

AC Financial Group

Working class families need income protection more than ever

The Financial Impact of an Accident or Critical Illness

No matter how diligently you invest for retirement, or how carefully you review your financial and estate plans, unforeseen circumstances may still prevent you from meeting all your financial goals. Difficult as it is to imagine, it is essential when planning for your future to consider the possibility of having an accident or being diagnosed with a major illness such as cancer, stroke, or heart attack. A critical illness or accident can place not only an emotional burden, but also a substantial financial burden on both you and your family.

Many of us are concerned about experiencing an accident or a critical illness however we may be financially unprepared to address the situation when it occurs. The need is apparent; health insurance premiums increased by an average of 41%, more than three times faster than the median U.S. household income. With higher premiums and the growth of high deductible health plans, few are immune to the financial burden of paying increased contributions to their medical benefits and many feel the pain of footing a larger share of their health-related expenses. Families may not be prepared for the financial impact when facing an accident or critical illness. Out-of-pocket costs associated with an unexpected health issue can run 10's of thousands of dollars combined with the lost income from taking time off from work can put a significant burden on a household. 41% of "middle American's" already describe themselves as living paycheck-to-paycheck and fewer than half have a savings cushion of three months' pay.

Security Made Simple



Contents

How to Protect Your Income

Financial Impact	1
Critical Illness	2
Disability Income	3
Life Insurance	4

Individual Highlights

Dr. Marius Barnard	2
Accident Coverages	3
About AC Financial Group	4
Inside Story	5

More than 6 in 10 people with problems paying medical bills were covered by health insurance

The average annual out-of-pocket medical cost for a heart attack is \$14,234, and for a stroke is \$17,680



What is Critical Illness Insurance

Critical Illness insurance pays a fixed, lump-sum cash benefit upon diagnosis of a covered illness such as cancer, heart attack or stroke. Because most people are unprepared for the onslaught of expenses, both medical and non-medical, incurred by a traumatic illness, the purpose of Critical Illness insurance is to provide a lump-sum of money directly to the insured person at a time when finances may be strained. The benefit may be used at the discretion of the beneficiary for anything from deductibles and copayments to mortgage and rent payments, in-home care, replacing lost wages from inability to work or even a vacation to recuperate following the illness. The choice is theirs. In essence, Critical Illness insurance allows the patient to concentrate on recovery rather than on how to pay unexpected bills.

Critical Illness Insurance complements your medical and disability income coverage, and can ease the financial impact of a critical illness by providing a lump-sum benefit to help you pay some of your additional expenses

Dr. Marius Barnard

Marius Barnard was a member of the team, headed by his brother Christian Barnard, that performed the world's first human-to-human transplant in 1967.

Dr. Barnard was motivated by the financial hardship he saw his patients suffer after he had treated their critical illnesses. He convinced the South African insurance companies to introduce a new type of insurance to cover critical illnesses. Barnard argued that, as a medical doctor, he can repair a man physically, but only insurers can repair a patient's finances. On August 6, 1983 the first critical illness insurance was introduced.

Critical Illness Insurance is an Asset Protection Plan

With half the foreclosures in America due to debt incurred from medical causes and approximately 1.5 million homeowners currently in danger of losing their homes due to illness related expenses, a product like Critical Illness insurance that pays a lump sum of money when a person becomes sick can be invaluable. A Harvard study on personal bankruptcy concluded that an average shortfall of just under \$18,000 in illness related expenses forced most of the families surveyed into bankruptcy. Most of these families had some form of health insurance at the onset of the illness. Since Critical Illness benefits can range from \$5,000 to \$1,000,000; one single payout could have made all the difference between financial survival and homelessness. In this light, Critical Illness insurance can be viewed as a safeguard for "the American dream." For the self-employed and small business owners, the stakes are even higher. A shortfall resulting in a personal bankruptcy, might also adversely affect their business. In many cases, Critical Illness insurance is being purchased as a form mortgage protection. In Canada, 46% of home foreclosures are due to major illnesses. Therefore, Critical Illness insurance is now more widely sold than life insurance and this is primarily due to tying the product to mortgage protection. Although mortgage protection accounts for a large portion of Critical Illness insurance sales, its main purpose is that of income protection. It is purchased as a complement to disability insurance.

- 1 out of every 2 men will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives.
- 1 out of every 3 women will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives.
- Every 40 seconds someone in the U.S. has a stroke



Disability Income Insurance

Your home is very important to your family. It's where you live, raise your children and look forward to enjoying your retirement years.

A disability, however, could quickly put your home at risk. If your income suddenly ceased, this asset could be lost. That's why it's important have disability insurance to pay the mortgage if you are sick or hurt and unable to work.

With a disability Income insurance policy, you and your loved ones can have peace of mind, knowing your home is secure.

Benefits from a disability Income policy are paid directly to the insured. Depending on your income, you may qualify for additional benefits that can be used for other living expenses.

Affordable Coverage

At AC Financial Group we specialize in Disability Income insurance designed for middle-income America, with affordable rates in a variety of occupations. It's quick and easy to apply – you just provide basic information and answer a few medical questions.

Accident Coverage

Accidents can happen to anyone, at any time. When an accident does happen, it can be very detrimental to your finances. Consider these facts:

Your health insurance plan may not cover all of your medical expenses in the event that you are injured. Deductibles and co-insurance out-of-pocket expenses can be significant depending on the type of major medical plan you have. But you may also have additional expenses to consider, such as transportation, lodging, or lost wages.



Inside Story

Our philosophy is simple...you work hard to enjoy the finer things in life and under no circumstance should a major hospitalization, lengthy disability, or unexpected death wipe out your financial security!

AC Financial Group is a full service agency. This means if you have any questions, not only will you have the support of your own benefit advisor, you will also have the support of the staff. AC Financial Group strongly believes all insurance programs have to accomplish two things:

1. It has to be affordable.
2. It has to work the way it is explained at the time of need.

About AC Financial Group

Focused on serving the needs of Middle America, **AC Financial Group** specializes in providing innovative protection-based financial solutions for every stage of life. AC Financial Group products can be tailored according to specific individual, family or business situations. We understand that consumers have unique protection needs and individual preferences for how they purchase their insurance protection. AC Financial Group products and services are available through highly trained and licensed agents who serve individual clients one on one and to employees through their place of work. We focus on creating superior value for our customers by cultivating lasting relationships and adopting innovation in our products.

Life Insurance

Life insurance is an essential tool to protect yourself and your family in the event of an untimely death. With the death benefit from your policy, you can protect your family from financial devastation caused by your death. With a permanent policy, you can also build guaranteed cash value that you can use in your retirement years.

Term Life

Term life insurance is the least expensive way to provide your family with death benefit protection. With term, the premiums you pay provide you with coverage for a specified period of time. There is no savings component, no special features, or cash value accumulation. It is the simplest form of life insurance you can buy.

Permanent Life

With a whole life or universal life policy, you can guarantee your family's financial protection through your policy's death benefit while also building cash value for yourself that you can use when you need it. With the current volatility of the stock market, you can build value with guaranteed returns.

AC Financial

10683 S. Saginaw Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Office (810) 742-5926
Fax (810) 603-7931
info@acfg.co

Security Made Simple

Find us on the Web:
acfinancialgroup.net



