

MALCOR MEDICAL AID SCHEME WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) GLOBAL OUTBREAK BENEFIT

Overview

From time to time, there are viruses or diseases that affect world health. These outbreaks are closely monitored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and are, depending on the severity and spread, declared as pandemics that place the global population's health at risk.

We recognise the importance of being responsive for these public health emergencies. Through careful benefit design and in support of public health initiatives aimed at containing and mitigating the spread of such outbreak diseases, our members have access to supportive benefits during the outbreak period. The outbreak is actively monitored by a dedicated team that closely assesses the evolution and progression of such outbreaks. Having a timely and effective response to global epidemics help to improve the health outcomes for our members.

This document explains the enhancements made to your cover and support we provide to you when faced with a WHO-recognised epidemic.

Understanding COVID-19

The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues to be a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC). With many countries around the world confirming an outbreak, Malcor Medical Scheme continues to take proactive steps to respond effectively to COVID-19 infections in South Africa.

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a novel type of coronavirus. The vast majority of people who contract COVID-19 experience only mild symptoms, potentially including fever, a cough and shortness of breath. In a small percentage of people, it may result in severe disease and even death.

Detailed information about the prevention and transmission of COVID-19 is available on www.malcormedicalaid.co.za

Know your risks

You can understand your risk status at any point in time by completing the COVID-19 risk assessment. The assessment is a set of questions which determines if you may be presenting with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 disease or may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection and need a consultation with a doctor. The assessment is available on www.malcormedicalaid.co.za or by calling us and following the prompts to complete the COVID-19 risk assessment. It is not a prerequisite for Malcor Medical Aid Scheme members to complete the risk assessment.

WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

The WHO Global Outbreak Benefit is available to all members of Malcor Medical Aid Scheme during a declared outbreak period. The benefit provides cover for relevant healthcare services, as well as a defined basket of care for out-of-hospital healthcare services, related to the outbreak disease.

This benefit ensures members have access to screening consultations, testing, and management and appropriate supportive treatment as long as they meet the Scheme's Benefit entry criteria.

How you are covered from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

How you are covered?

This benefit, available on all plans, is covered by the Scheme for cases of outbreak diseases and out-of-hospital healthcare services related to COVID-19 and does not affect your day-to-day benefits where included in the basket of care and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.

What you are covered for?

This benefit offers cover for out-of-hospital management and appropriate supportive treatment of global World Health Organization (WHO) recognised disease outbreaks and out-of-hospital healthcare services related to COVID-19.

The basket of care includes:

- Screening consultations with a network GP (either virtual consultations, telephone or face-to-face)
- COVID-19 PCR screening tests if referred by a network GP
- A defined basket of pathology tests for COVID-19 positive members
- A defined basket of x-rays and scans for COVID-19 positive members
- Supportive treatment, including medicine

Covid-19 related waiting periods?

The scheme will waive waiting periods for existing members needing treatment for COVID-19; this is where we have placed a three-month general waiting period or condition specific waiting related to respiratory conditions

For new applicants and dependents, the scheme will load waiting periods if COVID-19 is disclosed at time of joining, or picked up in claims within 14 days post joining.

Note: general waiting periods for other conditions will still apply, it will just not apply to respiratory conditions if it meets the criteria agreed by the Scheme.

Cover is subject to the Scheme's preferred providers (where applicable), protocols and the treatment meeting the Scheme's entry criteria and guidelines. Any recommended treatment and healthcare services that are not included in the basket of care are covered according to the benefits available on your chosen health plan or in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits where applicable.

In-hospital treatment related to COVID-19 for approved admissions is covered from the Hospital Benefit based on your chosen health plan and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.

Benefits available to you from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

These healthcare services are covered from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit up to a maximum of 100% of the Scheme Rate and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable. This cover does not affect your day-to-day benefits. These benefits are available up to the limits set out by the Scheme. You may apply for additional cover from the Scheme, where clinically appropriate.

Risk assessment	You can understand your risk status at any point in time by completing the COVID-19 risk assessment available via www.malcormedicalaid.co.za or by calling us and following the prompts to complete the COVID-19 risk assessment. The assessment is a set of questions which determines if you may be presenting with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 disease or may have been exposed to COVID-19 infection and need a consultation with a doctor. It is not a prerequisite for Malcor
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	Medical Aid Scheme members to complete the risk assessment.
Screening consultation	You are covered for COVID-19 screening consultations. You can choose to either access a virtual, telephone or face-to-face screening consultation with a network provider. Virtual and telephone consultations provide a safe alternative to face-to-face consultations for patients and doctors, and contributes to the important containment measures that will continue to reduce the impact of the outbreak.
COVID-19 screening PCR tests	You have access to unlimited COVID-19 PCR tests per beneficiary per annum, regardless of the outcome of the test. Screening tests are funded in full from the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit, when referred by the doctor that screened you. This includes pre-admission PCR testing for approved hospital admissions, subject to referral by a doctor.
Diagnostic and follow up consultations for COVID-19 positive members	You have access to a defined basket of diagnostic and follow up consultations if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate.
Diagnostic and follow up tests for COVID-19 positive members	You have access to a defined basket of diagnostic and follow up pathology tests if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate.
X-rays and scans	You have access to a defined basket of x-rays and scans up to the Scheme Rate.
Supportive medicines list	We pay for defined supportive medicines prescribed by your doctor for symptom management and treatment of COVID-19, up to the Scheme Rate.
In-hospital	Your hospital admission is subject to approval and preauthorisation. Sub-limits and clinical guidelines apply to certain healthcare services in hospital. In-hospital treatment related to COVID-19 for approved admissions is covered from the Hospital Benefit based on your chosen health plan and in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.
Physiotherapy	You have access to a defined basket of physiotherapy treatments up to the Malcor Scheme Rate.
Mental Health	You have access to a defined basket of mental health consultations/treatments up to the Malcor Scheme Rate.

Once you have used up the benefits available from the WHO Global outbreak benefit, we pay for out-of-hospital healthcare expenses related to COVID-19 from your available day-to-day benefits, or in accordance with Prescribed Minimum Benefits (PMB) where applicable.

How to access the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit

To access the benefits outlined above, as part of the WHO Global Outbreak Benefit, you must meet the Scheme's Benefit entry criteria.

- The following criteria need to be met before claims will be paid from the WHO Outbreak Benefit:
- The disease needs to be a WHO recognised outbreak disease;
- Cover is for diseases during a declared outbreak period;
- May be subject to use of preferred providers, where applicable;

- Subject to the Scheme's treatment guidelines and protocols.

In an emergency

If you have an emergency, call Discovery 911 on 0860 999 911. You can request ambulance services or go straight to hospital.

Contact us

Telephonically at the Call Centre at 0860 100 698, or in writing at P O Box 8012, Greenstone, 1616, or via our website: www.malcormedicalaid.co.za

Complaint process

You can lodge a complaint or query with the Scheme directly on 0860 100 698 or address a complaint in writing directly to the Principal Officer. If your complaint remains unresolved, you can lodge a formal dispute by following the Scheme's internal disputes process.

Members who want to approach the Council for Medical Schemes for assistance can do so in writing to: Council for Medical Schemes Complaints Unit, Block A, Eco Glades 2 Office Park, 420 Witch-Hazel Avenue, Eco Park, Centurion, 0157 or email complaints@medicalschemes.co.za Customer Care Centre: 0861 123 267, website: www.medicalschemes.co.za.