

Medical Certificate



1. Before completing this certificate, see the back page for important information about pre-existing medical conditions.
2. Please complete all details that are relevant to you, read the declaration and sign all the relevant signature panels.
3. Email your completed certificate (Bupa membership in the subject field) pec@bupa.com.au or mail it to the address below.

SECTION 1: Your details - to be completed by member/patient

Membership number										Cover	
Surname	Mr/Mrs Miss/Ms								First name/s		
Patient's surname	Mr/Mrs Miss/Ms								First name/s		
Nature of ailment, illness or condition											

Claim details (where applicable)

Name of hospital											
Period of hospitalisation from		/	/		to		/	/		Number of days	

Patient authority

I authorise the hospital, or any other persons, organisations or authorities including medical practitioners and allied health professionals, with whom I consulted or were otherwise concerned with the management of the above ailment, illness or condition to provide Bupa with any personal and medical information relating to my medical history including medical records and hospital progress notes, and any other additional information as may be required for the purpose of considering this claim.

Patient's (or Guardian's if applicable) signature								Date	/	/
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SECTION 2: Certificate - to be completed by treating medical practitioner

1. How long have you been the treating medical practitioner for the above patient?	Years		Months		Weeks		Days	
2. How many times has the above patient consulted you for professional advice over the past twelve months?								
3. Did any of the consultations provided over the past twelve months exhibit signs or symptoms which could have been indicative of the patient's current condition?								
Yes		No		If Yes, please give details				

4. I certify that in my opinion								(Patient's full name)	first consulted me with signs or symptoms	
consistent with								(nature of current illness or condition)	on	/ / (date)
and in my professional opinion such signs and symptoms had been in evidence prior to this date for a period of		Years		Months		Weeks		Days		

5. Describe the nature of presenting symptoms										
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6. Has the patient ever suffered from an episode of similar symptoms (including similar symptoms of lesser severity) or has this diagnosis been made in the past?	Yes		No		If Yes, when?				
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7. Is the condition acute or chronic?										
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8. Final diagnosis of ailment, illness or condition(s) which determined reason for hospitalisation										
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9. Please add any other relevant information or comments										
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Medical practitioner's name								Qualifications		
Phone number								Fax number		
Are you primarily a (please select one)?	GP		specialist		surgeon					
Medical practitioner's signature								Date	/	/

The fee, if any, for the completion of the above certificate and any additional information is not chargeable to the Fund.

Mail to Bupa Pre-Existing Conditions Team Private and Confidential Reply Paid 990 ADELAIDE SA 5001



Pre-existing condition

A pre-existing condition is any condition, ailment or illness that you had signs or symptoms of during the six months before you joined or upgraded to a higher level of cover with us. It is not necessary that you or your doctor knew what your condition was or that the condition had been diagnosed.

If you knew you weren't well, or had signs of an condition that a doctor would have detected (if you had seen one) during the six months prior to joining or upgrading, then the condition would be classed as pre-existing.

A doctor appointed by us decides whether your condition is pre-existing, not you or your doctor. The appointed doctor must consider your treating doctors' opinions on the signs and symptoms of your condition, but is not bound to agree with them.

When to contact the fund

If you have less than 12 months membership on your current hospital cover, make sure you contact us **before** you are admitted to hospital and find out whether the pre-existing ailment waiting period applies to you.

We need about 5 working days to make the pre-existing ailment assessment, subject to the timely receipt of information from your treating medical practitioner(s).

Make sure you allow for this timeframe when you agree to a hospital admission date. If you proceed with the admission without confirming benefit entitlements and we (the health fund) subsequently determine your condition to be pre-existing, you will be required to pay all hospital charges and medical charges not covered by Medicare.

Emergency admissions

In an emergency, we may not have time to determine if you are affected by the pre-existing ailment rule before your admission. Consequently, if you have less than 12 months membership on your current hospital cover you might have to pay for some or all of the hospital and medical charges if:

- you are admitted to hospital and you choose to be treated as a private patient; and
- we later determine that your condition was pre-existing.

Privacy and your personal information

Your privacy is important to Bupa. This statement summarises how we handle your personal information. For further information about our information handling practices, please refer to our *Information Handling Policy*, available on our website or by calling us. When you join, you agree to the handling of your personal information as set out here and in our *Information Handling Policy*.

We will only collect personal information that we require to provide, manage and administer our products and services and to operate an efficient and sustainable business. We are required to collect certain information from you to comply with the *Private Health Insurance Act 2007* (Cth). We may also collect information about you from health service providers for the purposes of administering or verifying any claim, and from your employer, broker or agent if you are on a corporate health plan or have joined through a broker or agent. We may disclose your personal information to our related entities, and to third parties including healthcare providers, government and regulatory bodies, other private health insurers, and any persons or entities engaged by us or acting on our behalf. If you are on a corporate health plan, we may disclose your information to your employer to verify your eligibility to be on that corporate plan. The policy holder is responsible for ensuring that each person on their policy is aware that we handle their personal information as set out here and in our *Information Handling Policy*.

Each person on a policy aged 17 or over may complete a '*Keeping your personal information confidential*' form to specify who should receive information about their health claims. You are entitled to reasonable access to your personal information. We reserve the right to charge a fee for collating such information. If you or any insured person does not consent to the way we handle personal information, or does not provide us with the information we require, we may be unable to provide you with our products and services. We may use your personal (including health) information to contact you to advise you of health management programs, products and services. When you take out cover with us, you consent to us using your personal information to contact you (by phone, email, SMS or post) about products and services that may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to receive this information, you may opt out by contacting us.

