

Underwriting philosophy for offering Insurance coverage to Persons with Disability and Mental Illness

Introduction:

“Mental Illness” refers to a variety of illness and medical conditions as listed in widely accepted manuals like the Diagnostic and Statistical manual of Mental disorders (DSM) or the International classification of Disease (ICD). Likewise, there are a wide range of medical conditions classified under 'Disabilities', most common being physical and mental disabilities.

Types of Disabilities:

- ✓ Physical disability- disability pertaining to person’s mobility - Level of disability
- ✓ Intellectual or Learning Disabilities
- ✓ Psychiatric disabilities
- ✓ Visual or hearing impairments
- ✓ Neurological disabilities

To ensure fair underwriting decision, the following information will be considered whilst underwriting the proposal for health insurance from applicants with disability and/or mental illness.

Below information will assist the Underwriter in fair risk assessment and equitable underwriting decision on the proposal.

1. Insurable interest & need for Insurance cover
2. Ability of the applicant to enter a legally valid contract
3. Exact medical diagnosis, cause and duration of onset and progress - Treatment modalities since inception of the medical condition, including previous medical records.
4. Gainful employment details through occupation questionnaire and other related relevant evidences
5. Daily routine and Lifestyle related information
6. Medical examination as required under the product and underwriting guidelines
7. Other relevant documents based on the exact medical condition

The intent is to ensure that every applicant is underwritten on merit specifically ensuring that there is no discrimination or bias in granting Health insurance coverage to people suffering from Disabilities or Mental illnesses.

Actual selection criteria & extra premiums for each condition depends on variability of presentation of the case.