

# Insurance that could save your life

*“Not because you’re going to die, but because you’re going to survive”*

- Dr. Marius Barnard, physician that developed the concept of Critical Illness insurance

Recovering from a critical illness can be a personal triumph and a financial disaster. Financial strain can result from the inability to continue working, medical costs not covered through provincial or personal medical insurance plans, or the financial setback to your retirement plans.

## Maintain your lifestyle

Critical Illness (CI) insurance is a type of insurance that can protect your financial health. It pays a lump-sum benefit upon the diagnosis of a critical illness, unlike traditional life insurance that pays a beneficiary upon death.

It was designed to help meet the high costs associated with serious illness, and to help maintain your lifestyle during and after recovery.

CI insurance originated in 1983 when a South African physician approached the insurance industry to create a product that would help take care of his patients’ financial issues so that they could concentrate on the most important thing – getting better.

Today, most CI policies cover patients for a dozen or more common types of illness.

## How It Works

Upon diagnosis of a critical illness, there is a brief waiting period. Once this expires, the policy pays out a lump-sum cash benefit. The choice of how to use the benefit is yours, and it is tax-free. Some of the most popular choices include:

- Taking advantage of special treatments, alternative therapies or immediate surgery which may only be available in other countries, such as the U.S.
- Making RRSP contributions that may have been foregone during the recovery process.
- Modifying your home or vehicle to meet any mobility requirements as a result of the illness.
- Continuing to fund your children’s present or future education needs.
- Allowing a spouse or family member to take a leave of absence from work.
- Reducing overall financial stress.



## Protect your financial health

A decade or two ago, the chances of surviving major illnesses such as a stroke, heart attack or cancer were significantly lower than they are today. Having a Critical Illness insurance plan can ensure that if you do fall ill, your medical concerns will not be compounded by financial ones.

A ScotiaMcLeod advisor has the knowledge, resources, and team of experts to help you determine the right coverage to protect your personal and financial health.

All insurance products are sold through ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services\* companies. ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services companies are the insurance subsidiaries of Scotia Capital Inc., a member of the Scotiabank Group. When discussing life insurance products, ScotiaMcLeod advisors are acting as Life Underwriters (Financial Security Advisors in Quebec) representing ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services.

\*ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services includes: ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services (Ontario) Inc., ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services (Quebec) Inc.,

This publication has been prepared by ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc.(SCI), a member of CIPF. This publication is intended as a general source of information and should not be considered as personal investment, tax or pension advice. We are not tax advisors and we recommend that individuals consult with their professional tax advisor before taking any action based upon the information found in this publication. This publication and all the information, opinions and conclusions contained in it are protected by copyright. This report may not be reproduced in whole or in part, or referred to in any manner whatsoever, nor may the information, opinions, and conclusions contained in it be referred to without in each case the prior express consent of SCI. Scotiabank Group refers to The Bank of Nova Scotia and its domestic subsidiaries. <sup>TM</sup> Trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

