

# Doctors of BC Resident Disability Insurance



# **RDI** Resident Disability Insurance

Protecting your earnings potential

## Why do I need **Disability Insurance**?

Being able to earn an income is one of your most valuable assets. As a resident in training, you are investing significantly in your future. It is important to safeguard your earnings potential against the toll that a disability could take. The Doctors of BC Resident Disability Insurance Plan is designed to protect your income, a business you might establish, your retirement savings and ultimately, your lifestyle, in the event of a disability. Also, your coverage will seamlessly transition with you when you become a practicing physician.

## Am I eligible for coverage?

You are eligible to apply for this coverage if you are:

actively and on a full-time basis, undergoing a period of training as a resident in Canada or the United States,

a member of Doctors of BC or the Yukon Medical Association (YMA), and

under age 65.

### How much disability insurance can I buy?

You are eligible for coverage without having to submit proof of good health at time of application.

You may purchase insurance coverage, without having to submit proof of qualifying income, in units of \$100, from a minimum of \$500 per month to a maximum of:

- \$4,000 for residents in years one through five
- \$5,000 for residents in years six and seven
- \$6,000 for General Practitioner Fellows
- \$7,500 for Specialist Fellows

As a resident, you also have access to this comprehensive Plan at discounted rates.



# What happens if I become disabled and make a claim under the plan?

Should you become totally or residually disabled and your claim is approved, the monthly benefit under this plan is payable after a 90-day elimination period. The elimination period is the number of days that must pass, after an injury or the onset of a sickness, before your monthly disability benefit is payable. Approved claims are payable even if they overlap with sick leave payments.

If you become totally or residually disabled, your monthly benefit under this plan may be reduced by other group or individual insurance.

# How are residual disability and total disability defined under this plan?

Total Disability

As a result of sickness or injury, you are:

- unable to perform the essential duties of your regular occupation
- are under the regular care of a physician, and
- not engaged in any other gainful occupation.

For total or residual disability, if you are disabled before age 63 the benefit period expires at age 65 or upon your recovery, whichever comes first. If you are totally disabled between 65-70, there is a 24 month maximum benefit period and no benefit is payable beyond age 71.

#### **Residual Disability**

You are not totally disabled but, as a result of sickness or injury, you have a loss of average

monthly earned income of at least 20 per cent and are either:

- able to perform one or more of the duties of your regular occupation; or
- are under the regular care of a physician, and
- engaged in another gainful occupation.

For residual disability, the minimum monthly benefit will be 50 per cent of your monthly disability benefit for the first six months. Thereafter, the benefit will be based on your actual loss of income.

### What does "regular occupation" mean?

For you, regular occupation means the roles and duties of a resident. If you were no longer able to fulfil these duties due to disability, then you would be eligible to receive disability insurance payments. As long as you were unable to work in your regular occupation you would remain eligible. If you were capable of working in another field outside your occupation, you would not be required to do so.

# What additional benefits are included in this plan?

Other benefits available at no extra cost are:

#### Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

Your monthly disability benefit will increase annually by the lesser of the change in the British Columbia Consumer Price Index and 3%, once you have been totally or partially disabled for 12 consecutive months, and each year you remain disabled, to age 65.

#### HIV, Hepatitis B/Hepatitis C Benefit

If you test positive for HIV, or the Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C virus, and are asymptomatic, you may be considered eligible for partial disability benefits.

#### Waiver of Premium Benefit

If you have been totally or partially disabled for at least 90 continuous days, no further premium payments will be required while you remain disabled.

#### **Recurrent Disability Benefit**

If you again become totally or partially disabled due to the same or related causes within six months after recovering from a period of disability for which payments were made under this plan, benefit payments will resume without the need to complete a new elimination period.

#### **Presumed Total Benefit**

If as a result of sickness or injury, you totally and irrecoverably lose:

- the power of speech;
- sight in both eyes;
- hearing in both ears; or
- the use of both hands or both feet;

you will be considered totally disabled and will be entitled to benefits, whether or not you are able to work, or require the regular care of a physician.





#### **Transplant and Cosmetic Surgery**

If you become totally disabled as a result of cosmetic surgery or the transplant where part of the body is transplanted to another person, you will be entitled to benefits provided your insurance under this plan has been in-force for at least six months, and you complete the elimination period.

#### **Survivor Benefit**

If you should die while receiving benefits under this plan for a period of total disability, a lump-sum equal to three times your last monthly disability benefit will be paid to your surviving spouse or to your estate (in the absence of a surviving spouse).

#### **Return to work**

While receiving total or partial disability benefits, you may be able to participate in a return to work assistance program if you are under the age 65.

The cost of services in connection with a work re-entry program may also be covered up to a maximum of \$100,000.

### **Optional Riders**

For added protection, you can purchase the following benefits, without having to provide proof of good health at time of application.

#### **Own Occupation Rider**

Under this rider, you may be considered totally disabled from your regular occupation even if you return to work performing different duties or find work in another occupation. Total disability as defined under this rider means that you:

- are unable, as a result of sickness or injury, to perform the essential duties of your regular occupation,
- are under the regular care of a physician, and
- may be gainfully employed in an occupation other than your regular occupation.

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#### **Retirement Protection Rider**

During a period of disability, it may become difficult to contribute to your retirement savings plan or other investments. This rider is designed to help you continue to save for your retirement by providing a tax-free monthly benefit of \$500, or \$1,000 depending on your income, to an investment vehicle. Contributions begin after the latter of completion of the waiting period or 90 consecutive days of total disability, and continue each month that you remain totally disabled. You are eligible to apply for the Retirement Protection Rider if you are under age 55. This rider terminates at age 65.

# What happens to coverage under this plan when I complete my residency training program?

Your resident DI coverage automatically transfers to the Doctors of BC Disability Income Insurance Program, provided:

- 1. you remain a member of the Doctors of BC or the Yukon Medical Association (YMA)
- 2. are under age 65, and
- 3. are actively at work in Canada for 25 hours per week for at least 46 weeks per year or at least 1300 hours over the course of 12 month

As a resident who has had at least \$2000 of coverage in place for at least 12 months you won't be required to supply proof of good health when applying for the government funded Physician's Disability Insurance (PDI) plan once you become a physician.

When you transition to practice, the following benefits will be available to you to purchase, without having to provide proof of good health of good health, if you apply within 90 days of successfully completing your residency:

## Increase your coverage with the Guaranteed Insurability Benefit (GIB) Rider

When you transition to practice you will be able to access this Rider without proof of good health. The GIB rider allows you to increase your disability insurance coverage as your needs increase without proof of good health.

You can exercise a special GIB option period during the first 90 days following completion of your residency training program. This special GIB option will allow you to increase your coverage up to \$7,000 for general practitioners and \$10,000 for specialists, coverage from all sources (no proof of income is required).

After that, the GIB option period occurs in August of each year when you may purchase additional coverage of up to \$2,500, without proof of good health, in multiples of \$100, as long as you are age 55 and under and provided your income is sufficient to justify the increase.

#### **Own Occupation and/or Retirement Protection riders**

If you did not choose this coverage as a resident you now have the option to add these riders without proof of good health. You can also choose to increase your Retirement Protection benefit to the maximum \$1,000 per month.





#### Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

When coverage under this plan is transferred to the Doctors of BC Disability Income Insurance Program, the COLA benefit will be treated as a rider. At the start of practice you will be able to access the Rider with a choice 3% or 6% without proof of good health as part of Seamless Transition.

#### Does this plan cover a Pre-existing condition?

A disability resulting from a health condition existing during the 12 months before the Doctors of BC insurance is effective, will not be covered if it occurs within the first 12 months of coverage. This limitation will not apply to those transferring from the Doctors of BC Student Plan who have had coverage for more than 12 months.

#### What happens if I'm not in B.C. during my residency?

Your coverage is portable anywhere in Canada or the Unites States. If your residency is done in another country your coverage may be portable if it's approved by the insurer. Once you complete your residency and become a physician covered under the Doctors of BC plan, your coverage is portable anywhere in the world.

### When will my coverage end?

Coverage will terminate on the earliest of the following dates:

- the date you are no longer a member of Doctors of BC or the YMA,
- the date you withdraw, or are terminated from your residency training program,
- the premium due date, if you fail to pay your premium, subject to the grace period,
- the date this plan or policy is terminated,
- the date you notify Doctors of BC, in writing, that you wish to terminate this coverage,
- at age 70, or
- the date of your death.
- You will not have coverage for the period of time following the termination of any benefit payments on or after age 65, if during such time you remain disabled.
  If you cancel within 30 days, your premiums will be refunded.

# doctors of bc

### To help protect your financial future and your assets, Doctors of BC offers and administers a comprehensive array of insurance products that includes:

- Disability Income Insurance
- Physicians' Disability Insurance (PDI) Plan
- Professional Expense Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance
- Critical Illness Insurance
- Health Benefits Trust Fund, providing health/dental benefits for physicians and office staff

Information and application forms for all Doctors of BC insurance plans may be found at

## doctorsofbc.ca

or contact a Doctors of BC Insurance Administrator:

Tel 604 638 2882 or 604 638 2865 Toll Free 1 800 665 2262 x2882 or x2865 Email insurance@doctorsofbc.ca

This brochure provides the highlights and not the details of Doctors of BC Resident Disability Insurance plan. The insurer of this plan is Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies. The complete terms and conditions governing the insurance coverage are found in the group insurance policy, number 59999, issued to the British Columbia Medical Association by Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies.

