



PHOENIX HEALTH FUND

53 Years & Going Strong!

The Newsletter of **Phoenix Health Fund Limited**

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Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
7.45 am to 4.30 p.m

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Message from the Manager

PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE ACT

The Private Health Insurance Act 2007 was enacted on 1st April 2007, with a number of changes that will enhance the value of products available for Phoenix members.

The changes include:

- the removal of Lifetime Health Cover (LHC) loadings for members who have held private health insurance and paid a loading for 10 years continuously;
- Medicare Australia advising people generally about LHC loading, particularly those approaching 30 years of age;
- Standard Information Statements. This allows a standardised basis for comparison of health insurance products. Phoenix Health Fund data is included. See www.privatehealth.gov.au.
- Broader Health Cover products; Phoenix Health Fund is currently in negotiations to extend existing hospital contracts, and completing agreements for certain treatments out-of-hospital.

This will make available treatment options to shorten hospital stays—and continue treatment outside hospital; programmes to prevent hospital admissions; and programmes to help in the management of a number of chronic diseases.

The introduction of uniform safety and quality criteria is being implemented in conjunction with the extended Broader Health Cover options, so that all privately insured services will be provided by an accredited facility and/or suitably qualified provider.

Note that importantly, these additional treatment alternatives will in all cases be at the option of the member, and only carried out in conjunction with the member's treating practitioner.

Secondly, it appears that there will be no additional cost to the fund, and thus the members, for these alternative, and additional treatment options.

Further information will be advised in *HealthLinks*, or directly to you.

Phoenix Health Fund Website: Member Registration

Members are urged to register via the Fund website—at www.phoenixhealthfund.com.au. You can:-

Sign up for secure access to a 'Members Only' area of the website, on application;

Enquire (once registered) on your own details, and submit alterations to those details, such as Addresses; 'Phone numbers; Bank Account details; Claims History (subject to Privacy constraints); Cover details, and adding New Persons on existing Memberships.

Prospective members can also submit Applications for Memberships, and lodge enquiries.

We will be trialling email advice of *HealthLinks* availability shortly.

William Beaton
MANAGER

HEALTHLINKS

Phoenix Health Fund



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PHOENIX HEALTH FUND WEBSITE

www.phoenixhealthfund.com.au :

- **Online Private Hospital Search.**
Also the Latest Listing of Contracted Private Hospitals;
 - **Travel Insurance—Online**, with payment by Credit Card (some restrictions);
 - **Access Gap Cover Doctors** who wish to be listed—via interactive lookup;
 - Quarterly Payment Options, including **BPay** and **Credit Card**;
 - Latest Listing of **Alternative Therapy Provider Associations**;
 - Copies of various **Fund forms**, including Claim Forms, Membership Application Forms, Rebate Application Forms, Direct Debit Forms;
 - Privacy Statements; Contribution Rates; General Information;
 - Recent *Healthlinks* newsletters;
- and view most information from the Fund Brochure.



Quick Bites



Retiring? Resigning from OneSteel? Company Mergers or Sales?

- Once you are a member of Phoenix Health Fund, you can stay as a member of the Fund! You may need to change the way you pay your Contributions, especially if moving away from employment, or changing employer.

Visit us on the website www.phoenixhealthfund.com.au,
or give us a call on *Freecall* 1800 02 8807 to discuss the options.

Dental Accounts

- Phoenix Health Fund is continually improving our internal systems, and shortly we will be requiring the provision of tooth numbers on dental accounts. This will help to avoid calls to providers on dental accounts, and improve the data quality held by us.
Note that providers using the HICAPS system have already been notified about this, and most have been providing this data for some time.

New Medicare Cards

- Let us know when you are issued with a new Medicare Card—this is required for our records so that you can continue to receive the 30%+ federal government rebate.

Change of Name

- You also need to let us know if you change your name—for whatever reason. Note that you will also need to fill out a revised Rebate Application Form. You can download a copy from our website, or call us.

Ancillary Claim Forms

- Please ensure that all details are filled out. Membership Number is important — this detail assists in speedy processing.
Also, by electing to have Benefits paid by Direct Credit, payment is received much quicker by you.
This can be to your Credit Union, Bank or Building Society account— just fill in the details each time.