

Trauma Recovery Cover



What's Trauma Recovery Cover?

Recovering from a serious illness, injury or medical procedure takes time. Asteron Life's Trauma Recovery Cover pays you a lump sum to help you during this time when you might need extra support. The most common illnesses linked to trauma insurance in New Zealand are cancer, heart attack and stroke.

What would I use this cover for?

Common costs when recovering from a serious illness and injury include:

- Taking time off work to rest and recover. Whether it's to cover reduced hours or to cover not being able to work at all.
- To pay for your spouse or another family member to take time off work. Many people need extra help and support around the house when they have a serious illness.
- If you'd like to use alternative treatments that aren't covered or are only partly covered by health insurance, Trauma Recovery Cover can help you do that.
- Debt can really pile up when you're recovering from a serious illness. Often, this happens when managing a reduced income and higher medical expenses. Freeing up finances – by reducing credit card or mortgage debt – enables you to focus on your recovery.
- Taking care of those additional costs like child care, wheelchair ramps or travel to medical appointments.

What options do I have for structuring my cover?

1. **Stand Alone.** You can simply choose Trauma Recovery Cover as a separate cover from your Life Cover. This means a trauma claim won't reduce the amount of your Life Cover you have.
2. **Accelerated.** You can choose to bundle your Trauma Recovery Cover with your Life Cover. This means we'll pay your Trauma Recovery claim out of your Life Cover – but you can always add a benefit to re-establish your original cover if this happens. (See the 'Life Cover Buy Back benefit' section on the next page.)

“The funds have taken away the stress of mortgage repayments. They meant we had extra money to pay for doctors' appointments. Most importantly it has helped us cover the shortfall of \$11,000 to \$12,000 needed for reconstructive surgery as the full cost wasn't covered under our health insurance.”

Catherine, Asteron Life customer

Medical conditions and procedures covered by Early Trauma, Trauma Recovery and Major Trauma benefits

General category	Medical condition or surgical procedure	Early Trauma benefit	Trauma Recovery benefit	Major Trauma benefit
Blood	Advanced AIDS			✓
	Aplastic anaemia		✓	✓
	HIV – medically acquired		✓	
	HIV – occupationally acquired		✓	
Cancer and tumours	Benign tumour of the brain or spinal cord		✓	✓
	Cancer		✓**	✓**
	Early stage cancer		✓**	
Connective tissue	Severe osteoporosis	✓		
	Severe rheumatoid arthritis	✓**		
	Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with nephritis	✓**		
	Systemic sclerosis	✓**	✓	✓
Ear	Deafness		✓	✓
	Loss of hearing in one ear	✓		
Endocrine	Diabetes	✓	✓	
Eye	Blindness		✓	✓
	Loss of sight (one eye) and limb		✓	✓
	Single loss of limb or eye	✓		
Gastrointestinal	Chronic liver failure		✓	✓
	Colostomy and/or ileostomy	✓		
	Severe Crohn's disease	✓		
	Severe ulcerative colitis	✓		
Heart and artery	Aneurysm	✓**		
	Cardiomyopathy		✓	✓
	Coronary artery angioplasty	✓**		
	Coronary artery angioplasty – triple vessel		✓**	✓**
	Coronary artery bypass surgery		✓**	✓**
	Heart surgery (open)		✓**	✓**
	Heart attack		✓**	✓**
	Out of hospital cardiac arrest		✓	✓
	Pulmonary hypertension	✓**	✓	✓
	Repair or replacement of aorta		✓**	✓**
	Repair or replacement of valves		✓**	✓**
	Severe peripheral vascular disease		✓	✓
Kidney and urogenital	Chronic kidney (renal) failure		✓**	✓**

General category	Medical condition or surgical procedure	Early Trauma benefit	Trauma Recovery benefit	Major Trauma benefit
Major organ transplant	Major organ transplant (placement on waiting list or undergoing transplant)		✓ ^{**}	✓ ^{**}
Musculoskeletal trauma	Loss of limbs		✓	✓
	Burns	✓	✓	✓
Respiratory	Chronic lung failure		✓	✓
	Pneumonectomy		✓ ^{**}	✓ ^{**}
	Pulmonary hypertension	✓ ^{**}	✓	✓
Stroke and nervous system	Alzheimer's disease	✓ ^{**}	✓	✓
	Coma		✓	✓
	Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease		✓	✓
	Dementia	✓ ^{**}	✓	✓
	Encephalitis		✓	✓
	Hydrocephalus	✓		
	Loss of speech		✓	✓
	Major head trauma		✓	✓
	Meningitis		✓	✓
	Motor neurone disease		✓	✓
	Multiple sclerosis	✓ ^{**}	✓	✓
	Muscular dystrophy		✓	✓
	Paralysis		✓	✓
	Parkinson's disease	✓ ^{**}	✓	✓
	Peripheral neuropathy		✓	✓
Stroke		✓ ^{**}	✓ ^{**}	
Other	Intensive care		✓	✓
	Serious accidental injury	✓		
Modified total and permanent disablement	Loss of limbs		✓	✓
	Loss of sight (one eye) and limb		✓	✓
	Loss of independent existence		✓	✓
	Significant cognitive impairment		✓	✓
Total and permanent disablement	Own occupation		✓ ^{***}	
	Any occupation		✓ ^{***}	

* Early Stage Cancer Benefit is a partial payment only. It's paid on the diagnosis of all early stage cancers.

Cover for medical conditions or surgical procedures marked ** starts 3 months after the latest of:

- The commencement date of this benefit
- An increase to the Trauma Recovery cover sum insured (in respect to the increased portion only).
- The most recent reinstatement of Trauma Recovery cover unless the Continuous trauma benefit applies.

This does not apply if the cover is a replacement benefit.

*** Total Permanent Disablement (TPD) benefit available for additional premium.

What benefits does Trauma Recovery include?

- **Lump Sum Payment for Major Illness.** If you're diagnosed with a serious illness or you undergo any of the major types of surgery we've listed in your policy document, you'll receive a lump sum.
- **Early Stage Cancer.** If you're diagnosed with early stage cancer you'll receive an advance payment of part of your Trauma Recovery Cover. While early stage cancer may be less severe than more advanced cancer, you may still have lifestyle changes to make and treatment costs to cover.
- **Grief Support.** We'll pay up to \$900 to you or a loved one for counselling from a professional counsellor.
- **Financial Planning and Legal Advice.** We'll pay up to \$2,500 for professional advice from an approved financial adviser or lawyer. This can help you plan the most effective way to use your money if you receive a trauma payment.
- **Special Events Increase.** You can increase your existing cover for policies which pay a lump sum, whenever a special event happens in your life (such as taking out a mortgage or getting a pay rise) without any medical underwriting. This is useful as the amount of insurance you need can change as you get older. Check your policy document for more information on Special Events.
- **Special Events Conversion.** If you're under 50 and experience a special event, you can add certain types of Trauma or TPD Cover to your policy – without having to provide further medical evidence.
- **Inflation Adjustment.** Each year we'll offer to increase your sum insured by the rate of inflation – according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This will be without the need for further medical or financial underwriting.

Are there extra benefits I can add to my Trauma Recovery Cover?

Yes. Here's a look at the optional extras:

- **Early Trauma.** We'll make a partial payment (the greater of \$10,000 or 20% of your total cover up to \$100,000) for an additional 20 conditions, such as Parkinson's or Multiple Sclerosis. This is in addition to the 45 conditions you're covered for with Trauma Recovery Cover. Have a look at your policy document for the full list of what you're covered for.

- **Major Trauma.** If you experience a major event or illness we'll pay you a Major Trauma benefit. This can be paid out with your Trauma Recovery benefit if you haven't yet claimed on it. If your event or illness isn't considered major but you're eligible for the Trauma Recovery benefit, your Major Trauma benefit will remain in place to keep you covered for all major conditions – including those that relate to your Trauma Recovery benefit claim. You'll find a full list of what's covered for a trauma condition in your policy document.
- **Total and Permanent Disablement.** We'll pay your Trauma Recovery sum insured if you become totally and permanently disabled due to an illness or injury.
- **Continuous Trauma.** Immediately reinstates your Trauma Recovery Cover sum insured after any claim is made, meaning you can claim up to three different trauma events.
- **Trauma Reinstatement.** You're able to restore your Trauma Recovery Cover once you've claimed for a trauma condition, so that you can claim in the future if you need to.
- **Life Cover Buy Back.** If you have the accelerated version of Trauma Recovery Cover, you can increase your Life Cover back to its original balance when your trauma claim comes out of your life insurance.
- **'We Pay Your Premiums'.** We'll pay your Trauma Recovery premiums for you if you're ill or injured and can't work in your usual job for more than 10 hours a week.
- **Needlestick.** If you work in the medical and emergency services industry, the Needlestick benefit helps ensure that you can protect yourself against financial implications of contracting Hepatitis B or C or HIV.
- **Free Kids Cover.** Make sure you fill out the Kids Cover section of your application to add \$50,000 of trauma insurance for each of your children (or grandchildren) at no extra cost. You can increase this amount up to \$200,000 for just \$1 per \$10,000, per month.

What are my payment options?

- **Level Premium Payments.** You can choose a Level premium payment option, meaning you lock in your payments so they don't increase with age – just like a fixed rate mortgage.
- **Stepped Premium Payments.** Stepped premiums start lower than Level premiums, but will increase each year based on your age at that time.

Talk to your adviser about how to get Asteron Life Trauma Recovery Cover.

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