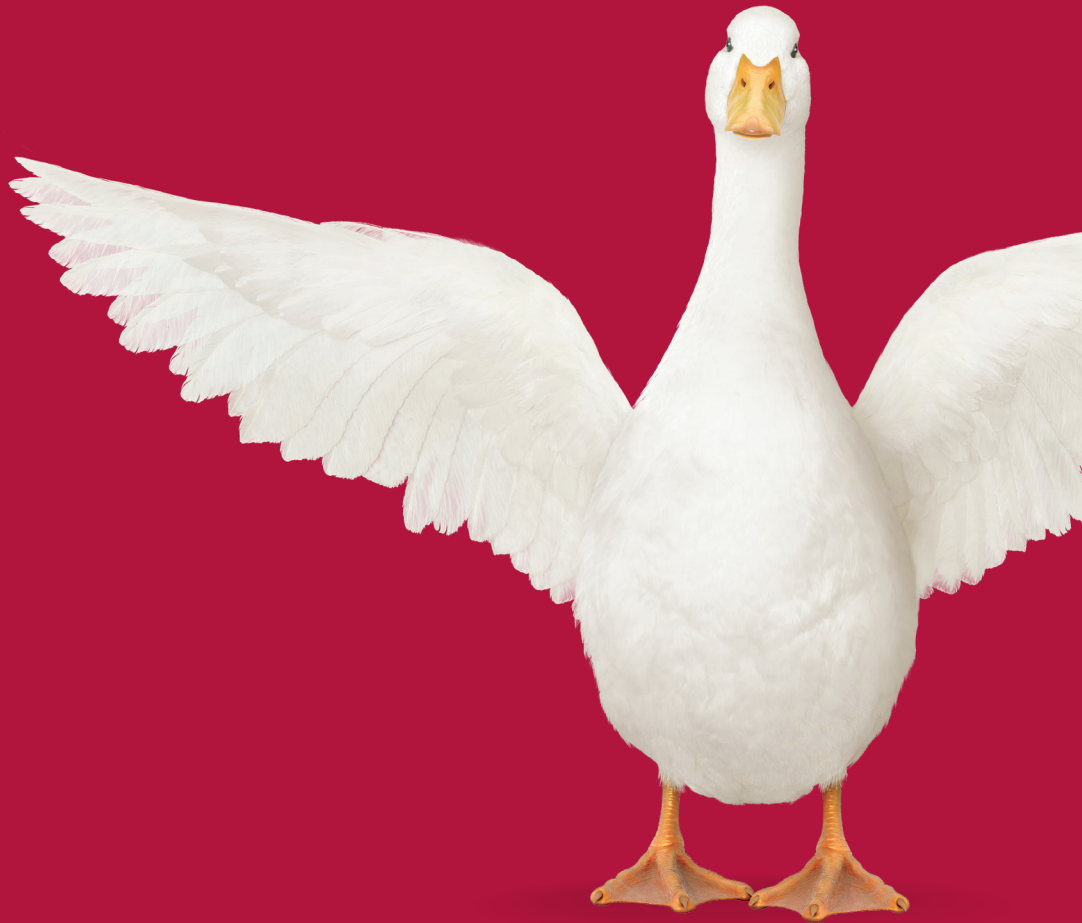


Aflac Group Critical Illness

**INSURANCE – PLAN INCLUDES BENEFITS
FOR CANCER AND HEALTH SCREENING**

We help take care of your
expenses while you take
care of yourself.



Aflac can help ease the financial stress of surviving a critical illness.

Chances are you may know someone who's been diagnosed with a critical illness. You can't help notice the difference in the person's life—both physically and emotionally. What's not so obvious is the impact a critical illness may have on someone's personal finances.

That's because while a major medical plan may pay for a good portion of the costs associated with a critical illness, there are a lot of expenses that may not be covered. And, during recovery, having to worry about out-of-pocket expenses is the last thing anyone needs.

That's the benefit of an Aflac Group Critical Illness plan.

It can help with the treatment costs of covered critical illnesses, such as a heart attack or stroke.

More importantly, the plan helps you focus on recuperation instead of the distraction of out-of-pocket costs. With the Critical Illness plan, you receive cash benefits directly (unless otherwise assigned)—giving you the flexibility to help pay bills related to treatment or to help with everyday living expenses.

What you need, when you need it.

Group critical illness insurance pays cash benefits that you can use any way you see fit.



Here's why the Aflac Group Critical Illness plan may be right for you.

For more than 60 years, Aflac has been dedicated to helping provide individuals and families peace of mind and financial security when they've needed it most. The Aflac Group Critical Illness plan is just another innovative way to help make sure you're well protected.

But it doesn't stop there. Having group critical illness insurance from Aflac means that you may have added financial resources to help with medical costs or ongoing living expenses.

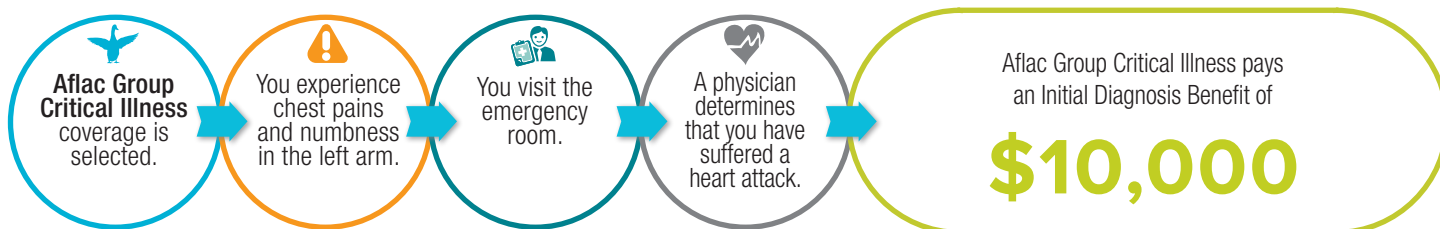
The Aflac Group Critical Illness plan benefits include:

- Critical Illness Benefit payable for:
 - Cancer
 - Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction)
 - Stroke
 - Kidney Failure (End-Stage Renal Failure)
 - Major Organ Transplant
 - Bone Marrow Transplant (Stem Cell Transplant)
 - Sudden Cardiac Arrest
 - Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery
 - Non-Invasive Cancer
 - Skin Cancer
 - Severe Burn
 - Coma
 - Paralysis
 - Loss of Sight
 - Loss of Hearing
 - Loss of Speech
- Health Screening Benefit

Features:

- Benefits are paid directly to you, unless otherwise assigned.
- Coverage is available for you, your spouse, and dependent children.
- Coverage may be continued (with certain stipulations). That means you can take it with you if you change jobs or retire.

How it works



Amount payable based on \$10,000 Initial Diagnosis Benefit.

For more information, ask your insurance agent/producer, call 1.800.433.3036, or visit aflacgroupinsurance.com.

Benefits Overview

COVERED CRITICAL ILLNESSES:

CANCER (Internal or Invasive)	100%
HEART ATTACK (Myocardial Infarction)	100%
STROKE (Ischemic or Hemorrhagic)	100%
MAJOR ORGAN TRANSPLANT (25% of this benefit is payable for insureds placed on a transplant list for a major organ transplant)	100%
KIDNEY FAILURE (End-Stage Renal Failure)	100%
BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT (Stem Cell Transplant)	100%
SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST	100%
SEVERE BURN*	100%
PARALYSIS**	100%
COMA**	100%
LOSS OF SPEECH / SIGHT / HEARING**	100%
NON-INVASIVE CANCER	25%
CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY	25%

INITIAL DIAGNOSIS

We will pay a lump sum benefit upon initial diagnosis of a covered critical illness when such diagnosis is caused by or solely attributed to an underlying disease. Cancer diagnoses are subject to the cancer diagnosis limitation. Benefits will be based on the face amount in effect on the critical illness date of diagnosis.

ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSIS

We will pay benefits for each different critical illness after the first when the two dates of diagnoses are separated by at least 6 consecutive months. Cancer diagnoses are subject to the cancer diagnosis limitation.

REOCCURRENCE

We will pay benefits for the same critical illness after the first when the two dates of diagnoses are separated by at least 6 consecutive months. Cancer diagnoses are subject to the cancer diagnosis limitation.

CHILD COVERAGE AT NO ADDITIONAL COST

Each dependent child is covered at 50 percent of the primary insured's benefit amount at no additional charge. Children-only coverage is not available.

*This benefit is only payable for a burn due to, caused by, and attributed to, a covered accident.

**These benefits are payable for loss due to a covered underlying disease or a covered accident.

The plan has limitations and exclusions that may affect benefits payable. This brochure is for illustrative purposes only. Refer to your certificate for complete details, definitions, limitations, and exclusions.

SKIN CANCER BENEFIT

We will pay \$250 for the diagnosis of skin cancer. We will pay this benefit once per calendar year.

WAIVER OF PREMIUM

If you become totally disabled due to a covered critical illness prior to age 65, after 90 continuous days of total disability, we will waive premiums for you and any of your covered dependents. As long as you remain totally disabled, premiums will be waived up to 24 months, subject to the terms of the plan.

SUCCESSOR INSURED BENEFIT

If spouse coverage is in force at the time of the primary insured's death, the surviving spouse may elect to continue coverage. Coverage would continue at the existing spouse face amount and would also include any dependent child coverage in force at the time.

HEALTH SCREENING BENEFIT (Employee and Spouse only)

We will pay \$100 for health screening tests performed while an insured's coverage is in force. We will pay this benefit once per calendar year.

This benefit is only payable for health screening tests performed as the result of preventive care, including tests and diagnostic procedures ordered in connection with routine examinations. This benefit is payable for the covered employee and spouse.

This benefit is not paid for dependent children.

OPTIONAL BENEFITS RIDER

BENIGN BRAIN TUMOR	100%
ADVANCED ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE	25%
ADVANCED PARKINSON'S DISEASE	25%

These benefits will be paid based on the face amount in effect on the critical illness date of diagnosis.

PROGRESSIVE DISEASE RIDER

AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS OR LOU GEHRIG'S DISEASE)	100%
SUSTAINED MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS	100%

These benefits will be paid based on the face amount in effect on the critical illness date of diagnosis.

SPECIFIED DISEASES RIDER

Percentage of Face Amount

Addison's Disease, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Diphtheria, Huntington's Chorea, Legionnaire's Disease, Malaria, Muscular Dystrophy, Myasthenia Gravis, Necrotizing Fasciitis, Osteomyelitis, Poliomyelitis (Polio), Rabies, Sickle Cell Anemia, Systemic Lupus, Systemic Sclerosis (Scleroderma), Tetanus, Tuberculosis

25%

We will pay the benefit shown if an insured is diagnosed with one of the diseases listed and the date of diagnosis is while the rider is in force.

CHILDHOOD CONDITIONS RIDER

CYSTIC FIBROSIS

50%

CEREBRAL PALSY

50%

CLEFT LIP OR CLEFT PALATE

50%

DOWN SYNDROME

50%

PHENYLALANINE HYDROXYLASE DEFICIENCY DISEASE (PKU)

50%

SPINA BIFIDA

50%

TYPE 1 DIABETES

50%

One Time Benefit Amount

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

\$3,000

Benefits are payable if a dependent child is diagnosed with one of the conditions listed.

LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

IF DIAGNOSIS OCCURS AFTER THE AGE OF 70, HALF OF THE BENEFIT IS PAYABLE.

All limitations and exclusions that apply to the critical illness plan also apply to the riders unless amended by the riders.

Cancer Diagnosis Limitation Benefits are payable for cancer and/or non-invasive cancer as long as the insured:

- Is treatment-free from cancer for at least 12 months before the diagnosis date; and
- Is in complete remission prior to the date of a subsequent diagnosis, as evidenced by the absence of all clinical, radiological, biological, and biochemical proof of the presence of the cancer.

EXCLUSIONS

We will not pay for loss due to:

- **Self-Inflicted Injuries** – injuring or attempting to injure oneself intentionally or taking action that causes oneself to become injured;
 - In Alaska: injuring or attempting to injure oneself intentionally
- **Suicide** – committing or attempting to commit suicide, while sane or insane;
 - In Missouri: committing or attempting to commit suicide, while sane
 - In Illinois and Minnesota: this exclusion does not apply
- **Illegal Acts** – participating or attempting to participate in an illegal activity, or working at an illegal job:
 - In Arizona: participating in or attempting to commit a felony, or being engaged in an illegal occupation;
 - In Florida: participating or attempting to participate in an illegal activity, or

working at an illegal occupation;

- In Illinois and Pennsylvania: Illegal Occupation - committing or attempting to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation;
 - In Michigan: Illegal Occupation – the commission of or attempt to commit a felony, or being engaged in an illegal occupation;
 - In Nebraska: being engaged in an illegal occupation, or commission of or attempting to commit a felony;
 - In Ohio: committing or attempting to commit a felony, or working at an illegal job
 - **Participation in Aggressive Conflict:**
 - War (declared or undeclared) or military conflicts;
 - In Florida: War does not include acts of terrorism
 - In Oklahoma: War, or act of war, declared or undeclared when serving in the military service or an auxiliary unit thereto
 - Insurrection or riot
 - Civil commotion or civil state of belligerence
 - **Illegal Substance Abuse:**
 - Abuse of legally-obtained prescription medication
 - Illegal use of non-prescription drugs
 - In Arizona: Being intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic unless administered on the advice of a physician
 - In Michigan, Nevada, and South Dakota: this exclusion does not apply
- Diagnosis, treatment, testing, and confinement must be in the United States or its territories.

All benefits under the plan, including benefits for diagnoses, treatment, confinement

and covered tests, are payable only while coverage is in force.

TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Bone Marrow Transplant (Stem Cell Transplant) means a procedure to replace damaged or destroyed bone marrow with healthy bone marrow stem cells. For a benefit to be payable, a Bone Marrow Transplant (Stem Cell Transplant) must be caused by at least one of the following diseases:

- Aplastic anemia
- Congenital neutropenia
- Severe immunodeficiency syndromes
- Sickle cell anemia
- Thalassemia
- Fanconi anemia
- Leukemia
- Lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma

The Bone Marrow Transplant (Stem Cell Transplant) benefit is not payable if the transplant results from a covered critical illness for which a benefit has been paid under this plan.

Cancer (internal or invasive) is a disease that meets either of the following definitions: A malignant tumor characterized by:

- The uncontrolled growth and spread of malignant cells, and
- The invasion of distant tissue.

A disease meeting the diagnostic criteria of malignancy, as established by the American Board of Pathology. A pathologist must have examined and provided a report on the histocytologic architecture or pattern of the tumor, tissue, or specimen.

Cancer (internal or invasive) also includes:

- Melanoma that is Clark's Level III or higher or Breslow depth equal to or greater than 0.77mm,
- Myelodysplastic syndrome – RCMD (refractory cytopenia with multilineage dysplasia),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome – RAEB (refractory anemia with excess blasts),
- Myelodysplastic syndrome – RAEB-T (refractory anemia with excess blasts in transformation), or
- Myelodysplastic syndrome – CMML (chronic myelomonocytic leukemia).

The following are not considered internal or invasive cancers:

- Pre-malignant tumors or polyps
- Carcinomas in Situ
- Any superficial, non-invasive skin cancers including basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is diagnosed as
 - Clark's Level I or II,
 - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, or
 - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging

Non-Invasive Cancer is a cancer that is in the natural or normal place, confined to the site of origin without having invaded neighboring tissue.

For the purposes of the plan, a Non-Invasive Cancer is:

- Internal Carcinoma in Situ
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome – RARS (refractory anemia with ring sideroblasts)
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome – RA (refractory anemia)

Skin Cancer, as defined in this plan, is not payable under the Non-Invasive Cancer Benefit.

Skin Cancer is a cancer that forms in the tissues of the skin. The following are considered skin cancers:

- Basal cell carcinoma
 - Clark's Level I or II,
 - Breslow depth less than 0.77mm, or
 - Stage 1A melanomas under TNM Staging
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the skin
- Melanoma in Situ
- Melanoma that is diagnosed as

These conditions are not payable under the Cancer (internal or invasive) Benefit.

Cancer, non-invasive cancer, or skin cancer must be diagnosed in one of two ways:

1. Pathological Diagnosis is a diagnosis based on a microscopic study of fixed tissue or

preparations from the hemic (blood) system. This diagnosis must be made by a certified pathologist and conform to the American Board of Pathology standards.

2. Clinical Diagnosis is based only on the study of symptoms. A clinical diagnosis will be accepted only if:

- A doctor cannot make a pathological diagnosis because it is medically inappropriate or life-threatening,
- Medical evidence exists to support the diagnosis, and
- A doctor is treating you for cancer or carcinoma in situ

Complete Remission is defined as having no symptoms and no signs that can be identified to indicate the presence of cancer.

Civil Union: In Washington DC, Civil Union is defined as a relationship similar to marriage that is recognized by law. In Illinois, a Civil Union is defined as a legal relationship between two persons, of either the same or opposite sex, established pursuant to the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act.

Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery means open heart surgery to correct the narrowing or blockage of one or more coronary arteries with bypass grafts and where such narrowing or blockage is attributed to coronary artery disease or acute coronary syndrome. This excludes any non-surgical procedure, such as, but not limited to, balloon angioplasty, laser relief, or stents.

Critical Illness is a disease or a sickness as defined in the plan that first manifests while your coverage is in force. In Illinois, critical illness is a sickness or disease that began while the insured's coverage is in force. In South Dakota, critical illness is a disease or a sickness that manifests while your coverage is in force.

Severe Burn or Severely Burned means a burn resulting from fire, heat, caustics, electricity, or radiation. The burn must:

- Be a full-thickness or third-degree burn, as determined by a doctor. A **Full-Thickness Burn** or **Third-Degree Burn** is the destruction of the skin through the entire thickness or depth of the dermis (or possibly into underlying tissues). This results in loss of fluid and sometimes shock.
- Cause cosmetic disfigurement to the body's surface area of at least 35 square inches.
- Be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident characterized by the absence of:
 - Spontaneous eye movements,
 - Response to painful stimuli, and
 - Vocalization.

Coma does not include a medically-induced coma.

To be payable as an Accident benefit, the coma must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident.

To be considered a critical illness, the coma must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to one of the following diseases:

- Brain Aneurysm
- Diabetes
- Encephalitis
- Epilepsy
- Hyperglycemia
- Hypoglycemia
- Meningitis

Paralysis or Paralyzed means the permanent, total, and irreversible loss of muscle function to the whole of at least two limbs. To be payable as an Accident benefit, the paralysis must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident. To be considered a critical illness, paralysis must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to one or more of the following diseases:

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Cerebral palsy
- Parkinson's disease,
- Poliomyelitis

The diagnosis of paralysis must be supported by neurological evidence.

Loss of Sight means the total and irreversible loss of all sight in both eyes. To be payable as an Accident benefit, loss of sight must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident. To be considered a critical illness, loss of sight must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to one of the following diseases:

- Retinal disease
- Hypoxia
- Optic nerve disease

Loss of Speech means the total and permanent loss of the ability to speak. To be payable as an Accident benefit, loss of

speech must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident. To be considered a critical illness, loss of speech must be caused solely by or be solely attributable to one of the following diseases:

- Alzheimer's disease
- Arteriovenous malformation

Loss of Hearing means the total and irreversible loss of hearing in both ears. Loss of hearing does not include hearing loss that can be corrected by the use of a hearing aid or device. To be payable as an Accident benefit, loss of hearing must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to a covered accident.

To be considered a critical illness, loss of hearing must be caused solely by or be solely attributed to one of the following diseases:

- Alport syndrome
- Goldenhar syndrome
- Autoimmune inner ear disease
- Meniere's disease
- Chicken pox
- Meningitis
- Diabetes
- Mumps

Date of Diagnosis is defined as follows:

- Bone Marrow Transplant (Stem Cell Transplant): The date the surgery occurs. samples are taken for microscopic examination.
- Cancer: The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (diagnosis of cancer and/or carcinoma in situ is based on such specimens).
- Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery: The date the surgery occurs.
- Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction): The date the infarction (death) of a portion of the heart muscle occurs. This is based on the criteria listed under the heart attack (myocardial infarction) definition.
- Kidney Failure (End-Stage Renal Failure): The date a doctor recommends that an insured begin renal dialysis.
- Major Organ Transplant: The date the surgery occurs.
- Non-Invasive Cancer: The day tissue specimens, blood samples, or titer(s) are taken (diagnosis of cancer and/or carcinoma in situ is based on such specimens).
- Skin Cancer: The date the skin biopsy
- Severe Burn: The date the burn takes place.
- Stroke: The date the stroke occurs (based on documented neurological deficits and neuroimaging studies).
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest: The date the pumping action of the heart fails (based on the sudden cardiac arrest definition).
- Coma: The first day of the period for which a doctor confirms a coma that is due to one of the underlying diseases and that has lasted for at least seven consecutive days.
- Loss of Sight, Speech, or Hearing: The date the loss due to one of the underlying diseases is objectively determined by a doctor to be total and irreversible.
- Paralysis: The date a doctor diagnoses an insured with paralysis due to one of the underlying diseases as specified in this plan, where such diagnosis is based on clinical and/or laboratory findings as supported by the insured's medical records.

Dependent means your spouse or your dependent child. Spouse is your legal wife or husband, (In Delaware, Illinois, Nevada, Oregon, or Washington DC - or a person who is in a legally recognized domestic partnership, civil union, or similar relationship with you), who is listed on your application. Dependent children are your or your spouse's natural children, step-children, legally adopted children, or children placed for adoption, who are younger than age 26 (in Indiana, this includes children subject to legal guardianship).

Newborn children are automatically covered from the moment of birth.

There is an exception to the age-26 limit listed above. This limit will not apply to any dependent child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment due to mental or physical handicap and is dependent (in Arkansas, chiefly dependent) on a parent for support. The employee or the employee's spouse must furnish proof of this incapacity and dependency to the company within 31 days (in Indiana, 120 days) following the dependent child's 26th birthday.

- In South Dakota, this limit will not apply to any child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment and is chiefly dependent upon the insured for support and maintenance.
- In Texas, this limit will not apply to any dependent child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment due to mental or physical handicap and is dependent on a parent for support and maintenance. Dependent Children may also include grandchildren, who are unmarried, under age 26, and if they are your dependents for federal income tax purposes, or if you must provide medical support under an order issued under Chapter 154, Family Code, or enforceable by a court in this state.
- In New Mexico, coverage may be provided for the children of custodial and non-custodial parents.
- In Illinois, coverage of an unmarried dependent child who is under age 30 and who served in the military will not terminate if he/she is an Illinois resident, served as a member of the active or reserve components of any United States Armed Forces branch, and has received a release or discharge (other than a dishonorable discharge). To be eligible for coverage, the eligible dependent must submit to us a form approved by the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs stating the date on which the dependent was released from service.
- In Louisiana, dependent children must be unmarried and may also include grandchildren who are in the legal custody of and residing with a grandparent. Regarding the Age 26 limit exception - we will not require proof of incapacity and dependency more frequently than annually after the two-year period following the child's attainment of the limiting age.

Diagnosis (Diagnosed) refers to the definitive and certain identification of an illness or disease that:

- Is made by a doctor and
- Is based on clinical or laboratory investigations, as supported by your medical records.

Doctor is a person who is:

- Legally qualified to practice medicine, physician assistant, dentist, osteopath, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatrist, licensed social worker, psychologist, licensed professional counselor, acupuncturist, naturopathic physician, physical therapist, or advanced practice registered nurse.
- Licensed as a doctor by the state where treatment is received, and
- Licensed to treat the type of condition for which a claim is made.
- In Montana, for purposes of treatment, you have full freedom of choice in the selection of any licensed physician,
- In New Mexico, a doctor is also a practitioner of the healing arts.

A doctor does not include you or any of your family members.

- In South Dakota, a doctor who is your family member may treat you if that doctor is the only doctor in the area and acts within the scope of his or her practice.

For the purposes of this definition, family member includes your spouse as well as the following members of your immediate family:

- Son
- Father
- Daughter
- Sister
- Mother
- Brother

This includes step-family members and family-members-in-law.

Domestic Partner:

- In Washington DC, Domestic Partner is an unmarried same or opposite sex adult who resides with you and has registered in a state or local domestic partner registry with you.
- In Nevada, Domestic Partner is defined as a person who is party to a valid domestic

partnership, has not terminated that domestic partnership, and meets the requisites for a valid domestic partnership. In order to enter into a valid domestic partnership, it is necessary that the two persons register with the state of Nevada when it is established, by having previously furnished proof to the state of Nevada, that both persons have a common residence, neither person is married or a member of another domestic partnership, the two persons are not related by blood in a way that would prevent them from being married to each other in the state of Nevada, both persons are at least 18 years of age, and both persons are competent to consent to the domestic partnership.

Employee is a person who meets eligibility requirements and who is covered under the plan. The employee is the primary insured under the plan.

Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction) is the death of a portion of the heart muscle (myocardium) caused by a blockage of one or more coronary arteries due to coronary artery disease or acute coronary syndrome.

Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction) does not include:

- Any other disease or injury involving the cardiovascular system.
- Cardiac arrest not caused by a heart attack (myocardial infarction).

Diagnosis of a Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction) must include the following:

- New and serial electrocardiographic (ECG) findings consistent with heart attack (myocardial infarction), and
- Elevation of cardiac enzymes above generally accepted laboratory levels of normal. (In the case of creatine phosphokinase (CPK) a CPK-MB measurement must be used.)

Confirmatory imaging studies, such as thallium scans, MUGA scans, or stress echocardiograms may also be used.

Kidney Failure (End-Stage Renal Failure) means end-stage renal failure caused by end-stage renal disease, which results in the chronic, irreversible failure of both kidneys to function.

Kidney Failure (End-Stage Renal Failure) is covered only under the following conditions:

- A doctor advises that regular renal dialysis, hemo-dialysis, or peritoneal dialysis (at least weekly) is necessary to treat the kidney failure (end-stage renal failure); or
- The kidney failure (end-stage renal failure) results in kidney transplantation.

Maintenance Drug Therapy is a course of systemic medication given to a patient after a cancer goes into complete remission because of primary treatment. Maintenance Drug Therapy includes ongoing hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, or chemo-prevention therapy. Maintenance Drug Therapy is meant to decrease the risk of cancer recurrence; it is not meant to treat a cancer that is still present.

Major Organ Transplant means undergoing surgery as a recipient of a covered transplant of a human heart, lung, liver, kidney, or pancreas. A transplant must be caused by one or more of the following diseases:

- Bronchiectasis
- Cardiomyopathy
- Cirrhosis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hepatitis
- Interstitial lung disease
- Lymphangioleiomyomatosis.
- Polycystic liver disease
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Sarcoidosis
- Valvular heart disease

A Major Organ Transplant benefit is not payable if the major organ transplant results from a covered critical illness for which a benefit has been paid.

Party to a Civil Union: In Illinois, a person who has established a civil union pursuant to the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act.

Pathologist is a doctor who is licensed:

- To practice medicine, and
- By the American Board of Pathology to practice pathologic anatomy.

A Pathologist also includes an Osteopathic Pathologist who is certified by the Osteopathic Board of Pathology.

Signs and/or symptoms are the evidence of disease or physical disturbance observed by a doctor or other medical professional. The doctor (or other medical professional) must observe these signs while acting within the scope of his license.

Stroke means apoplexy due to rupture or acute occlusion of a cerebral artery. The apoplexy must cause complete or partial loss of function involving the motion or sensation of a part of the body and must last more than 24 hours. Stroke must be either:

- Ischemic: Due to advanced arteriosclerosis or arteriosclerosis of the arteries of the neck or brain, or vascular embolism, or
- Hemorrhagic: Due to uncontrolled hypertension, malignant hypertension, brain aneurysm, or arteriovenous malformation.

The stroke must be positively diagnosed by a doctor based upon documented neurological deficits and confirmatory neuroimaging studies.

Stroke does not include:

- Transient Ischemic Attacks (TIAs)
- Head injury
- Chronic cerebrovascular insufficiency
- Reversible ischemic neurological deficits unless brain tissue damage is confirmed by neurological imaging

Stroke will be covered only if the Insured submits evidence of the neurological damage by providing:

- Computed Axial Tomography (CAT scan) images, or
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) images, or

Sudden Cardiac Arrest is the sudden, unexpected loss of heart function in which the heart, abruptly and without warning, stops working as a result of an internal electrical system heart malfunction due to coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathy, or hypertension.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest is not a heart attack (myocardial infarction). A sudden cardiac arrest benefit is not payable if the sudden cardiac arrest is caused by or contributed to by a heart attack (myocardial infarction).

Total Disability or Totally Disabled means you are:

- Not working at any job for pay or benefits,
- Under the care of a doctor for the treatment of a covered critical illness, and
- Unable to Work, which means either:
 - During the first 365 days of total disability, you are unable to work at the occupation you were performing when your total disability began; or
 - After the first 365 days of total disability, you are unable to work at any gainful occupation for which you are suited by education, training, or experience.
 - In Ohio, Unable to Work is defined as the inability to perform duties of any gainful occupation for which you are reasonably fitted by training, experience, and accomplishment.

Treatment or Medical Treatment is the consultation, care, or services provided by a doctor. This includes receiving any diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines.

Treatment-Free From Cancer refers to the period of time without the consultation, care, or services provided by a doctor. This includes receiving diagnostic measures and taking prescribed drugs and medicines. Treatment does not include maintenance drug therapy or routine follow-up visits to verify whether cancer or carcinoma in situ has returned.

In Montana, Consultation is not considered treatment or medical treatment.

PROGRESSIVE DISEASE RIDER

Date of Diagnosis is defined for each specified critical illness as follows:

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease): The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having ALS and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Sustained Multiple Sclerosis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Multiple Sclerosis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease) means a chronic,

progressive motor neuron disease occurring when nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control voluntary movement degenerate, causing muscle weakness and atrophy, eventually leading to paralysis.

• Sustained Multiple Sclerosis means a chronic degenerative disease of the central nervous system in which gradual destruction of myelin occurs in the brain or spinal cord or both, interfering with the nerve pathways. Sustained Multiple Sclerosis results in one of the following symptoms for at least 90 consecutive days:

- Muscular weakness,
- Speech disturbances, or
- Loss of coordination,
- Visual disturbances.

OPTIONAL BENEFITS RIDER

Date of Diagnosis is defined as follows:

- Advanced Alzheimer's Disease: The date a doctor diagnoses the insured as incapacitated due to Alzheimer's disease.
- Advanced Parkinson's Disease: The date a doctor diagnoses the insured as incapacitated due to Parkinson's disease.
- Benign Brain Tumor: The date a doctor determines a benign brain tumor is present based on examination of tissue (biopsy or surgical excision) or specific neuroradiological examination.

Optional Benefit is one of the illnesses defined below and shown in the rider schedule: Advanced Alzheimer's Disease means Alzheimer's Disease that causes the insured to be incapacitated. Alzheimer's Disease is a progressive degenerative disease of the brain that is diagnosed by a psychiatrist or neurologist as Alzheimer's Disease. To be incapacitated due to Alzheimer's Disease, the insured must:

- Exhibit the loss of intellectual capacity involving impairment of memory and judgment, resulting in a significant reduction in mental and social functioning, and
- Require substantial physical assistance from another adult to perform at least three ADLs.

Advanced Parkinson's Disease means Parkinson's Disease that causes the insured to be incapacitated. Parkinson's Disease is a brain disorder that is diagnosed by a psychiatrist or neurologist as Parkinson's Disease. To be incapacitated due to Parkinson's Disease, the insured must:

- Exhibit at least two of the following clinical manifestations: - Muscle rigidity - Tremor - Bradykinesia (abnormal slowness of movement, sluggishness of physical and mental responses), and
- Require substantial physical assistance from another adult to perform at least three ADLs.

Benign Brain Tumor is a mass or growth of abnormal, noncancerous cells in the brain. The tumor is composed of similar cells that do not follow normal cell division and growth patterns and develop into a mass of cells that microscopically do not have the characteristic appearance of a Cancer. Benign Brain Tumor must be caused by Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Neurofibromatosis, or Von Hippel-Lindau Syndrome.

- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia is a genetic disease in which one or more of the endocrine glands are overactive or form a tumor.
- Neurofibromatosis is a genetic disease in which the nerve tissue grows tumors that may be benign and may cause serious damage by compressing nerves and other tissue.
- Von Hippel-Lindau Syndrome is a genetic disease that predisposes a person to have benign or malignant tumors.

Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) are activities used in measuring levels of personal functioning capacity. These activities are normally performed without assistance, allowing personal independence in everyday living. For the purposes of this plan, ADLs include the following:

- Bathing – the ability to wash oneself in a tub, shower, or by sponge bath. This includes the ability to get into and out of the tub or shower with or without the assistance of equipment;
- Dressing – the ability to put on, take off, and secure all necessary and appropriate

items of clothing and any necessary braces or artificial limbs;

- Toileting – the ability to get to and from the toilet, get on and off the toilet, and perform associated personal hygiene with or without the assistance of equipment;
- Transferring – the ability to move in and out of a bed, chair, or wheelchair with or without the assistance of equipment;
- Mobility – the ability to walk or wheel on a level surface from one room to another with or without the assistance of equipment;
- Eating – the ability to get nourishment into the body by any means once it has been prepared and made available with or without the assistance of equipment; and
- Continence – the ability to voluntarily maintain control of bowel and/or bladder function. In the event of incontinence, the ability to maintain a reasonable level of personal hygiene.

CHILDHOOD CONDITIONS RIDER

These benefits will be paid based on the face amount in effect on the critical illness date of diagnosis.

All limitations and exclusions that apply to the critical illness plan also apply to these benefits. No benefits will be paid for loss which occurred prior to the effective date of the plan.

Date of Diagnosis is defined as follows:

- Cystic Fibrosis: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Cystic Fibrosis and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Cerebral Palsy: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Cerebral Palsy and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Cleft Lip or Cleft Palate: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Cleft Lip or Cleft Palate and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Down Syndrome: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Down Syndrome and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Phenylalanine Hydroxylase Deficiency Disease (PKU): The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having PKU and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Spina Bifida: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Spina Bifida and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Type I Diabetes: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Type I Diabetes and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Autism Spectrum Disorder: The date a doctor diagnoses a dependent child as having Autism Spectrum Disorder and where such diagnosis is supported by medical records.

If a dependent child has both a Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate or has one on each side of the face, we will pay this benefit only once. A doctor must diagnose Phenylalanine Hydroxylase Deficiency Disease (PKU) based on a PKU test.

A doctor must diagnose Type I Diabetes based on one of the following diagnostic tests:

- Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test
- Random blood sugar test
- Fasting blood sugar test

A doctor must diagnose Autism Spectrum Disorder based on DSM-V diagnostic criteria.

SPECIFIED DISEASE RIDER

Date of Diagnosis is defined for each Specified Disease as follows:

- Adrenal Hypofunction (Addison's Disease): The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Adrenal Hypofunction and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Cerebrospinal Meningitis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Cerebrospinal Meningitis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Diphtheria: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Diphtheria based on clinical and/or laboratory findings as supported by medical records.
- Huntington's Chorea: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Huntington's Chorea based on clinical findings as supported by medical records.

- Legionnaire's Disease: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Legionnaire's Disease by finding Legionella bacteria in a clinical specimen taken from the Insured.
- Malaria: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Malaria and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Muscular Dystrophy: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Muscular Dystrophy and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Myasthenia Gravis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Myasthenia Gravis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Necrotizing Fasciitis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Necrotizing Fasciitis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Osteomyelitis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Osteomyelitis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Poliomyelitis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Poliomyelitis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Rabies: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Rabies and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Sickle Cell Anemia: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Sickle Cell Anemia and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Systemic Lupus: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Systemic Lupus and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Systemic Sclerosis (Scleroderma): The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Systemic Sclerosis and where such Diagnosis is supported by medical records.
- Tetanus: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Tetanus by finding Clostridium tetani bacteria in a clinical specimen taken from the Insured.
- Tuberculosis: The date a Doctor Diagnoses an Insured as having Tuberculosis by finding Mycobacterium tuberculosis bacteria in a clinical specimen taken from the Insured.

Adrenal Hypofunction (Addison's Disease) means a disease occurring when the body's adrenal glands do not produce sufficient steroid hormones.

Adrenal Hypofunction does not include secondary and tertiary adrenal insufficiency.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis means a disease resulting in the inflammation of the meninges of both the brain and spinal cord caused by infection from viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms or from Cancer.

Diphtheria means an infectious disease caused by the bacterium Corynebacterium diphtheriae and characterized by the production of a systemic toxin and the formation of a false membrane lining of the mucous membrane of the throat and other respiratory passages, causing difficulty in breathing, high fever, and/or weakness.

Diphtheria can be Diagnosed either through laboratory tests that confirm Diphtheria through a culture obtained from the infected area or through clinical observation of visible symptoms.

Huntington's Chorea means a hereditary disease characterized by gradual loss of brain function and voluntary movement due to degenerative changes in the cerebral cortex and basal ganglia.

Legionnaire's Disease means an infectious lung disease caused by species of the aerobic bacteria belonging to the genus Legionella.

Malaria means an infectious disease characterized by cycles of chills, fever, and sweating, caused by the bite of an anopheles mosquito infected with a protozoan of the genus Plasmodium.

Muscular Dystrophy means a genetic disease that causes progressive weakness and degeneration in the musculoskeletal system and where such muscles are replaced by scar tissue and fat. Muscular Dystrophy is characterized by progressive skeletal muscle weakness, defects in muscle proteins, and the death of muscle cells and tissues.

Myasthenia Gravis means a disease characterized by progressive weakness and exhaustibility of voluntary muscles without atrophy or sensory disturbance and caused by an autoimmune attack on acetylcholine receptors at the neuromuscular junction.

Necrotizing Fasciitis means a severe soft tissue infection by bacteria that is marked by edema and necrosis of subcutaneous tissues with involvement of adjacent fascia and by painful red swollen skin over the affected areas.

Osteomyelitis means an infectious inflammatory disease of the bone that typically results from a bacterial infection and may result in the death of bone tissue.

Poliomyelitis (Polio) means an acute infectious disease caused by the poliovirus and characterized by fever, motor paralysis, and atrophy of skeletal muscles. It often results in permanent disability and deformity, and marked by inflammation of nerve cells in the anterior gray matter in each lateral half of the spinal cord.

Rabies means an acute viral disease of the nervous system caused by a rhabdovirus, which is usually transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal. It is typically characterized by increased salivation, abnormal behavior, and eventual paralysis.

Sickle Cell Anemia means a hereditary disease caused by a genetic blood disorder. It is characterized by red blood cells that assume an abnormal, rigid, sickle shape due to a mutation on the hemoglobin gene.

Systemic Lupus means an autoimmune disease where the body's immune system attacks healthy tissue, leading to long-term inflammation. This disease is primarily characterized by joint pain and swelling.

Systemic Sclerosis (Scleroderma) means a progressive autoimmune disease characterized by the hardening and tightening of the skin and connective tissues.

Tetanus means a disease marked by rigidity and spasms of the voluntary muscles, caused by the bacterium Clostridium tetani.

Tuberculosis means an infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis bacteria. It is characterized by the growth of nodules in the bodily tissues, as well as by fever, cough, difficulty breathing, caseation, pleural effusions, and fibrosis.

YOU MAY CONTINUE YOUR COVERAGE

Your coverage may be continued with certain stipulations. See certificate for details.

TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

Your insurance may terminate when the plan is terminated; the 31st day after the premium due date if the premium has not been paid; or the date you no longer belong to an eligible class. If your coverage terminates, we will provide benefits for valid claims that arose while your coverage was in force.

NOTICES

If this coverage will replace any existing individual policy, please be aware that it may be in your best interest to maintain your individual guaranteed-renewable policy.

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