



## Personal-Accident Plans by Standalone Insurers

### Not taking any chances

So, a personal-accident policy insures you against death, permanent total disability, permanent partial disability and temporary disability in case of an accident. What does it not cover then? Any insurance policy will have its inclusions and exclusions, and it's always advisable to be aware of these. An accident is called an accident precisely because it happens unannounced and it's best that we are prepared to meet the consequence thereof as best as we can, not the least being the financial consequences. Thus, if we are getting an insurance policy specific to accidents, we should opt for one that works for us in terms of coverage, additional cover options, premium, sum insured, etc. This report is an attempt to put together information that will help you in understanding the various aspects of such a cover and also compares six personal-accident plans by standalone insurers on relevant parameters.

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**W**e chose the six insurance plans based on consumer feedback and product structure. The parameters on which we have compared them include maximum and minimum sum insured, minimum and maximum

entry age, coverage of permanent total disablement, permanent partial disablement and temporary total disablement, ambulance charges, coverage of transportation of mortal remains, coverage of funeral expenses, number of plans, and availability of education fund.

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We gave the highest weightage (20 points) to consumer feedback, which helped in determining the quality of services as well as the most important and beneficial variables. These variables have a direct bearing on the product structure. Our questionnaire covering various features of the plans received responses from a cross-section of product users. Based on these responses we assigned points on the quality of services

and these combined with the points based on product analysis helped us arrive at the 'best buy' for consumers.

### CV RECOMMENDATION

**Best Buy**

**Apollo Munich – Essential**

## Personal-Accident Policies by Standalone Health-Insurance Companies: A Comparative Chart

CV Weightage Points (100)		Apollo Munich – Essential	Manipal Cigna – Accident Care	Max Bupa	Aditya Birla – Plan 3	Religare – Secure 2	Star Health – Accident Care
5	Minimum entry age (years)	91d (5)	5 (2)	2 (3)	5 (2)	91d (5)	5m (5)
5	Maximum entry age (years)	69 (3)	80 (5)	65 (2)	65 (2)	70 (3)	70 (3)
5	Sum insured – minimum (Rs, in lakh)	20.00 (2)	0.50 (5)	5.00 (3)	1.00 (5)	15.00 (2)	5.00 (3)
10	Sum insured – maximum (Rs, in lakh)	100 (5)	1000 (10)	500 (7)	500 (7)	30 (3)	15 (3)
5	Transportation of mortal remains (up to, in Rs)	25,000 (5)	2,000 (2)	NS (0)	NS (0)	No (0)	5,000 (5)
10	Permanent total disablement (up to, in %)	100 (5)	200 (10)	125 (7)	100 (5)	100 (5)	150 (10)
10	Permanent partial disablement (up to, in %)	100 (10)	50 (5)	100 (10)	100 (10)	100 (10)	NS (0)
5	Temporary total disablement – maximum (Rs, per week)	NS (0)	25,000 (4)	15,000 (2)	50,000 (5)	NS (0)	15,000 (2)
5	Ambulance charges (Rs, up to)	5,000 (5)	2,000 (2)	2,000 (2)	NS (0)	No (0)	5,000 (5)
10	Education fund – maximum (Rs, in lakh)	0.50 (5)	1.50 (10)	0.75 (7)	1.50 (10)	1.50 (10)	0.20 (3)
5	No. of plans	3 (3)	1 (1)	3 (3)	5 (5)	4 (4)	1 (1)
5	Funeral expenses	Yes (5)	Yes (5)	Yes (5)	No (0)	No (0)	No (0)
20	Consumer feedback	13	3	4	4	5	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>45</b>

Notes:

- Information given here has been sourced from websites/brochures/customer care as on 23.04.2019.
- Sum assured and premium are dependent upon individual covers opted for, period of insurance and risk-bearing criteria.
- We have selected only those companies that offer personal-accident insurance policy as one single insurance product.
- For the purpose of percentage conversion into amount, the sum assured has been notionally taken @ Rs 15 lakh.



Apart from accidental death, accidental permanent disability, accidental permanent partial disability, and accidental temporary disability, the general inclusions cover medical reimbursements for health complications that have arisen from an accident.

The following are among the most common exclusions in a personal-accident insurance policy cover:

- Suicide
- Self-inflicted injuries
- Accidents under the influence of liquor and drugs
- Any pre-existing condition or infirmity
- Accidents due to participation in hazardous sports or activities (deep-sea diving; working in mines, circus, etc.; army/navy/air force personnel and policemen whilst
- on duty; and so on)
- War situations, mental disorders, pregnancy/childbirth

These are only illustrative and not exhaustive. Take adequate care to read about the exclusions, understand the implications, and take an informed decision.

#### **Additional Benefits (at no cost to premium)**

There is no standardised format since policies differ across insurance companies. At the same time, there are additional benefits that can be built into the policy and offered to the policy seeker. These may include:

- ✓ Education grant to children (limited to two children)
- ✓ Transportation expenses of mortal remains, subject to cap
- ✓ Purchase of blood
- ✓ Funeral expenses
- ✓ Domestic road ambulance
- ✓ Mobility cover (prosthetic/artificial devices and/or orthopaedic braces to enable the mobility of the insured), subject to cap



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### Rider Benefits (at a cost to premium)

The following may be opted for by the insured on payment of additional premium:

- ✓ Travel expenses of 1 relative (subject to cap)
- ✓ Transportation of imported medicines
- ✓ Repatriation benefit
- ✓ Burn injuries
- ✓ Fracture expenses
- ✓ Reconstructive surgery
- ✓ Home/Vehicle-modification expenses

### Procedure for Claim Filing

- Intimate your insurer within seven days of the accident.
- Submit completed claim form.
- Submit all the required documents within 30 days, including the first information report (FIR), attested medico-legal certificate, papers containing admission/discharge and bills (if claiming for reimbursement), and income proof/ITR copy.
- In case of temporary disability, in addition to the medical certificate, the insurer will also need an 'absent from work' certificate from the employer.

### Takeaways

- a) Purchase a policy at the earliest age of entry to get cheaper premium options.
- b) Look for a policy that has a three-year plan period, to avail maximum discount on premium payment.
- c) Get personal-accident cover for your family members to avail family discount.

### Accident Insurance, Health Insurance and Term-Plan Insurance

Personal-accident insurance	Health insurance	Term-plan insurance
Sum assured is payable against injuries/disabilities/death/other related expenses caused by accident, subject to exclusions and individual limits.	Sum is available for hospitalisation expenses during the life of the insured.	Sum assured is payable only on death of the insured.
Premium amount is cheaper compared to other policies.	Premium is relatively high.	Sum assured is huge and taking this into account, the premium is reasonable.
Premium is fixed on the basis of nature of job and/or work profile.	Premium is fixed on the basis of age, health history, lifestyle, etc.	Premium is fixed on the basis of age, nature of job and/or working conditions, health history, lifestyle, etc.

