



In uncertain times, it can feel overwhelming to think about your financial circumstances. When you're looking at the types of insurance you have in place, you should take a look at your employee benefits package. You may have access to some useful benefits that could put your mind at ease or utilise if necessary. Information on these can often be located in your employee handbook, on your workplace intranet, or by asking your employer.

If you have any of the below benefits, here's the latest information from our expert team...

Private Healthcare

If you have private healthcare and contract COVID-19 you are likely to be eligible to claim on the policy. That said, it is highly unlikely that you would be treated in any of the UK private hospitals as these are not set up for patient isolation and treatment.

From all sources, the understanding is that patients diagnosed with COVID-19 would be sent and treated in NHS isolation units. Under most healthcare schemes an NHS Cash Benefit would be payable for any NHS in-patient stay.

A number of schemes have access to GP Helplines and/or Virtual GPs, which can help triage and give support and guidance.

If you are overseas and have a UK healthcare policy it may have some emergency cover in place but it is best to check with your provider.

Group Life Assurance

Whilst the survival rates of COVID-19 are high, it is reassuring to know that in the unlikely event of something happening to you if you have company life insurance, you remain covered.

It is, however, useful to remember that these types of insurances are linked to the current travel advice from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). The cover will not likely be given if someone chooses to travel somewhere which is prohibited – the latest information is restricting all travel for 30 days and as such, the cover will only resume once an individual returns to the UK.

Group Critical Illness

COVID-19 is not considered a 'critical illness' under this type of insurance and would not trigger a pay-out if you contract the virus. Should you develop other conditions – at this time, in the future and/or as a result of COVID-19 and it is defined as being a critical illness on the policy a claim can be made.

Travel Insurance

Your travel insurance is likely to take its direction from the Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO). Check here for the latest FCO guidance www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice. If there is a restriction in place (and there is currently a restriction on all travel) advising against travel to a country you are had previously arranged to travel to, then a valid claim can likely be made.

Where an airline has cancelled the flight, then you would need to speak to the airline customer services to obtain a refund on the flight.

It is always important to check policy documents to check what is eligible to claim.

Group Income Protection

Similarly, if you have Group Income Protection through your work, protecting a proportion of your salary if you cannot work through illness or injury for a prolonged time, this will cover you if Covid-19 is the reason for your incapacity.

There will always be a 'deferral period' on these policies. A deferral period is how long you are off work before the benefit is payable. This is usually (but not always) 26 weeks, so any applicable company sick pay and/or statutory sick pay will be payable first.

If you are self-isolating or being quarantined, but otherwise fit to work, this is unlikely to qualify as illness or injury for Income Protection.

Other Employee Benefits

There are a number of other benefits you could have access to: Dental Insurance, Cash plan, Cycle-to-work, Childcare Vouchers etc. which are less likely to be impacted by COVID-19. There may be an impact on customer service and claim times but you should continue to be eligible for them in the normal way.

#StayAtHome

MyEva is here to help your employees navigate the unexpected with digital access to financial advice and guidance that can be accessed from anywhere.

Contact us:

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