

ASK EXPERT



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I have a family floater health plan that includes my parents and wife. We had a baby boy last month. Would I need to buy a separate policy for him, or will he be included automatically in my existing policy?

Congratulations. To add your child under your existing family floater policy, you will have to place a request with your insurer. There is no need to buy a separate policy for him.

According to mediclaim insurance rules, one cannot make claims with two insurance companies at the same time. Please tell me more about the rule. Can I claim from two policies, and under what circumstances?

If sum insured opted under one mediclaim policy gets exhausted due to single/multiple claim during policy year, you can claim under second mediclaim policy. For example, if you have two mediclaim policies of ₹2 lakh each, and the claim amount is ₹3 lakh, then you can claim ₹2 lakh from one mediclaim policy, and the remaining ₹1 lakh from second mediclaim policy. Or else, both insurance companies may decide on the payable amount as per the risk insured with them under the subrogation clause.

I want to increase my health insurance cover through a top-up health policy. Do

I have to buy the top-up health plan from the same company with which I have the basic health cover? Is there any advantage in doing so?

It is always recommended to buy a health top-up policy from the same insurance company. However, it is not mandatory. Buying both the policies—basic health mediclaim policy and top-up policy—from the same insurance company, generally, eases out the process of claim intimation and settlement.

As a family we have a history of cancer. Would you recommend me to buy

a standalone cancer cover? Will I get such cover from insurance companies, considering my family history?

Yes, it is always recommended to buy a standalone cancer cover if you have a family history of cancer. If you apply for cancer plan, there are possibilities that you may have to undergo pre-policy medical checkup, and, depending on medical test results, a decision will be taken whether to allow the cover and at what premium. However, insurers generally will not refuse you cover ‘only’ on family history.

My motor insurance is up for renewal and I have no claims this year. My dealer is insisting on changing the insurer. Would I lose my no-claim bonus if I change my insurer? Are there any advantages or disadvantages in changing my insurer?

No, you will not lose your no-claim bonus while insuring your vehicle from another insurer. There are no specific disadvantages in changing your insurer at renewal stage. However, there are advantages of continuing with the same insurer. If you choose to stay with your existing insurer, you may receive the following

- a. Preferential service level for claim-free preferred customers
- b. Multiple coverages allowed in claim-free renewals
- c. Further discounts on the basis of claim history. ■