

Empower

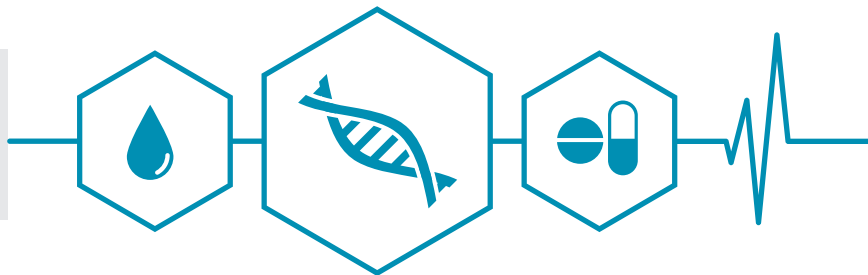
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How to make your savings account last longer



One of the biggest challenges medical scheme members who are on plans which offer savings accounts (New Generation Plans) are faced with, is that savings often run out before the end of the year, leaving the member stranded to fund day-to-day benefits from their own pockets.

Manage medical account components from members' own pockets



RETAIN SAVINGS BALANCES

While the introduction of options with savings accounts allows members to manage their own day-to-day benefits, it also leaves members with very little support when depleted. Here's how to retain your savings account.

Tips



UNDERSTAND YOUR SCHEME BENEFITS

"Risk" benefits, should never be claimed from savings. Maternity and oncology also fall in this category. Follow the rules of the scheme to prevent co-payments or penalty costs.



AWARENESS

Make family members aware that day-to-day benefits are limited to the savings amount available for the year.

YOUR GENERAL PRACTITIONER

Use your GP as a gatekeeper for as long as possible before using more expensive specialists and ask your doctor for alternative treatments and costs where possible.



OTHER ALTERNATIVES

Consider generic alternatives for prescribed or over-the-counter medicines and make use of any discounts available. Plan and manage your healthcare needs e.g. spectacles in one year and dentistry in another.



USE A NETWORK PROVIDER

They typically charge medical scheme rates.



PLANNED EXPENSES

Have your payments from your savings account to providers paid at medical scheme rates rather than at cost. Track your expenses via your monthly claims statements.