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# Benefits of Hospital Daily Cash in health insurance

In the ever-evolving landscape of health insurance, insurers constantly keep designing products and services that address the needs of customers and provide them with wider protection. However, many times, customers are not aware of such valuable covers or add-ons, and as an insurer, it is my constant endeavour to increase awareness about products and services that help people build comprehensive coverage. One such product is 'Hospital Daily Cash,' which adds a layer of protection during medical emergencies. Let's try to understand what it means, its nuances, and its advantages.

### What exactly is a Hospital Daily Cash Cover?

As the name suggests, a Hospital Daily Cash cover is a supplementary health insurance cover designed to provide a fixed amount for each day of hospitalisation. Unlike traditional health insurance covers that reimburse actual expenses, this cover offers a predetermined daily allowance unaffected

by the incurred charges, which makes it a benefit policy. For instance, if you opt for a cover offering ₹500 per day of hospitalisation, regardless of whether your hospital daily expenses amount to ₹800 or ₹400, you'll receive a fixed benefit of ₹500 for each day of hospitalisation. Hospital Daily Cash can be a stand-alone product or an in-built cover. If the cover is built into the policy, the daily cash limit can be a percentage of the sum insured or can have fixed amount options on per day basis. Like a typical health insurance policy, this cover also has life-long renewability in most cases. This is quite a pocket-friendly cover and is available at a nominal premium.

### Understanding the Coverage

The daily allowance limit varies from insurer to insurer, and you can choose the amount from the given option while opting for the cover. This allowance typically ranges from ₹500 (per day) onwards and can go up to a few thousand rupees. Additionally, in case of a criti-

cal issue, if hospitalisation necessitates ICU admission, the daily cash allowance is often doubled for a certain number of days, as the policy specifies. For example, if as per the policy daily cash limit is ₹1,000 in case of ICU admission, this limit will increase to ₹2,000.



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### Navigating the Conditions

Similar to conventional health insurance coverages, hospital daily cash coverages come with certain conditions with waiting periods. Hospitalisation must exceed a minimum duration of 24 hours to qualify for the allowance. However, day-care procedures fall outside the cover's scope for now. The other point to keep in mind is that typically, there is a maximum cap on the number of hospitalisation days eligible for the allowance within a policy year, commonly ranging from 30 to 90 days; the same will be specified in the policy.

### Benefits of this cover- Covering Additional Expenses

While your regular health insurance may cover hospitalisation expenses, certain out-of-pocket costs like surgi-

cal accessories or expenses for accompanying family members, like food or transportation, are not covered. A Hospital Daily Cash Cover provides a lump sum amount that can be utilised at your discretion, easing the burden of these additional expenses. You have the freedom to use this money as you may wish.

**Handling Extra Hospital Bills:** If a claim exceeds the sum insured by your health insurance, a Hospital Daily Cash Cover acts as a safety net, bridging the gap to some extent and ensuring you're not left with hefty out-of-pocket expenses.

The advantages of a Hospital Daily Cash Cover are evident from the above mentioned details; you can view it as a complement to your existing health insurance plan. By integrating this cover with your primary health coverage, you can effectively manage various unforeseen expenses pertaining to hospitalisation and enjoy comprehensive protection against the uncertainties of healthcare costs.