

Claims for malaria growing by 9%: Bajaj Allianz

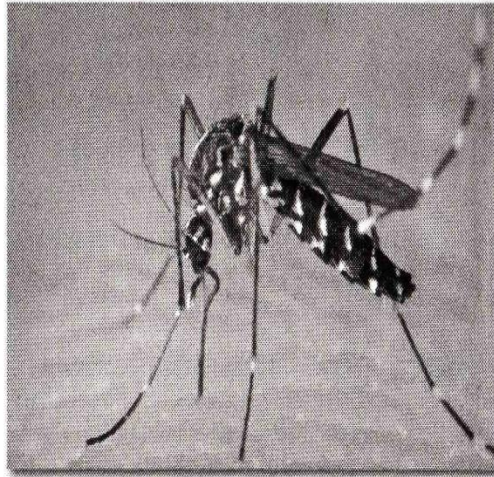
From P1

Though incidence of malaria has been coming down every year in India, as per government statistics, insurance companies are seeing the numbers going up, mainly due to higher penetration of health cover. SBI General received 33 claims in FY13-14 that rose to 196 claims in FY15-16. Of the total claims received for certain infectious and parasitic diseases, 9 per cent were for malaria. In the last three years, the frequency of claims for malaria fell from 3 per cent in FY13-14 to 2 per cent in FY14-15 and 1 per cent in FY15-16.

Bajaj Allianz has seen claims for malaria and relat-

ed ailments growing by 9 per cent, with the average claims size rising by 7 per cent. The average claim size for malaria at Bajaj Allianz ranged between Rs 25,000 and Rs 27,000 in the last three years. In 2015-16, men accounted for 60 per cent of the malaria claims at Bajaj Allianz, with women accounting for the rest.

"While the average amount one would have to shell out for treating malaria was Rs 22,000 two years ago, it has now gone up to around Rs 26,000. So, apart from preventive care to keep infectious diseases such as malaria at bay, it is essential to have a health insurance plan that would help one bear the



HEALTH WORRY: Max Bupa reported 47 per cent increase in dengue cases in June 2015 over the same month a year ago

expenses for such treatment. Also, with monsoon fast approaching, there is a high risk of other ailments such as enteric fever, chicken guinea and dengue, which could triple

the treatment cost," said Suresh Sugathan, head of health insurance at Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.

Max Bupa reported 47 per cent increase in dengue cases in June 2015

over the same month a year ago. In July, it reported a rise of 93 per cent and in August 141 per cent.

"Dengue has been a serious health issue over the past couple of years. A year-on-year comparison shows that dengue has been slowly creating havoc, both physically and financially. Every year we receive dengue related claims almost throughout the year, however, maximum number of such claims is usually registered between June and August," said Ashish Mehrotra, CEO and MD at Max Bupa Health Insurance.

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