

# Now, pay health premium monthly

Move will help those who could not afford insurance.

**Health insurance policy premiums** can now be paid monthly, quarterly or half-yearly, in addition to the earlier option of paying on an annual basis.

However, what will happen if the insured (who opted for monthly premium payment mode for health insurance policy) claims reimbursement after having paid only two premiums? Will the insurer settle the insurance claim in such a scenario?

Rashmi Nandargi, Head - Retail Health, PA and Travel Underwriting, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance says if there is a claim in the interim period then the insured has to either pay the remaining premium upfront or the balance premium would get deducted from the claim amount.

The payment in installments should not lead to change in basic premium (which depends on age).

Annual premiums often burden the wallet of the common man. So, the move to allow multiple frequencies for premium payments can be viewed as a facilitating measure for policy buyers. However, if an existing policyholder wants to change the mode of premium payment he can change it only at the time of policy renewal.



According to Mahavir Chopra, Director-Health, Life & Strategic Initiatives, Coverfox, this will help increase the adoption of health insurance among people. “More premium frequency options will help people to buy a larger cover, which till date was either postponed due to shortage of funds or a compromise was made at the cost of lowering the cover. Senior citizens will also benefit,” he says. —Navneet Dubey