical insurance covers up to \$20,000 of this. Without comprehensive coverage, cancer survivors may be plagued with debt. Fortunately, IPMI can cover every cent that isn't included in your original insurance. Peace of mind like this is worth its weight in gold.

## Uncovered maternity costs

Bringing a new life into the world should be a joyous occasion, but the birth of any child also brings a variety of challenges. At this changing stage of life, it's prudent to protect the health of the mother and her unborn child by ensuring your hospital or surgical plan doesn't leave you reeling with shock at the bill for unanticipated costs. An emergency c-section and complications in pregnancy could cost as much as \$22,000. Give yourself freedom from worry with comprehensive coverage, and give your child the best start in life.

## Knee replacement

A sore knee doesn't just affect your quality of life: undergoing knee replacement surgery with reconstruction and repairing ligaments can also put a severe dent in your bank account. For an operation that may cost between \$60,000 and \$80,000, hospital and surgical insurance covers the majority, with a 20% co-payment required by individuals. This means the typical person is out of pocket and liable for between \$12,000 and \$16,000 without IPMI.

## Benefits of IPMI

- Ensure complete coverage for foreign talent and your families — from cancer treatment to knee surgery.
- Supplement local health insurance with tailored protection.
- Get 24/7, worldwide coverage with access to over 10,000 network hospitals and clinics.
- Recoup emergency evacuation costs.
- Maintain continuous coverage during unemployment and travel.
- Eliminate frustrating and time-consuming medical claims processes.

## Still not sure? Ask yourself these three questions.

### Would you still be covered medically if you lost your job or were sent back to your home country?

If you become unemployed and need to return home, IPMI will help give you peace of mind during the journey. Amid the chaos of life-changing events, at least you know that your health is covered during this critical time.

### If you or a family member are hospitalized, what hidden costs are not covered by your current policy?

When someone you love is sick, the last thing you want to do is worry about how the bills will be paid. With IPMI, you will have the right protection in place and be thoroughly covered, so that you or your loved ones can focus on getting better.

### How much does it cost?

Depending on the IPMI plan design, the premium varies. Get in touch with us now for a bespoke quote for you and your family. For a limited time, enjoy up to 10% savings, exclusively available only through Mercer Marsh Benefits.



# Don't leave your health to chance

At Mercer Marsh Benefits, we care for you and your people and aim to ensure the best possible protection. That's why we have partnered with a leading global insurer to give you the best possible international private medical insurance and other healthcare coverage to suit your individual circumstances. Our dedicated team of global healthcare providers ensures a smooth policy enrollment with the least hassle. In addition, you can benefit from an exclusive discount by buying IPMI through Mercer.

**With the right IPMI, you can rest assured, knowing you're in safe hands no matter what life throws at you. We've got you covered.**

## Contact us

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