## Discovery



Insights 2021



#### We cannot control the future...but we can prepare for it!

We have been living in a constant state of flux, fear, loss, and chaos since the COVID-19 pandemic swept the world in 2020. It's been a challenging time for everyone, including Discovery Group Risk and the insurance industry at large.

The claim numbers show that Discovery Group Risk has faced a year of unprecedented claims experience. The novelty and the unpredictability of the pandemic have been driving factors behind the difficulty we've experienced with our modelling, management and the tracking of our claims experience.

Uncertainty around the pandemic prevails, and this means there are coming risks, as well as an aftermath that we will still need to navigate. These changes, risks and unknown factors have resulted in a shift in normal insurance models, which must now consider both the direct and indirect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite this, there is one thing we do know - the choices we make about our health are within our control. Good health has proven its effectiveness before and during this pandemic and will continue to do so when the pandemic is over.

Putting in place known, measurable steps to improve and manage one's health is key, and it is what we as Discovery Group Risk stand for and ensure through our various product offerings and initiatives.

As we navigate our way into a future that no one can predict, we continue to show how we have and will always be there for our members.

We cannot control the future, but we can prepare for it!

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An overview of our Group Risk claims experience for the 2021 financial year



#### **WHAT** CAN WE PREDICT?

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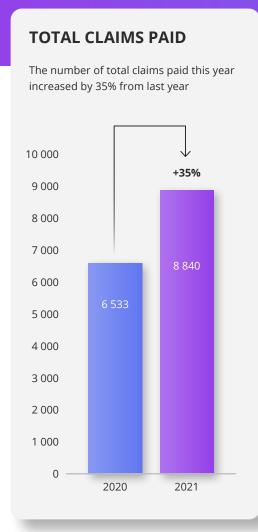
### What have we seen?

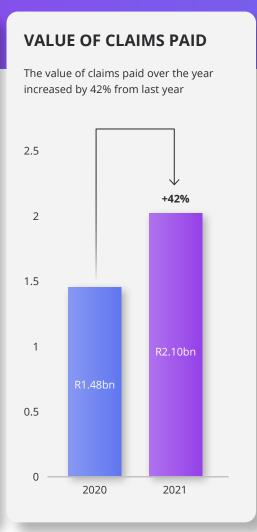


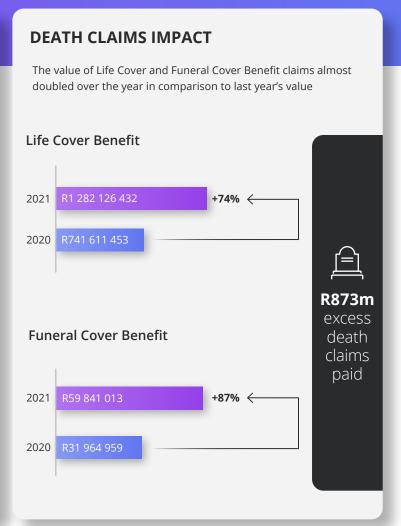
AN OVERVIEW OF OUR GROUP RISK CLAIMS EXPERIENCE FOR THE 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

#### 2021 GROUP RISK CLAIMS **HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2021 financial year saw large increases in our Group Risk claims profile as well as large variances against expectations. This experience reinforces the devastating impact the pandemic has had on mortality and morbidity. Large shifts were observed within both the total number and value of claims paid with the biggest increases being observed within our death benefits.







#### DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISE NO MATTER THE UNCERTAINTY

Discovery Group Risk claims payout for the financial year that ended June 2021

We offer a collection of risk protection benefits that provide cover for the full range of possible life-changing events, including death, disability and severe illness.

Our comprehensive offering makes sure that no matter what stage of life members find themselves in, they will be covered and rewarded. In this way, we stay true to our core purpose - to make people healthier and enhance and protect their lives.

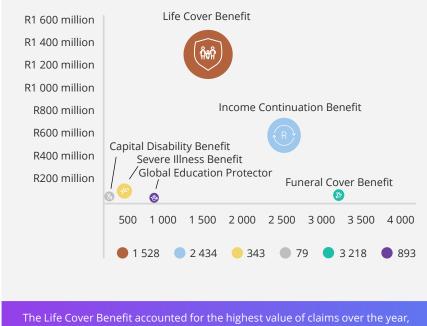


In the 2021 financial year, we paid **8 840** claims to the value of **R2.10 billion** 

#### **VALUE OF TOTAL CLAIMS PER BENEFIT**



#### **CLAIMS BREAKDOWN BY NUMBER AND VALUE**



The Life Cover Benefit accounted for the highest value of claims over the year whereas the highest number of claims came from the Funeral Cover Benefit



## Life Cover Benefit

Our benefits provide enhanced additional value to an employee's family in the event of their death. Through our Life Cover Benefit, members can have the peace of mind that their families will be taken care of in the unfortunate event of their death.



#### PROTECTING THE LIVELIHOODS OF OUR MEMBERS' LOVED ONES

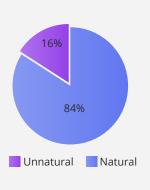
The largest Life Cover
Benefit claim payout
was: R19.7 million
for a cardiac arrest event

#### Spouse Life Cover Benefit claims totalled R23.4 million

of which 19% were confirmed COVID-19 events

Spouse Life Cover Benefits increased by **160%** compared to last year

## NATURAL AND UNNATURAL DEATH CAUSES



#### YOUNGEST CLAIMANTS



#### The youngest female,

aged 23, died of kidney failure



## The **youngest male**, aged 20, died in a motor vehicle accident

#### OLDEST CLAIMANTS



The **oldest female**, aged 65, died of cancer

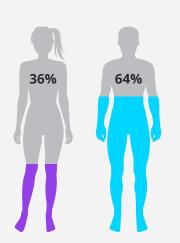


The **oldest male**, aged 65, died of COVID-19



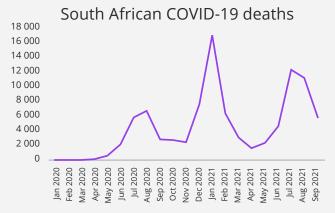
# 43 Life Cover Benefit claims were paid to members who had previously claimed for disability

#### SPLIT OF CLAIMS BY GENDER



### GROUP RISK DEATH CLAIMS VS NATIONAL COVID-19 DEATH CLAIMS (JAN 2020 – SEPT 2021)





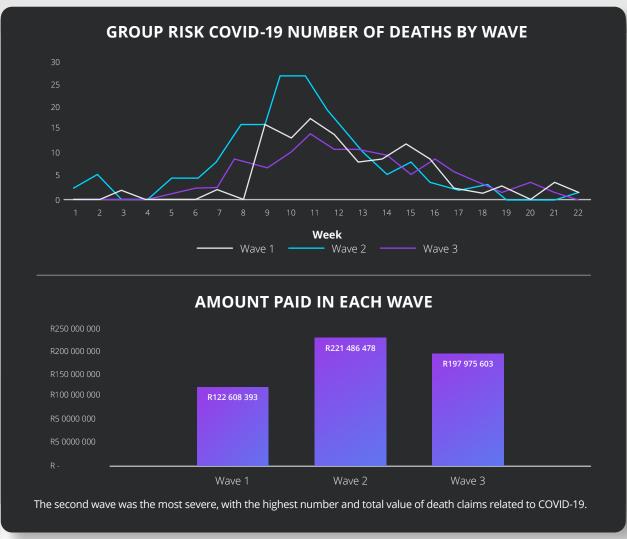
Discovery Group Risk claims followed the same trend as South African COVID-19 deaths

#### **COVID-19 DEATH CLAIMS ANALYSIS** (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021)

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic we have incurred 490 COVID-19 Life Cover Benefit claims totaling over R700m.

Excess death claims over this period totalled R1.3 billion. Death rates due to COVID-19 were higher in males and as expected increased by age. In September 2021, following the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, we paid the highest amount of claims in a single month since our inception over 13 years ago.

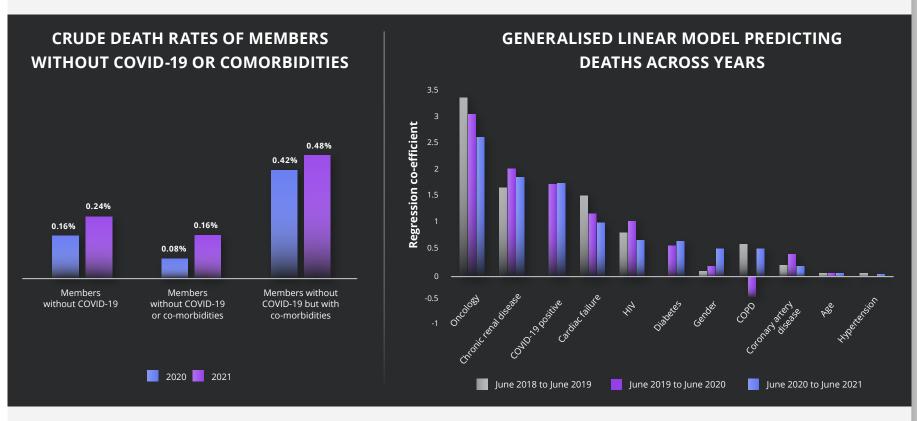




#### **UNDERSTANDING** OUR EXCESS DEATHS

We define 'excess deaths' as deaths observed over and above what we would usually expect in a given year. COVID-19 increased our excess deaths in 2020 and 2021. However, not all excess deaths in these years could be directly attributed to COVID-19 infections.

To explain these deaths, we analysed our claims data in conjunction with additional data from Discovery Health.



This chart shows that the death rate in members with no registered co-morbidities and no positive COVID-19 test doubled from 2020 to 2021

These models suggest that registration for oncology benefits has become a less reliable predictor of death, while gender has become a more significant predictor outside of contracting COVID-19

#### **UNDERSTANDING** OUR EXCESS DEATHS

With further analysis, we found the following reasons for excess deaths, some helping to explain why members with no sickness or no COVID-19 infection may have experienced higher mortality:

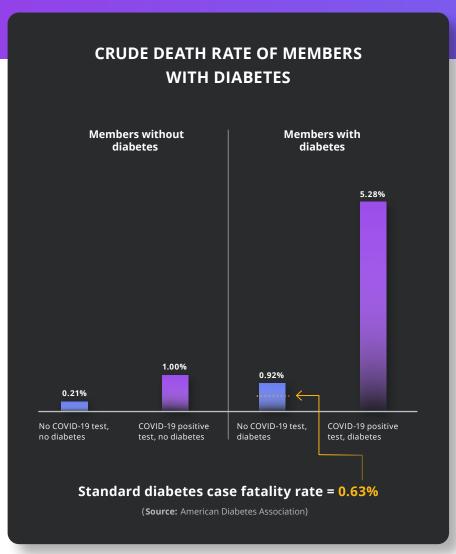
- 01 | Increased rates of suicide and motor vehicle accidents, particularly in male members
- 02 | Delayed cancer registrations and treatment
- 03 | Delayed detection and management of chronic conditions

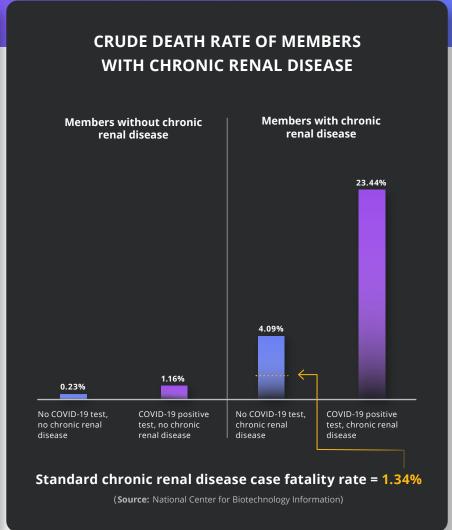
We were also able to pick up unreported COVID-19 deaths where these members tested positive for COVID-19 but the cause of death was not reported as due to COVID-19. We picked this up using our Discovery Health data.



#### **DELAYED MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS**

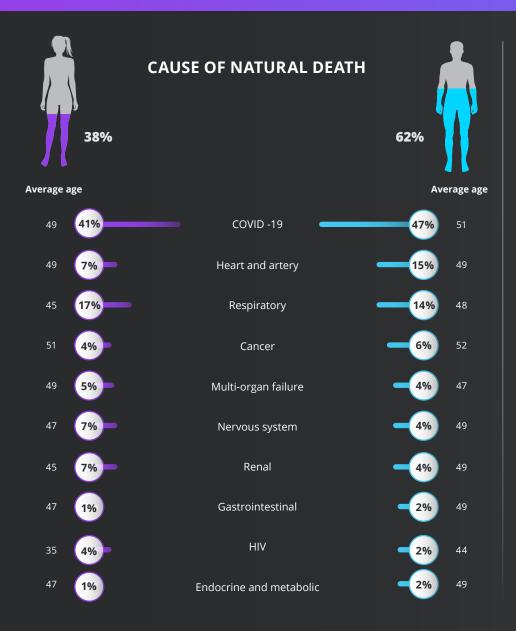
Crude death rates from diabetes and chronic renal disease in members who didn't test positive for COVID-19 were higher than the standard case fatality rates of those diseases, pointing to potential delayed medical management and treatment of these diseases.





#### UNDERSTANDING THE CAUSE OF LIFE COVER BENEFIT CLAIMS

(breakdown by natural cause body system)





**COVID-19** was the main cause of death across males and females with the second highest being respiratory diseases for females and heart and artery conditions for males. These conditions may be related to COVID-19 as they are often exacerbated by the virus.

#### **2020 VS 2021 INSIGHTS**

When looking at the change in claims causes over the year we see the following:



Natural deaths increased by 82%



## Male natural deaths went up by 92%



**Female** natural deaths went up by **69%** 



Deaths of members with diabetes, one of the co-morbidities associated with a higher risk of developing COVID-19 complications, increased by **450%** outside of reported COVID-19 death claims



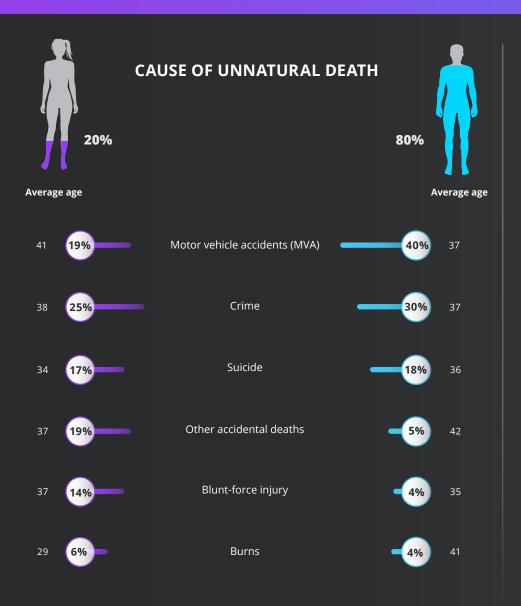
Death claims due to HIV have decreased by **9%** from 2020 to 2021



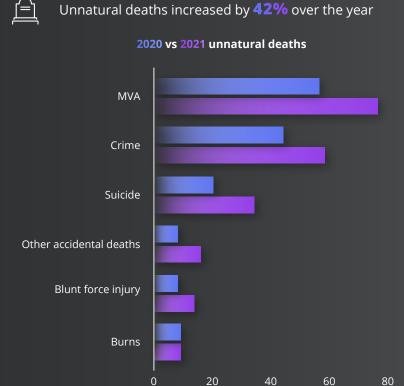
Death claims due to cancer increased by **97%** over the year, which attests to the fact that screening and registration for cancer benefits may have decreased

#### UNDERSTANDING THE CAUSE OF LIFE COVER BENEFIT CLAIMS

(breakdown by unnatural causes)



#### **2020 VS 2021 INSIGHTS**





Surprisingly, motor vehicle accidents accounted for most of the increase despite lockdown restrictions.

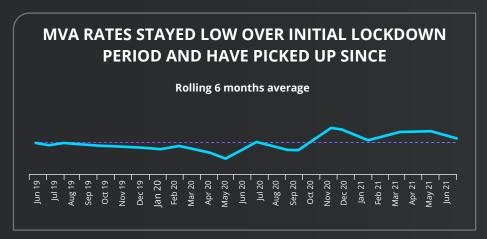


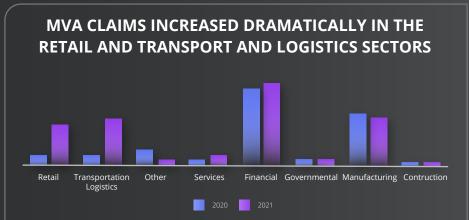
**The number of suicides also increased**, attesting to the strain on mental wellbeing caused by the pandemic.

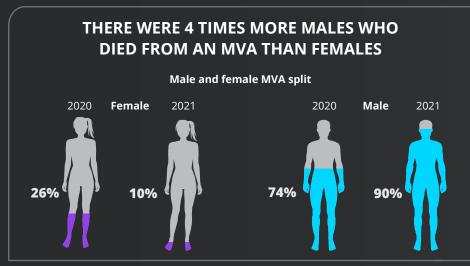
#### A CLOSER LOOK AT MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT (MVA) CLAIMS

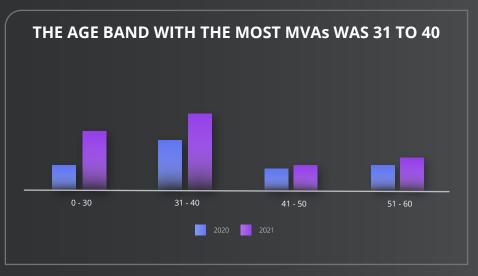
When unpacking the increase in motor vehicle accident claims experienced, we observed the following:

- Looking at motor vehicle accidents by month, average car accidents dropped during lockdown levels 5 and 4 (nearing zero in absolute terms), but then started to pick up to levels higher than before. This aligns with trends seen globally where there have been reports of more reckless driving on account of lower congestion, and impaired driving as alcohol consumption increases once lockdown restrictions are eased.
- The increase in motor vehicle accidents was observed in our male members.
- For 2021 the most motor vehicle accidents occurred within the 31 40 age band.





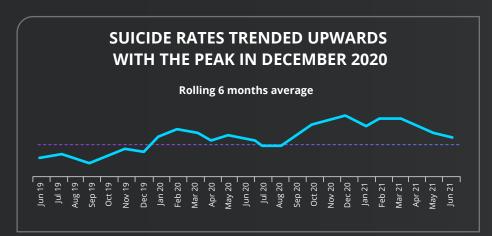


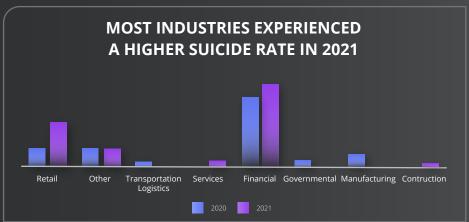


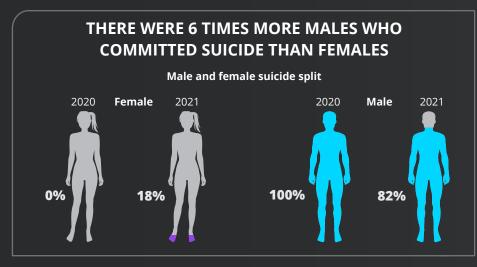
#### A CLOSER LOOK AT SUICIDE DEATH CLAIMS

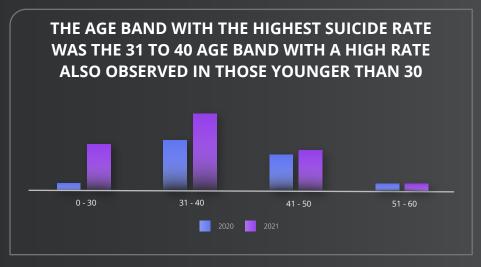
When unpacking the increase in suicide claims experienced, we observed the following:

- Suicides by month showed an upward trend with peaks roughly correlated to stricter lockdown periods
- Males still account for most suicides, but females saw an increase this year
- Most suicides occurred within the financial services industry for 2020 and 2021
- The rate of suicide increased the most within the youngest age band 0 30 when comparing to last year









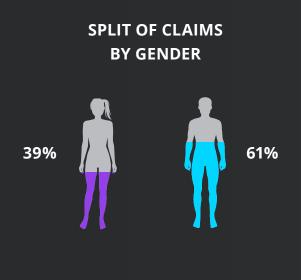


## Funeral Cover Benefit

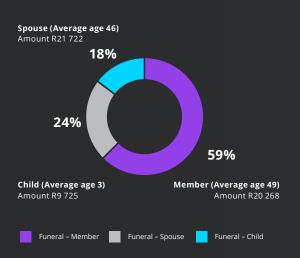
Our Funeral Cover Benefit covers the costs of a funeral for a member, their spouses and children, with no waiting period or medical information needed.



#### ENSURING OUR MEMBERS OR THEIR LOVED ONES HAVE A PROPER SEND OFF



### BREAKDOWN OF FUNERAL CLAIMS BY MEMBER TYPE



#### **FUNERAL CLAIMS INCREASED BY 87% COMPARED TO 2020**

(14% more than life cover claims)

#### OF THE CLAIMANTS WITHIN THE 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR



**Two members** have claimed for more than **three people** 

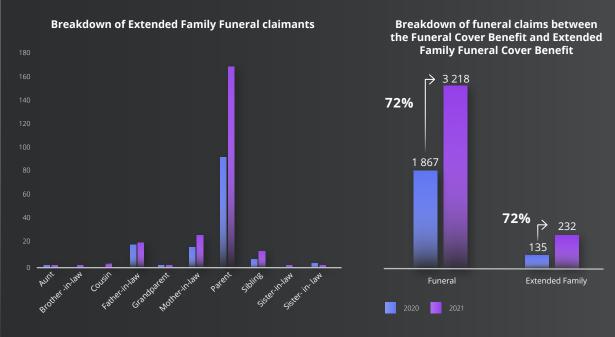


29 members have claimed for an additional spouse



**68 members** claimed for more than **one child** 

#### **EXTENDED FAMILY FUNERAL SPLIT 2020 VS 2021**



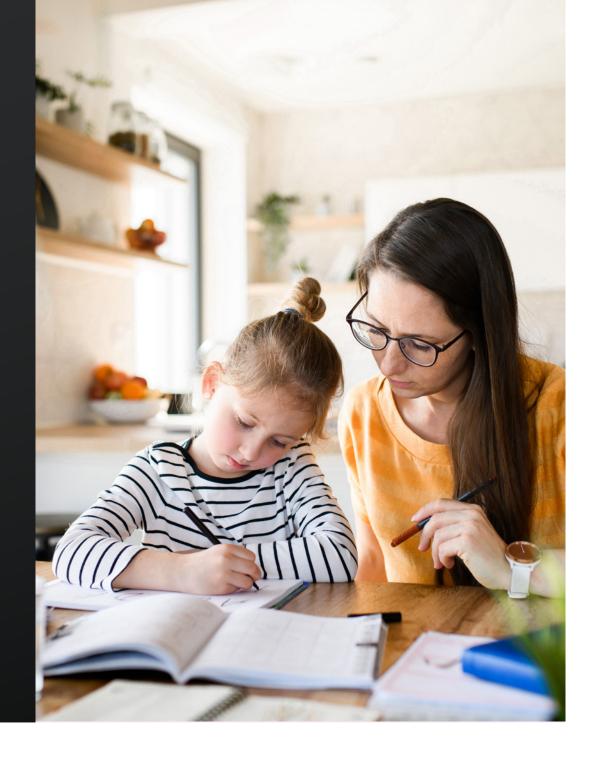
The biggest increase, as well as the majority of Extended Family Funeral claims were from members claiming for their parents. This increase may be attributed to COVID-19 as death rates due to COVID-19 are higher in older ages.



# **Global Education Protector**

Our Global Education Protector makes sure that even when some of our members are no longer there to care for their children, the children always receive the best gift a parent can give – education.

The first-to-market Global Education Protector provides local and international cover for the education of members' children in the event of their death. We automatically include the Global Education Protector for all members whose life cover is at least two times their yearly salary.





#### Members' children currently receiving payouts

**1 241** children are currently receiving payouts across 893 families, of which **66 children** had their parents die of COVID-19 in the 2021 financial year

**67%** of claims were for members with one child

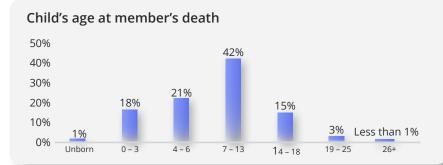
Two children are in overseas universities:

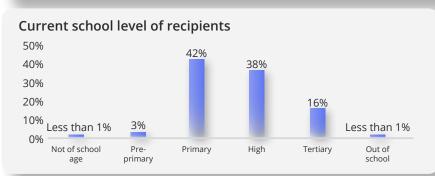


A 21-year-old male studying Architecture at IE University in Madrid, Spain

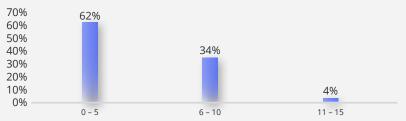


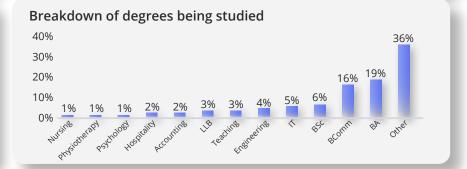
A 22-year-old male studying a BSc in Human Movement at Corban University in Oregon, USA













#### PRIVATE SCHOOL UPGRADE BENEFIT

#### Value of the free Discovery Group Risk Global Education Protector Private School Upgrade benefit

Below are two cost examples for different types of individuals obtaining the Private School Upgrade. Through Group Risk we can see that there is a saving on the upgrade as it is embedded in the premium for the Life Cover Benefit (GLA) and rewarded through Vitality engagement.

01 30-year-old non-smoking male with two children

|  | <b>GROUP RISK</b>            | INDIVIDUAL LIFE |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cost of GEP with<br>Private School<br>Upgrade (pm) | R0 (included in GLA premium) | R630 pm         |
| Vitality<br>membership<br>premium (pm)             | R410 pm                      | n/a             |
| Total annual cost                                  | R4 920 pa                    | R7 560 pa       |



**Saving of R2 640 pa** plus the benefits of Vitality engagement

45-year-old smoking male with two children

|  | GROUP RISK                   | INDIVIDUAL LIFE |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cost of GEP with<br>Private School<br>Upgrade (pm) | R0 (included in GLA premium) | R1 330 pm       |
| Vitality<br>membership<br>premium (pm)             | R410 pm                      | n/a             |
| Total annual cost                                  | R4 920 pa                    | R15 960 pa      |



Saving of R11 040 pa plus the benefits of Vitality engagement

# OUR BENEFITS ENSURE THE GREATEST NEEDS ARE COVERED

Following his death, his family received a Life Cover Benefit payment of **R2.8 million**.

His children's education is covered under the Global Education

Protector Benefit, and because

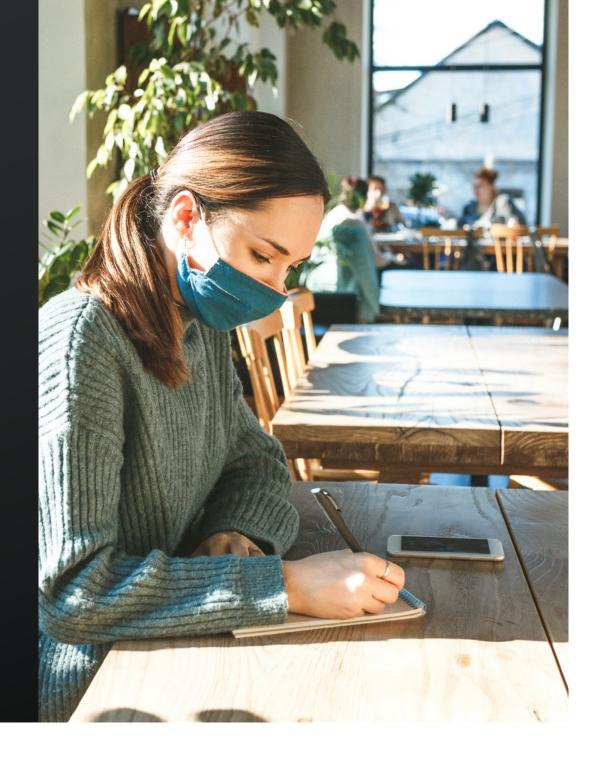
Mr Zungu engaged with Vitality, they have been upgraded to private schools.



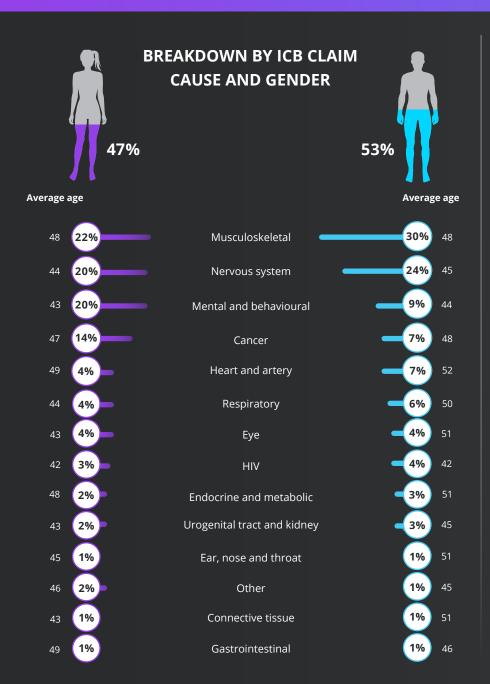


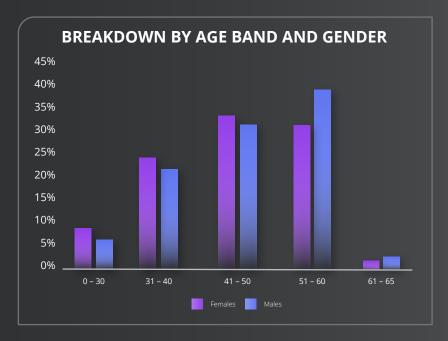
## Income Continuation Benefit

The Income Continuation Benefit (ICB) provides an income to members who are unable to work due to an injury, illness or disability. The benefit funds up to 100% of all medical aid contributions and other Discovery premiums. It also covers a portion of the performance bonus payments that they earned before they became injured or ill. In addition, the Income Continuation Benefit covers mortgage payments, offers severe illness cover for spouses and children, Vitality Healthy Living cash back and an Uber benefit to assist with transport.



#### DISABILITIES CAN MANIFEST FROM A WIDE RANGE OF CONDITIONS







The youngest ICB claimant was a **20-year-old male** working in the **financial industry** with a **musculoskeletal** claim cause



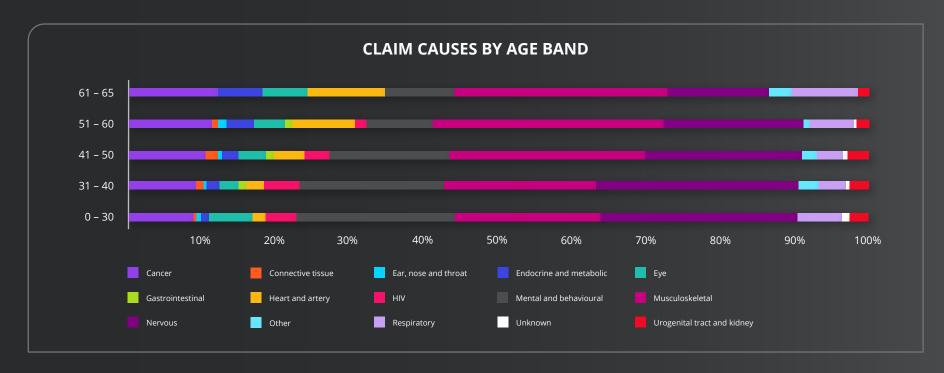
Musculoskeletal disorders and nervous system disorders accounted for 54% of all male claims and 42% of all female claims



Mental and behavioural claims for females were 2X higher than those for males

Over **R3 billion** is expected to be paid out to currently disabled members on receiving an Income Continuation Benefit (ICB)

#### RISKS FACED DIFFER BY AGES





**Mental and behavioural disorders** were highest in the **0 - 30** age group



**Musculoskeletal conditions** accounted for a higher proportion of claims in all ages and mostly occurred within the older ages



**Heart and artery conditions** were highest in the **61 - 65** age group

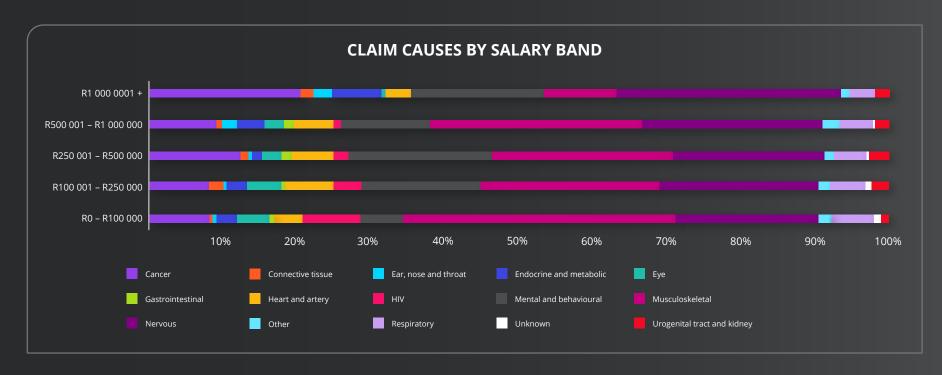


**Nervous system** conditions were most prevalent in the younger ages



**Cancer** as a cause of claim occurred within all age bands and in relatively similar proportions

#### RISKS FACED DIFFER BY INCOME LEVELS





**Cancer claims** were highest in the highest salary band (over R1m per year)



**Musculoskeletal claims** accounted for the most claims within the lowest salary band (under R100k per year)



**Mental and behavioural claims** were highest for members earning between R250k and R500k per year

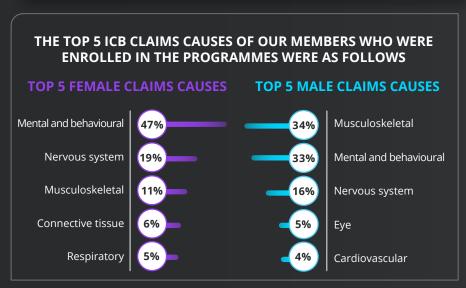


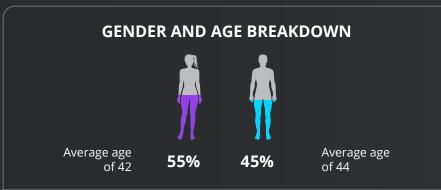
**Nervous system claims** were highest in the highest salary band (over R1m per year)

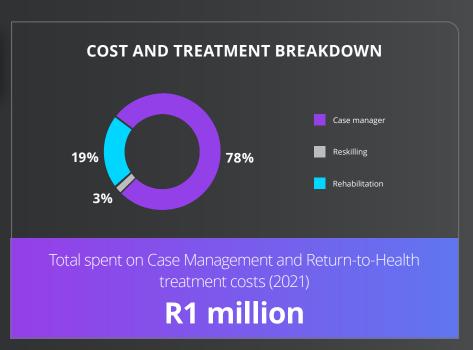
#### SUPPORTING OUR MEMBERS THROUGH THEIR JOURNEY BACK TO WORK

Return-to-Health and Case Management programmes

**184 new claimants** were admitted into our Return-to-Health and Case Management programmes







Average length of programme 6 months

**All members** who completed the programmes in 2021 were successful in their return to work

#### **EMPLOYMENT BONUS**

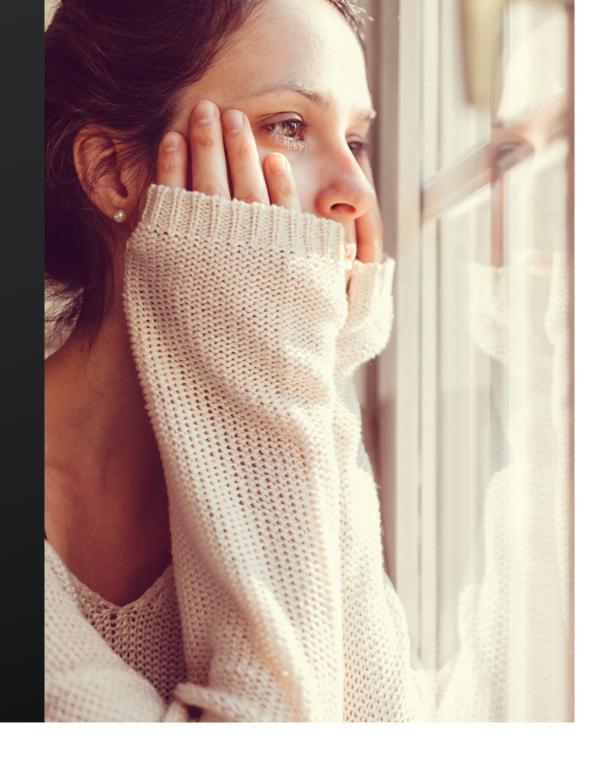


Highest bonus paid | R82 000

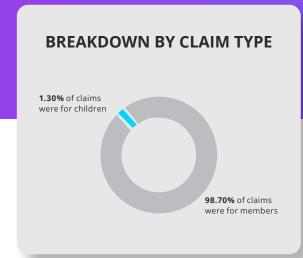


## Severe Illness Benefit

The Severe Illness Benefit helps to make sure that members and their families have access to the funds they need to make lifestyle changes due to a severe illness. This benefit follows a holistic approach and provides whole-body cover and payments at all severity levels.



#### FINANCIAL PROTECTION AGAINST SEVERE ILLNESS





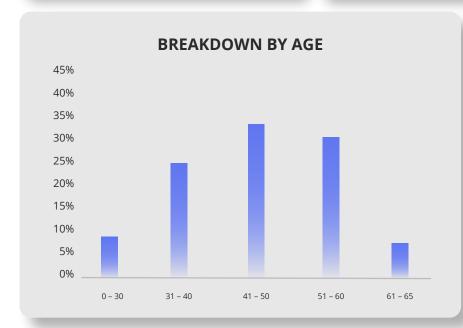
The largest Severe Illness Benefit payout was **R2.2m** to a 53-year-old-female working in the financial services industry who claimed for **breast cancer** 

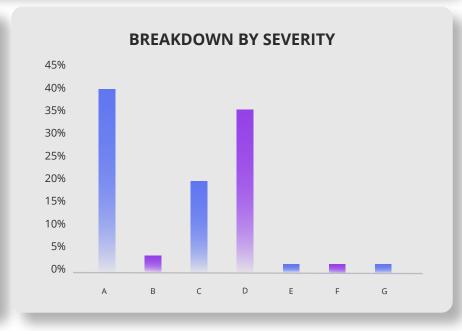


**Two claimants** were **upgraded from a lower severity level to a higher severity** due to the progression of their condition



**Three claimants** have submitted a second claim for a different condition





#### **SEVERE ILLNESS** OCCURS ACROSS BODY SYSTEMS

#### **BREAKDOWN BY CAUSE AND GENDER** 41% Average age Average age 39% 47 45 25% Cancer 50 44 20% Nervous system 22% 5% Heart and artery 23% 50 5% 4% 50 Respiratory disease 46 52 36 Urogenital tract and kidney 3% 42 37 2% Eye 3% Musculoskeletal 2% 50 60 35 Connective tissue 0% n/a 2% 0% 44 Ear, nose and throat n/a n/a Endocrine and metabolic 2% 39 51 Other 0% n/a Gastrointestinal 29 n/a



#### Three child Severe Illness Benefits were paid

The conditions claimed for were cancer, autism and cardiac defects The total amount paid was over **R181 000** 

The highest single claim payout was R103 000

The youngest person who was claimed was a 9-month-old child with cyanotic congenital cardiac defect

#### Only **79% of our claims fell** under the SCIDEP definitions

used by most providers for severe illness with 11% being assessed on our unique whole-body coverage criteria. Cancer, nervous system, and heart and artery system diagnoses accounted for the most claims, showing that almost **80%**of claims came from **20%**of all conditions.



Cancer was the main cause of claims amongst males and females and accounted for more than half of the total claims for females.



The **second biggest** cause of claims for **males** was for **heart and artery** conditions **(23%).** 

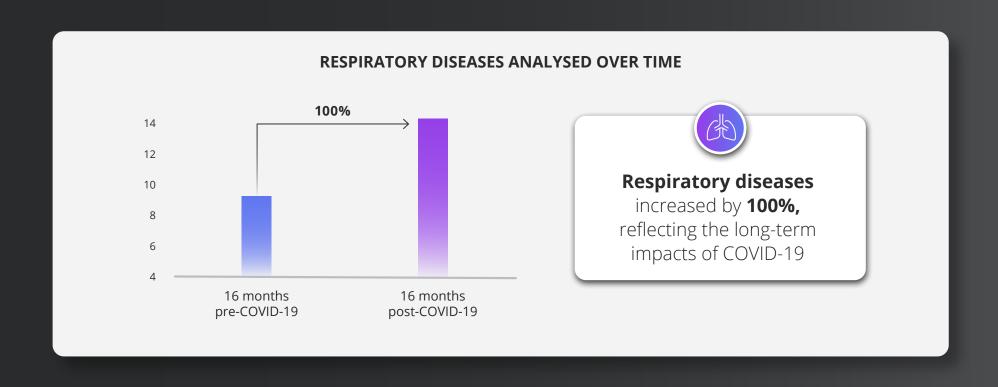


At least 20% of claims for males and females were due to nervous system conditions.

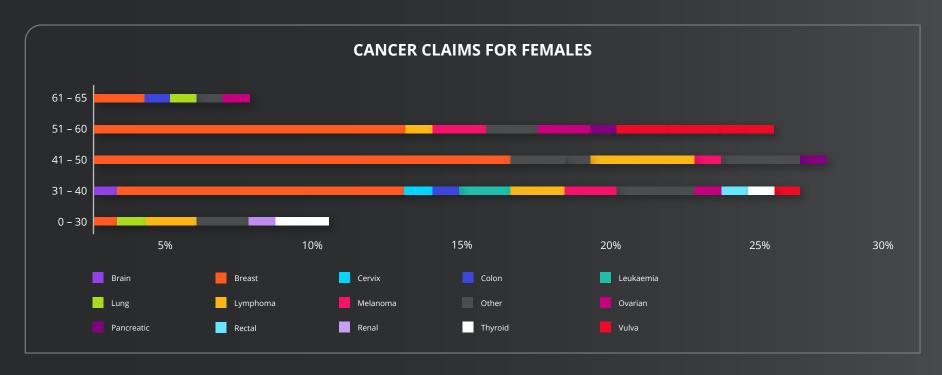
A **boy who was 5 years and 5 months old** was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder when he was 2 years old, was paid a **Child Severe Illness Benefit** for **severity A twice** in the same financial year as his parents both had Discovery Group Risk cover.

The total amount paid to the family was R129 000

#### FINANCIAL PROTECTION AGAINST SEVERE ILLNESS



#### FOCUSING ON CANCER





The **41 – 50 year old** age group accounted for the most female cancers, with **breast cancer** being the biggest contributor

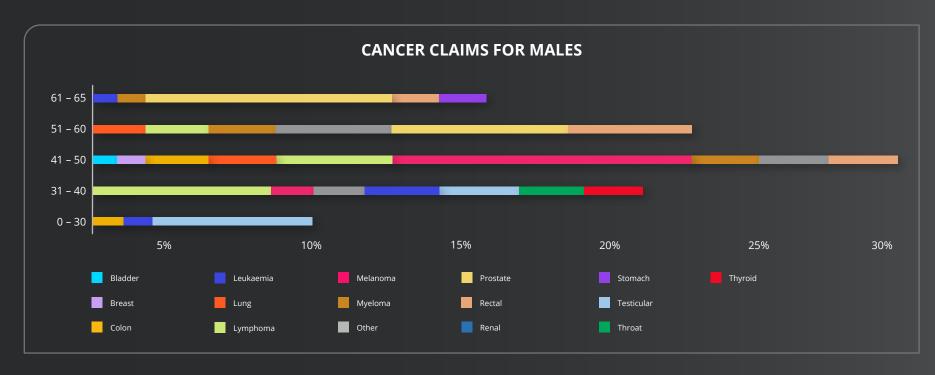


**Lymphoma** is also prevalent across most age groups



**Breast cancer** occurred across all age groups with it being most prevalent within the age band **30 - 60** 

#### FOCUSING ON CANCER





The **41 – 50 year old** age group accounted for the most male cancers, with **melanoma cancer** being the biggest contributor



**Prostate cancer** was most prevalent in the **61 - 65** age group



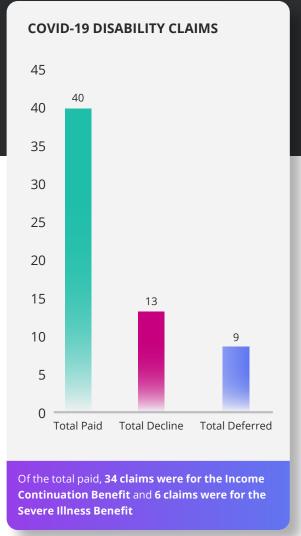
**Lymphoma** was the biggest cause of male cancer claims within the **31 - 40** age group



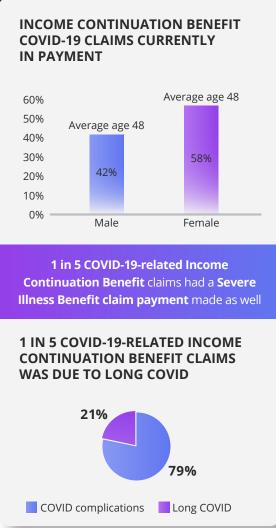
 $\textbf{Testicular cancer} \ \text{was most prevalent in the } \textbf{0 - 30} \ \text{age group}$ 

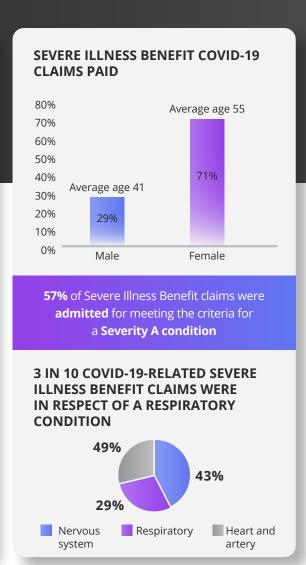
#### **COVID-19 DISABILITY CLAIMS**

Initially, we expected those who contracted COVID-19 to recover from their symptoms. However, our disability claims experience shows that COVID-19 has an enduring impact for some who are unable to work and for some who have long-term complications due to COVID-19.









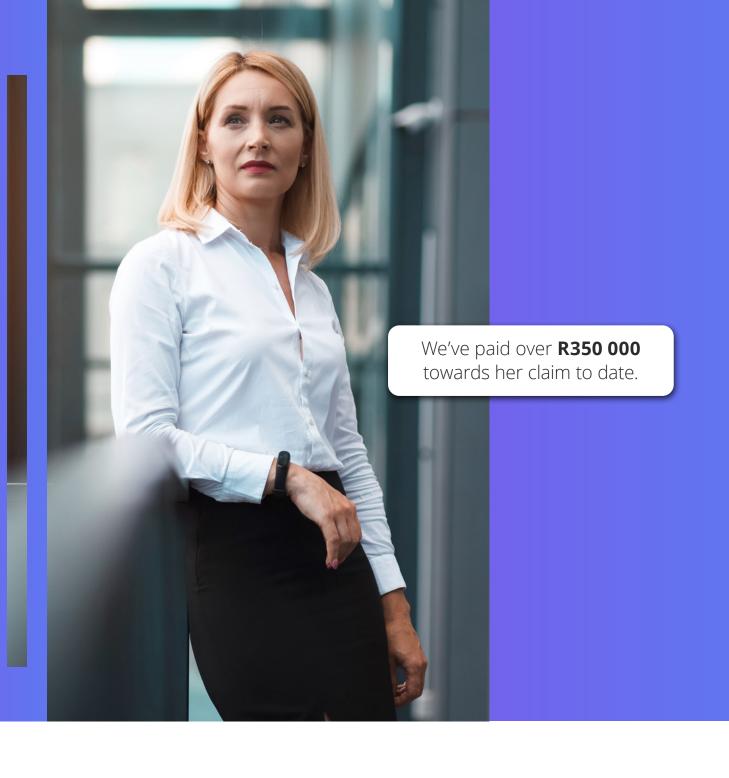
## COVID-19 **DISABILITY CLAIMS**



A **39-year-old** female business analyst, with **no known co-morbidities** tested **positive for COVID-19** in October 2020 and experienced **progressive weakness of her upper limbs.** 



In March 2021 she was able to return to work at a 50% capacity. We continue to support her with a partial Income Continuation Benefit payment while she regains her upper limb strength and she is able to return to work at full capacity.



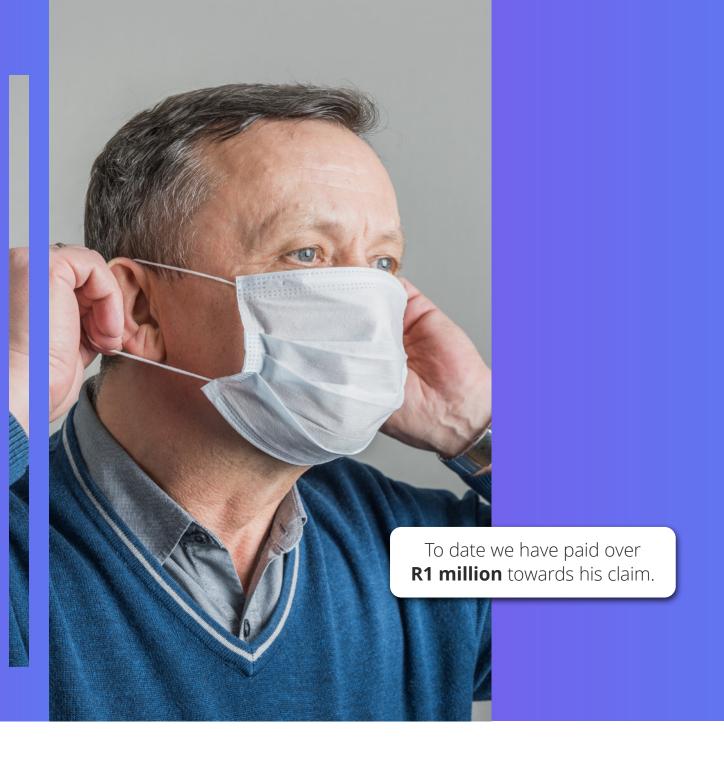
## COVID-19 **DISABILITY CLAIMS**



A **58-year-old** male engineering product specialist, receiving an **Income Continuation Benefit** payment since **May 2020** due to **severe depression**.



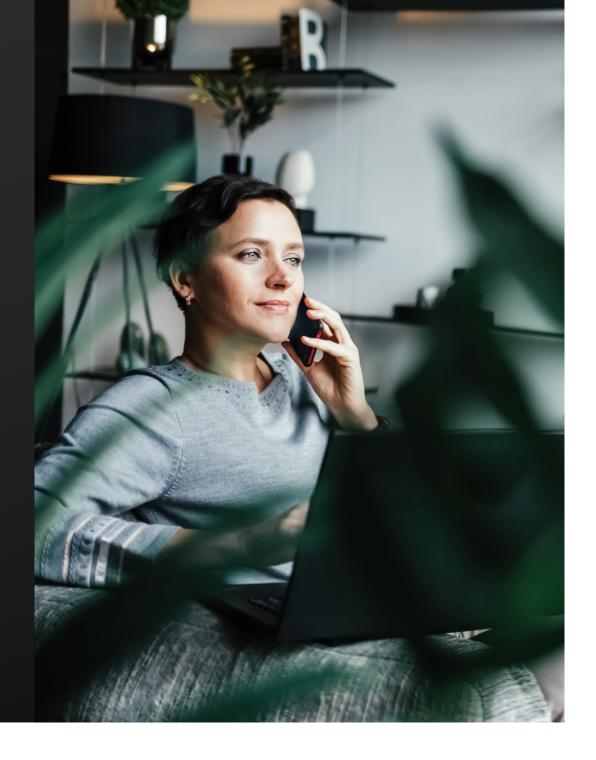
We enrolled him in our Case
Management programme and in
March 2021 he was able to return
to work in a partial capacity. In
April 2021, his best friend passed
away due to COVID-19 and in May
2021 he contracted COVID-19 and
was admitted to hospital. The
trauma of losing a loved one and
witnessing people dying around
him in hospital has compounded
his depression. This set-back has
suspended his return to work
in a partial capacity.



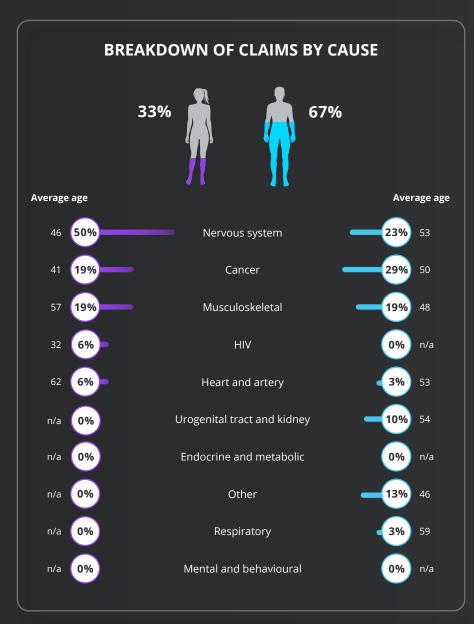


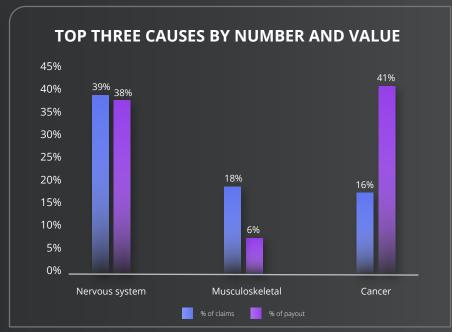
# **Capital Disability Benefit**

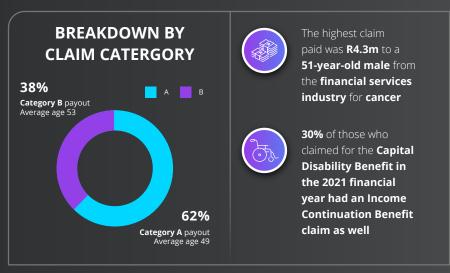
The Capital Disability Benefit uses clear assessment criteria to assess benefit payments. If an employee's disability does not meet the objective medical criteria for the category of disability, we will assess the disability in terms of the Activities of Daily Living scale. This will help them cover immediate costs associated with a disability while they adjust to their new living conditions. This benefit eases the financial burden, giving them the time they need to recover and adapt to their new circumstances.



#### FINANCIAL PROTECTION AGAINST DISABILITY







#### OUR BENEFITS IN ACTION

In January 2017, at age 50, Mr Abrahams received a **Severe Illness Benefit** payment for **thyroid cancer**. He met the criteria for **Severity A under the cancer condition**.

Just over 4 years later, in February 2021 Mr Abrahams contracted COVID-19 and passed away.

His **Life Cover Benefit and Funeral Cover Benefit** were still applicable and were paid out to his nominated beneficiaries.

In addition, the **Global Education Protector** benefit is providing funding for his three sons to continue with their schooling.

| DATE              | BENEFIT                       | PAYMENT AMOUNT |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| January 2017      | Severe Illness Benefit        | R1.2 million   |
| March 2021        | Life Cover Benefit            | R14 million    |
| March 2021        | Funeral Cover Benefit         | R30 000        |
| March – July 2021 | Global Education<br>Protector | R11 500        |

Total paid to date | R15.3 million



#### OUR BENEFITS IN ACTION

In 2016, Ms Nkosi, a **60-year-old female** who worked in human resources, was diagnosed with **ovarian cancer**. She underwent various treatment options for 4 years. By March 2020, her cancer had **progressed**, so she was encouraged to apply for her **disability benefits**.

Ms Nkosi met the highest severity for her **Severe Illness Benefit** and for her **Capital Disability Benefit – both lump sums** were paid to her.

The following month, Ms Nkosi applied for her Income Continuation Benefit as she could no longer work due to the severity of her cancer. From July 2020 to January 2021, Discovery Group Risk paid her Income Continuation Benefit, Retirement Fund Waiver Benefit and her Contribution Protector.

In January 2021, Ms Nkosi **passed away** from cancer. Her nominated beneficiaries received her **Life Cover Benefit payout** and her **Funeral Cover Benefit payout**.

| DATE                     | BENEFIT                      | PAYMENT<br>AMOUNT |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| March 2020               | Severe Illness Benefit       | R233 616          |
| March 2020               | Capital Disability Benefit   | R233 616          |
| July 2020 – January 2021 | Income Continuation Benefit  | R210 444          |
| July 2020 – January 2021 | Retirement Fund Contribution | R10 558           |
| July 2020 – January 2021 | Contribution Protector       | R11 665           |
| January 2021             | Life Cover Benefit           | R1.2 million      |
| January 2021             | Funeral Cover Benefit        | R30 000           |

Total paid to date | R2 million



#### OUR BENEFITS IN ACTION

In February 2019, Mr Shaw, a **58-year-old male** working as a **sales manager**, was diagnosed with **colon cancer**. By June 2020, Mr Shaw was **no longer able to work** due to the severity of his cancer. We subsequently paid his **Income Continuation Benefit** as well as the following value-add Vitality benefits:

- Contribution Protector
- Mortgage Protector
- Performance Bonus Protector

In January 2021 Mr Shaw passed away from cancer.

His nominated beneficiaries received a **Life Cover Benefit payout** and a **Funeral Cover Benefit payout**.

| DATE                        | BENEFIT                        | PAYMENT AMOUNT |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| July 2020 –<br>January 2021 | Income Continuation<br>Benefit | R384 658       |
| July 2020 –<br>January 2021 | Mortgage Protector             | R14 985        |
| July 2020 –<br>January 2021 | Performance Bonus<br>Protector | R5 044         |
| January 2021                | Life Cover Benefit             | R3.4 million   |

Total paid to date | R3.8 million





## What can we predict?



AN OVERVIEW OF POSSIBLE SHIFTS IN INSURANCE

#### HYPOTHESISING ON THE EXPECTED SHIFTS IN INSURANCE

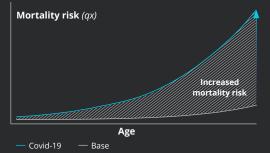
## 01 | WE EXPECT FUTURE INSURANCE RISK AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 IMPACT

The COVID-19 virus is still prevalent and has not been totally eradicated. The novelty, unpredictability and severity of this pandemic, as well as its progression with multiple waves and variants, make it extremely difficult to accurately model how the pandemic will progress. As such, the direct impact on future claim numbers and the severity of COVID-19 infections is still unclear.

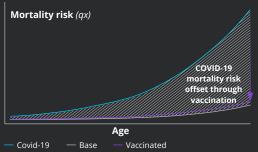
We have seen that mortality risk is significantly increased by COVID-19 infection and various factors influence the severity of COVID-19, including, but not limited to, demographic, health and lifestyle.

Vaccination is proven to have a significant impact in offsetting elevated COVID-19 risk. Rigorous clinical trials globally have shown that vaccines help people protect themselves and others against the direct mortality risk of COVID-19. The latest Discovery data supports these findings, highlighting substantial improvements in mortality risk for vaccinated individuals.

## COVID-19 INFECTION SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASES MORTALITY RISK



### VACCINATION OFFSETS COVID-19 MORTALITY RISK



Increasing vaccination take-up and reaching heard immunity are therefore critical in the fight to mute COVID-19 and the impact of any possible future increased insurance risks.

# 02 | WE EXPECT FUTURE INSURANCE RISK DUE TO PAST COVID-19 INFECTION

Data shows that there is a higher risk of adverse clinical sequelae following a COVID-19 infection:



International studies show a higher risk ratio for adverse health events following a COVID-19 infection.



Long-term implications of COVID-19 are emerging within those previously infected.



The Discovery Health claims data show that members hospitalised for COVID-19 have a 3.5 times higher risk of developing a cardiac condition and a 5 times higher risk of developing diabetes than a member who did not contract COVID-19.

#### HYPOTHESISING ON THE EXPECTED SHIFTS IN INSURANCE

## 03 | WE EXPECT FUTURE INSURANCE RISK DUE TO LOW HEALTHCARE UTILISATION DURING THE PANDEMIC

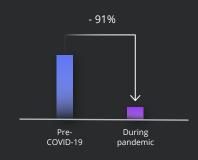
There has been a decline in the detection and treatment of non-COVID-19 conditions during the pandemic.

Discovery Health data show that during periods of high COVID-19 active infections (COVID-19 waves), utilisation of healthcare not related to COVID-19 decreases as a result of:

- A reduction in seeking healthcare as members choose to defer healthcare to minimise exposure to COVID-19.
- Limited availability for elective healthcare as the healthcare system focuses on managing the peaks of COVID-19.

Before During COVID-19

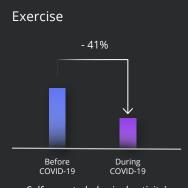
Average wellness screenings by Healthy Company clients per month before and after the pandemic

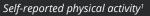


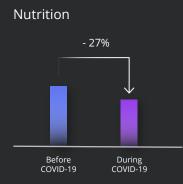
Source: Internal Healthy Company data, 2020-21

## 04 | WE EXPECT FUTURE INSURANCE RISK DUE TO THE PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS OF THE PANDEMIC

Various lockdowns and mobility restrictions across the world have impacted the extent to which individuals have engaged in healthy lifestyle behaviours during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has elevated the underlying risk of non-communicable diseases.







Fruit and vegetable sales<sup>2</sup>

#### Source:

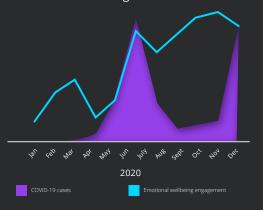
- <sup>1</sup> A Pandemic within the Pandemic? Physical Activity Levels Substantially Decreased in Countries Affected by COVID-19; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health: 24 February 2021
- <sup>2</sup> The Impact of Lockdown During the COVID-19 Outbreak on Dietary Habits in Various Population Groups: A Scoping Review; Frontiers in Nutrition Volume 8: 04 March 2021

**Source**: COVID-19 impact on screening test volume through the National Breast and Cervical Cancer early detection programme, January-June 2020, in the United States; Journal of Preventative Medicine Volume 151: October 2021

#### INCREASING FINANCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING CONCERNS

Emotional wellbeing engagement elevated as a result of COVID-19

Total employee interactions (calls, chats, assessments) linked to emotional wellbeing



Financial stress ranked in top 5 employee concerns over the past 18 months

Ranking of total employee interactions by concern



## THERE ARE MULTI-FACETED CHALLENGES FACING EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS IN THE WORKPLACE

#### **CHANGING WORKING ENVIRONMENT**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a shift to hybrid working models globally, with many South African employees now working from home. This shift is clearly evidenced by the reduction in onsite wellness screenings by Discovery Healthy Company employers. Less screenings mean employees' health risks are less likely to be flagged and addressed, highlighting the need for innovative solutions to manage the wellbeing of employees.

### INCREASING NEED TO MANAGE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF EMPLOYEES

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on economic activity, employment and our way of working have been far-reaching. These changes have had significant effects on employees' financial, physical and emotional wellbeing. There has been a 63% increase in the number of employees reporting that they are anxious or stressed through the Healthy Company mood capture tool since the onset of the pandemic, highlighting the need for effective, pro-active interventions to support them through the pandemic.

#### HYPOTHESISING ON THE EXPECTED SHIFTS IN INSURANCE

## PROBABLE OUTCOMES DUE TO THE IMPACT OF THE FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN THE INSURANCE BASE AS A RESULT OF THE EXPECTED INCREASED RISK

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on health risk: a direct impact on mortality risk for individuals that contract COVID-19 and an indirect impact on reducing engagement in healthy living globally.

The future expected increased insurance risks resulting from this COVID-19 pandemic could manifest in increased death and disability **Group Risk claims.** It is therefore imperative that we prepare for this as best we can to ensure future sustainability and to maintain our commitment to future stable prices going forward.

There is still so much uncertainty and so many factors at play in respect of how the future unfolds. Therefore, we cannot predict the true impact of COVID-19 with great certainty; we can only prepare for it using the resources that we can control and that have proven their effectiveness. This is core to our purpose, that is **to encourage a shift in behaviour to make people healthier**.

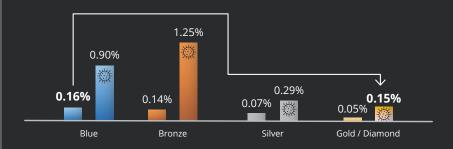
## PROBABLE OUTCOMES OF THE EXPECTED IMPACT OF DRIVING A SHIFT IN BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS LIVING HEALTHIER

When looking at the expected crude mortality rates of our Vitality-engaged membership, we see that increased wellness and healthier members (those on Gold or Diamond Vitality status compared to those on Blue status) show marked reductions in mortality risk, even if they were infected with COVID-19.

This highlights the importance and significance that health and wellness has on reducing the devastating impacts observed from, and those expected to still emerge from, COVID-19.

Had all of our members been engaging in healthy behaviours prior to the pandemic, the analysis shows that claims experience in respect of COVID-19 would not have been that substantial.

## CRUDE DEATH RATE OF DISCOVERY GROUP RISK MEMBERS WHO ARE ON DISCOVERY HEALTH WITH AND WITHOUT A COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST





Crude death rate of members who tested positive for COVID-19



## What is in our control?

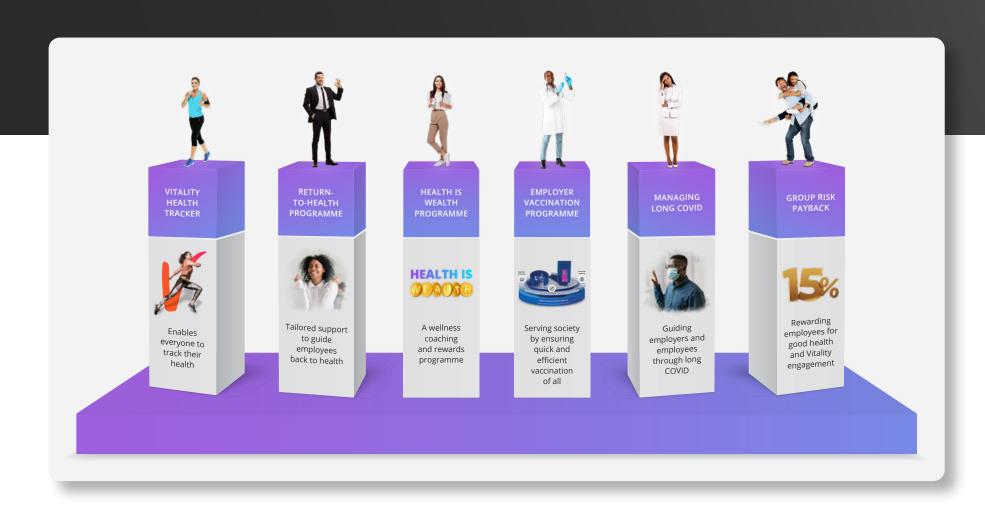


AN OVERVIEW OF GROUP RISK PRODUCT FEATURES ENCOURAGING HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

#### **DISCOVERY GROUP RISK**

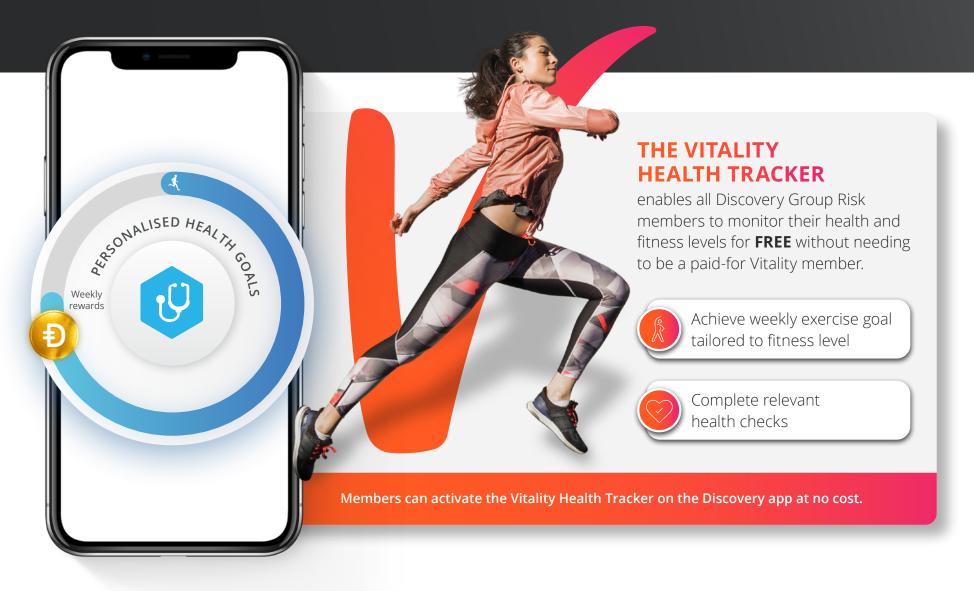
Shaping employee behaviour, creating a healthier and wealthier workforce.

True to our core purpose of making people healthy and enhancing and protecting their lives, Discovery Group Risk's unique product features and offerings aim to encourage our members to live a healthier lifestyle that improves their overall health and wellbeing.



#### VITALITY HEALTH TRACKER FOR ALL GROUP RISK MEMBERS

To stay true to our purpose and encourage our members to lead a healthy lifestyle

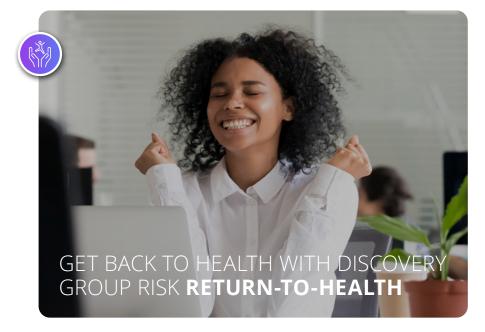


#### **RETURN-TO-HEALTH PROGRAMME**

Gets our members back to health and back to work



Discovery Group Risk's **Return-to-Health programme** is a vocational rehabilitation programme aimed at getting employees back to work after they have suffered an injury, illness or disability.



€R

At no cost to schemes with the **Income Continuation Benefit** 

01

**STARTING** BONUS

10%

Paid to **all** claimants who start the incentive programme

02

**EMPLOYMENT** BONUS

300%

Paid to claimants who are deemed rehabilitated and able to return to gainful employment

#### HEALTH IS WEALTH PROGRAMME

A wellness coaching and rewards programme that encourages our members to lead healthy lifestyles before a risk event occurs.



The Discovery Group Risk Health is Wealth programme is a FREE wellness programme that helps select members understand and manage their health and lifestyle with the support of a personal wellness coach. Members also get rewards when they start and successfully complete the programme.

The programme is simple and easy to follow, and we guide members every step of the way!



#### THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES:



A personal wellness coach for 6-12 months



An upfront reward to the value of R1 000



A final reward of up to 100% of monthly insured salary

#### MANAGING LONG COVID

Guiding employers and employees through long COVID



#### WHAT IS LONG COVID

The Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) describes post-COVID conditions as a wide range of new, returning or ongoing health problems people can experience four or more weeks after SARS-CoV-2 infection



#### **SYMPTOMS OF LONG COVID**

#### **Physical**

Fatigue, shortness of breath, muscle pain, ongoing cough, chest pain

#### Mental

Difficulty concentrating or remembering ('brain fog'), headache, slow decision-making

#### **Emotional**

Lack of motivation to do activities, anxiety, depression, low self-esteem



### WORKPLACE IMPLICATIONS OF LONG COVID

- Employee is no longer at work due to uncontrolled symptoms
- Employee is at work but taking frequent sick leave or frequent work breaks
- Employee is at work displaying social withdrawal, discomfort or tension
- Employee is at work but their productivity is consistently declining



Encourage education and awareness on the management of medical conditions to assist early identification



Apply reasonable accommodation or adaptation of duties if necessary and if these last longer than three months, notify Discovery Group Risk



Regular performance-feedback sessions as well as record-keeping of performance for monitoring and investigation

#### **EMPLOYER ADVICE**



MAINTAIN AN EARLY INTERVENTION APPROACH Facilitate access to medical and occupational treatment to ensure timely and comprehensive support



Arrange return to work check-ins with employees following their COVID-19 isolation to identify possible concerns



Other internal counselling resources to assist with psychosocial support



#### Our philosophy around work

- We believe in a proactive approach to identifying illness and injury
- We believe work is good for you
- We are passionate about a holistic approach to disability



#### Our message to you

As an insurer, we want to encourage employers and employees to lean on us for support and guidance so we can provide the resources to navigate the far-reaching effects of COVID-19.



#### DISCOVERY'S COVID-19 EMPLOYER VACCINATION PROGRAMME

Meeting our core purpose and serving society by ensuring quick and efficient vaccination of all

Our objective at Discovery is clear: We simply must get as many people in South Africa vaccinated as quickly as the vaccine supply allows. Achieving herd immunity in South Africa will likely require at least all individuals who are interested to get vaccinated and employers are uniquely positioned to support this adoption. Making vaccination as convenient as possible is a key enabler to support COVID-19 vaccine adoption. This can be achieved through access to information to navigate the process, simplifying the process itself and increasing the proximity and ease of access to vaccination sites. It is clear that employers have a critical role to play in supporting COVID-19 vaccination in the workplace, and that protecting employees and ensuring a safe return to work are of critical importance.

Leveraging our extensive experience in setting up our own vaccination sites, we designed the **Discovery COVID-19 Employer Vaccination Programme.** With this programme, we have developed a set of support services to assist you and your clients in formulating and executing an effective solution to ensure an efficient employee vaccination strategy.

The Discovery COVID-19 Employer Vaccination Programme is available to all Discovery Group Risk employers.

## Employer-based access to a safe and efficient Discovery vaccination experience

Access to Discovery's vaccination sites



Temporary Discovery site set up at the employer



Minimum: 1 500 employees

#### Simple and seamless journey for employers

Onboarding and supported registration



Simple vaccination scheduling



Integrated reporting and support tools



#### DISCOVERY VACCINATION EXPERIENCE



#### **GROUP RISK** PAYBACK

#### Rewarding healthy members with premium paybacks

<sup>Up to</sup> 15%

Group Risk Payback every year for good health and Vitality engagement



#### Bringing together the best of group and individual pricing dynamics

The Discovery Group Risk Payback allows members who display risk characteristics better than their employer group to benefit from lower effective premiums. This is measured through the member's engagement on the Vitality programme, as well as through the member's health claims.

#### Paybacks paid to date



As part of the 2021-2022 Group Risk Renewal process, **Group Risk Payback is being introduced to qualifying clients for free** to encourage the right health behaviour and return premiums to those responsible for bending the mortality and morbidity curves.

Group Risk Payback is being introduced to **674** schemes with **145 335** members



#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT TO QUALIFY FOR GROUP RISK PAYBACK BENEFITS IN 2022

In addition to the existing qualifying criteria to receive a payback, members need to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 by 1 February 2022 to qualify for Payback payments that will be made in the first quarter of 2023.

Please note: This requirement will not affect paybacks on premiums paid in 2021 (paybacks due in the first quarter of 2022)



## **Discovery Group Risk**

SHAPING EMPLOYEE BEHAVIOUR, CREATING A HEALTHIER AND WEALTHIER WORKFORCE





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