

Hospital Savings + General Extras Plus

This is a summary only. For more information, please call HLC on 1800 808 026

Excess options available:

\$250 per person per calendar year

There is no excess for same day surgery or accidents.

If you have family cover you will not have to pay an excess for dependant children who are hospitalised.

Hospital Savings

HCF participating private hospitals and public hospitals

Accommodation	✓
Operating Theatre services (in an HCF participating private hospital)	✓
Intensive Care	✓
Coronary Care	✓
Prostheses (100% cover for no-gap prosthesis list items. There are a small number of prosthesis that will attract a gap)	✓
Physiotherapy (100% for HCF participating private hospitals)	✓
Pharmaceuticals in hospital (Directly associated with the reason for admission. Excluding experimental and high cost non PBS drugs)	✓
Pregnancy & birth related services	✓
Psychiatric services	✓
Assisted reproductive services (e.g. IVF, GIFT etc)	Minimum benefits
Total & partial hip & knee joint replacement surgery	Minimum benefits
Cataract & other lens related surgery	Minimum benefits
Dialysis for chronic renal failure	Minimum benefits
Elective cosmetic surgery *	Minimum benefits
Surgery by an accredited podiatrist *	Minimum benefits
Ambulance (State Government services only. QLD and TAS residents are covered under their state ambulance scheme.)	✓
Extended family cover available	✓

Minimum benefits only cover the costs of staying in a shared room of a public hospital. These benefits are not sufficient to cover procedures in a private hospital. They do not cover theatre or labour ward charges. Only minimum benefits are paid at non-participating hospitals.

* No medical benefits (doctor's charges) are payable.

Important information relating to HCF Hospital cover

Hospital waiting periods

1 day	Emergency Ambulance	<p>Waiting periods may need to be served before benefits are paid, and apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New members ▪ Existing HCF members who upgrade. You will need to serve the necessary waiting periods for the higher benefit entitlement ▪ Members who transfer from another fund who have not already completed the required waiting period for equivalent benefits. ▪ New dependants (unless they transfer from another fund and have completed the required waiting periods) <p>Waiting periods vary according to the type of treatment or service you receive.</p>
2 months	Psychiatric, rehabilitation and palliative care. All other treatments except where there's a longer waiting period. Non-emergency ambulance	
12 months	Treatments for pre-existing ailments excluding psychiatric, rehabilitation and palliative care. Pregnancy and birth related services	

Pregnancy & birth related services

To be covered for pregnancy and birth related (obstetrics) services in hospital, make sure your cover includes full benefits for these services. If not, you may wish to upgrade to a more comprehensive cover 12 months before planning your pregnancy to minimise your out of pocket expenses. If you're expecting, make sure you transfer to a family membership at least two months prior to the birth of the child to ensure the baby is covered from birth.

Pre-existing ailments

A pre-existing ailment is a condition or illness where signs or symptoms existed anytime during the six months prior to when a member joined or upgraded to a higher level of cover, even though a diagnosis may not have been made.

If there is any doubt as to whether an ailment is pre-existing, a medical practitioner appointed by HCF will examine information provided by your doctor, together with other relevant claim details.

Hospital benefits and "the gap"

Hospital benefits are payable to persons who are formally admitted hospital patients at the time of the service. If you are a private patient in a non-participating private hospital, you may face a large gap, depending on the hospital charges. Prior to treatment, please check with your doctor to obtain Medicare item numbers and call HCF to clarify benefits payable.

Medical Gap: Medicare will cover 75% of the Medicare Benefits Schedule

(MBS) fee for medical charges and HCF will cover the remaining 25%.

Some doctors may choose to charge more than the MBS fee and this is when you may face additional expenses, known as the "Medical Gap".

HCF has no-gap arrangements to assist you in eliminating the gap. Always ask your doctor what your charge will be and if they'll participate in HCF's no-gap arrangement for your procedure. If you still have questions, call HCF on 13 13 34.

Conditions applying to all hospital covers

HCF hospital cover does not apply to the following:

- Procedures normally performed in the doctor's surgery or as an outpatient
- Medical Gap and hospital benefits for excluded items or procedures and/or when the claim is not approved for payment by Medicare Australia
- Nursing home-type patients are limited to benefits set by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing
- Private room accommodation for same-day procedures
- Personal convenience items e.g. phone calls newspapers, magazines and Beauty Salon services
- Massage and aromatherapy services
- Respite care
- Take home items e.g. crutches, toothbrushes and drugs
- Experimental treatments
- Experimental and high cost non-PBS drugs
- Private hospital emergency room fees
- Donated blood, blood products and blood collection and storage
- Special nursing i.e. your own private nurse
- Pharmaceuticals (including PBS pharmaceutical benefits) and other sundry supplies not directly associated with the reason for admission
- Some services provided while in hospital by non-hospital providers
- Telephone or online consultations
- Luxury room surcharge
- All PBS pharmaceutical benefits in non-participating hospitals



General Extras Plus

Service category	Description	Benefits up to		Limits per person per calendar year
Dental				
Diagnostic dental	Examinations – general dentist	\$29 - \$51		2
	Examinations – specialist dentist	\$29 - \$51		1
Preventative dental	Removal of plaque/calculus	\$31 - \$52		2
	Application of fluoride	\$20		1
Restorative	Metallic and adhesive fillings (direct)	\$55 - \$115		\$400
Orthodontics	General dentist – two full arch banding and repairs OR	\$35 - \$750	Accrues at \$250 per year	\$1,000 per lifetime
	Orthodontist - two full arch banding and repairs	\$35 - \$1,200		\$1,500 per lifetime
Oral surgery	Extractions	\$55 - \$157		\$300
Endodontic Services	Treatment of root canals	\$38 - \$130		
Periodontic Services	Treatment of tissue surrounding the teeth	Not covered		
Dentures	Complete dentures and components	Not covered		
	Maintenance and repair	Not covered		
Crowns & bridges	Preparation & placing of crowns & bridges	Not covered		
Optical				
	Spectacle frames	\$75		\$180
	Spectacle lenses – pair	\$76 - \$140		
	Contact lenses – pair	\$140 - \$170		
Therapies				
Natural therapies	Acupuncture/ Chinese Herbal Medicine	\$22 (initial) \$10 (subsequent)		\$100 within overall \$500 limit for therapies
	Remedial massage / Myotherapy	\$22 (initial) \$10 (subsequent)		
	Homoeopathy	Not covered		
	Naturopathy/ Nutrition (consultation only)	Not covered		
	Alexander Technique	Not covered		
	Chiropractic	\$25 (initial) \$20 (subsequent) \$10 (12+)		Subject to the overall \$500 limit for therapies
	Osteopathy	\$25 (initial) \$20 (subsequent) \$10 (12+)		

Service category	Description	Benefits up to	Limits per person per calendar year
Therapies			
	Exercise Physiology	\$25 (initial) \$20 (subsequent)	\$150 within the overall \$500 limit for therapies
	Physiotherapy	\$26 (initial) \$20 (subsequent) \$10 (12+)	Subject to the overall \$500 limit for therapies
	Hydrotherapy & Group Physiotherapy	\$15 per visit	
	Occupational Therapy	\$40 (initial) \$30 (subsequent)	\$200 within overall \$500 limit for therapies
	Speech Pathology	\$40 (initial) \$30 (subsequent)	
	Audiology		Not covered
	Psychology (once Medicare entitlement is exhausted)		Not covered
	Dietetics		Not covered
	Podiatry – consultation		Not covered
Other services			
Home nursing	Up to 6 hours/daily rate		Not covered
Travel & Accommodation	Journeys of more than 200km for medical specialist/hospital		Not covered
Pharmacy (HCF approved, non-PBS)	After copay equivalent to PBS prescription charge is deducted	\$50/script	\$500
HCF approved artificial aids	e.g. CPAP machine, blood pressure monitor		Not covered
Hearing Aids			Not covered
HCF approved Health Improvement Program			Not covered
School Accident Cover	Approved ancillary related services only		\$400

Important information relating to HCF Extras cover

Extras waiting periods	
1 day	School accident cover
2 months	All services except those mentioned otherwise
6 months	HCF Dental Centres, Health Management Programs
12 months	Crowns, bridges, dentures, endodontics, occlusal therapy, oral surgery, periodontal, prosthodontics, dental bleaching and orthodontics, artificial appliances and pre existing ailments
24 months	Hearing aids

Waiting periods may need to be served before benefits are paid, and apply to:

- New members
- Existing HCF members who upgrade. You will need to serve the necessary waiting periods for the higher benefit entitlement
- Members who transfer from another fund who have not already completed the required waiting period for equivalent benefits.
- New dependants (unless they transfer from another fund and have completed the required waiting periods)

Waiting periods vary according to the type of treatment or service you receive.

Pre-existing ailments
<p>A pre-existing ailment is a condition or illness where signs or symptoms existed anytime during the six months prior to when a member joined or upgraded to a higher level of cover, even though a diagnosis may not have been made.</p> <p>If there is any doubt as to whether an ailment is pre-existing, a medical practitioner appointed by HCF will examine information provided by your doctor, together with other relevant claim details.</p>

Conditions applying to all extras cover
<p>Be aware of these circumstances which will prevent payment of a claim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lodgement of claim two years or more after the date of service ▪ When you or your dependants have the right to recover the costs from a third party or authority, either by law or by statute, or from any insurance or employment benefit schemes ▪ Benefits for any period during which your payment is in arrears by more than two months or your membership is suspended ▪ Where services are rendered by a provider not recognised by HCF <p>Your Extras cover does not cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goods and services while an in-patient in a hospital (these are covered under your Hospital cover) ▪ Pharmacy items that appear on the PBS list, contraceptives, infertility drugs, performance enhancing drugs, vitamins, items that are available without a prescription, or items that are not TGA approved. ▪ Telephone or online consultations ▪ Fees for completing claim forms and/or reports ▪ Goods and/or services received or purchased overseas ▪ When costs are recoverable elsewhere ▪ Where no specific health condition is being treated ▪ Routine health checks, screening and mass immunisations ▪ A combination of therapy services performed by the same provider in any one day ▪ Treatment for pre-existing ailments or conditions (within the first 12 months).