



# Secure STM

Short-term medical insurance  
for individuals and families

**Underwritten by Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York**, a member of The IHC Group. For more information about Standard Security Life and The IHC Group, visit [www.ihcgroup.com](http://www.ihcgroup.com). This plan is not considered to be Minimal Essential Coverage as defined by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). This product is administered by The Loomis Company.





**When circumstances leave you temporarily uninsured, short-term medical (STM) insurance helps protect you during coverage gaps.**

**Secure STM offers several benefit options that allow you to find the right answer for your specific coverage needs. Short-term medical provides limited duration insurance coverage for 30 to 90 days, which varies by state.**

### **Why STM insurance?**

STM insurance plans provide insurance coverage during life transitions. When you are between group insurance or individual major medical policies, STM insurance policies pay for covered medical expenses due to unexpected illnesses or injuries. Covered expenses include diagnostic physician visits, emergency room treatment, hospital stays, surgery, intensive care and more, but do not include maternity care or outpatient prescription drugs.

- **Affordable**

STM insurance policies are affordable. While STM contains limitations when compared to traditional major medical plans, the premium is generally lower. While ACA plans can only vary premiums based on geography, age, tobacco use and number of people covered (single vs. family plan), short-term plans can vary rates due to any number of factors, including health conditions.

- **Customizable**

Select from various benefit levels which best meet your insurance and premium needs. You can also add other coverage such as dental insurance or a discount prescription drug program.

- **Convenient**

Coverage can begin as early as the day following acceptance of your online application. In addition, policy forms and ID cards as well as claims information are available online.

### **An STM policy may be right for you if you:**

- Have missed the open enrollment period and aren't eligible for special enrollment under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Are waiting for your ACA coverage to start
- Are waiting for health insurance benefits to begin at a new job
- Are looking for coverage to bridge you to Medicare
- Are needing an alternative to COBRA
- Are under age 65

**STM policies provide flexible temporary coverage. It is also important that you understand what you're buying so you can make a fully informed choice for you and your family.**

## **STM policies are not ACA plans**

STM policies do not meet ACA standards. The ACA is a Federal law that requires all major medical plans to provide specific benefits and requires that most Americans have health plans that qualify as Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC). These rules do not apply to STM policies. Short-term medical insurance is a limited duration medical expense policy and is non-renewable. The amount of benefits provided depends on the plan selected and the premium will vary with the amount of benefits selected. STM is not a replacement for the comprehensive health insurance required under the ACA. This coverage has a pre-existing condition limitation exclusion.

## **Keep the following in mind as you plan for your needs and explore your options:**

- STM plans do not meet the Minimum Essential Coverage requirements under the ACA and may result in a tax penalty. STM plans are designed to provide temporary healthcare insurance during unexpected coverage gaps.
- The ACA-compliant medical plans are guaranteed issue, meaning you cannot be denied coverage based on your health history. STM plans are underwritten, which means you must answer a series of medical questions when applying for coverage. Based on your answers, you may be declined for coverage.
- Unlike the ACA plans, which are required to cover the 10 Essential Health Benefits (EHB), STM policies are not required to cover EHBs at the same benefit level as an ACA plan. Policies will vary in what they cover, so you should check your policy's details carefully.

## **Eligibility**

Secure STM is available to applicants age 18 through age 64, their spouse age 18 through age 64 and dependent children under the age of 26. Each applicant must qualify based on the plan's application questions and underwriting guidelines. Child-only coverage is available for children age 2 up to age 18.

## **Payments to suit your situation**

Secure STM plans offer a monthly premium payment using credit card or automatic bank withdrawal.

## **10-day right to return period**

If for any reason you are not satisfied with the policy, you may return it to us within 10-days after you receive it and you will be issued a refund. Your coverage issued under the policy will then be void, as though coverage had not been issued.

## **Utilize a network provider and save**

With your short-term medical plan, you have the freedom to choose any provider. In certain markets, you also have access to discounted medical services through national preferred provider organizations (PPOs). These network providers have agreed to negotiated prices for their services and supplies.

At the time of service, simply present your identification card, which will include the network information needed for the provider to correctly process covered billed charges. If this provider discount is not available, then benefits are paid at the usual, reasonable and customary charge.

## Plan selection

All benefits listed apply per covered person, per coverage period. Refer to the descriptions below the chart for additional benefit details. Premium may vary based on plan selected.

<p><b>Physician office visit copay</b></p> <p>After the copay, the balance of the doctor office visit charge is covered at 100 percent.</p> <p>Additional covered expenses incurred during the office visit, including expenses for laboratory and diagnostic tests will be subject to plan deductible and coinsurance.</p> <p>Based on your state of residence, you may be limited to a certain number of copays.</p>	<p><b>\$50 copay, not to exceed one visit per coverage period</b></p> <p>1 copay for every 30-90 days</p>
<p><b>Deductible</b></p> <p>The selected deductible maximum is an amount of money that must be paid by the covered person before coinsurance benefits begin.</p> <p>Family deductible maximum: When three covered persons in a family each satisfy their deductible, the deductibles for any remaining covered family members are considered satisfied for the remainder of the coverage period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$1,000</li><li>• \$2,500</li><li>• \$5,000</li></ul>
<p><b>Coinsurance percentage and out-of-pocket maximum</b></p> <p>After the deductible maximum amount has been met, you pay the selected coinsurance percentage of covered expenses until the out-of-pocket maximum amount has been reached.</p> <p>The out-of-pocket maximum amount is specific to expenses applied to the coinsurance percentage; it does not include covered expenses applied to the deductible, precertification penalty amounts, or expenses not covered under the policy.</p> <p>Once the deductible and out-of-pocket maximum amounts have been satisfied, additional covered expenses within the coverage period are paid at 100 percent, not to exceed the coverage period maximum benefit amount. Benefit-specific maximums may also apply.</p>	<p><b>20% coinsurance</b></p> <p>Out-of-pocket:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$2,000</li><li>\$3,000</li><li>\$4,000</li></ul> <p><b>30% coinsurance</b></p> <p>Out-of-pocket:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$3,000</li><li>\$4,500</li><li>\$6,000</li></ul> <p><b>50% coinsurance</b></p> <p>Out-of-pocket:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$5,000</li><li>\$7,500</li><li>\$10,000</li></ul>
<p><b>Coverage-period maximum benefit</b></p>	<p>\$2,000,000</p>

## Family deductible

When three covered persons in a family each satisfy their deductible, the deductibles for any remaining covered family members are deemed satisfied for the remainder of the coverage period.

## Covered expenses

All benefits are subject to the selected plan deductible and coinsurance. Covered expenses are limited by the usual, reasonable and customary charge as well as any benefit-specific maximum. If a benefit-specific maximum does not apply to the covered expense, benefits are limited by the coverage-period maximum. Benefits may vary by state.

Covered expenses include treatment, services and supplies for:

- Inpatient physician office visits
- X-ray exams, laboratory tests and analysis
- Mammography, Pap smear and prostate antigen test (covered at specific age intervals; not subject to deductible)
- Emergency room, outpatient facility or ambulatory surgical center charges
- Surgeon services in the hospital or ambulatory surgical center
- Services when a doctor administers anesthetics not to exceed 20 percent of the primary surgeon's covered charges
- Assistant surgeon and surgeon's assistant services not to exceed 20 percent of the primary surgeon's covered charges
- Ground ambulance services not to exceed \$500 per occurrence
- Air ambulance services not to exceed \$1,000 per occurrence
- Organ, tissue, or bone marrow transplants not to exceed \$150,000 per coverage period
- Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) not to exceed \$10,000 per coverage period
- Blood or blood plasma and their administration, if not replaced
- Oxygen, casts, non-dental splints, crutches, non-orthodontic braces, radiation and chemotherapy services and equipment rental

## Inpatient covered expenses

- Room and board, doctor visits and general nursing care not to exceed the most common average semi-private room rate
- Intensive care or specialized care unit not to exceed three times the average semi-private room rate
- Prescription drugs administered while hospital confined

## Precertification

Precertification is required prior to each inpatient confinement for injury or illness and outpatient chemotherapy or radiation treatment, at least seven days prior to receiving treatment. Emergency inpatient confinements must be pre-certified within 48 hours following the admission, or as soon as reasonably possible. Precertification may also be conducted for a continued stay review for an ongoing inpatient confinement. Benefits are not paid for days of inpatient confinement which extend beyond the number of days deemed medically necessary. Failure to complete precertification will result in a benefit reduction of 50 percent which would have otherwise been paid unless the covered person is incapacitated or unable to contact the administrator. Precertification is not a guarantee of benefits. Precertification is not required in some states.

## Hospital and confinement definitions

Hospital means an institution which is legally constituted and operated in accordance with the laws pertaining to Hospitals in the jurisdiction where it is located, which meets all of the following requirements:

- It is engaged primarily in providing medical care and treatment to sick and injured persons on an inpatient basis at the patient's expense;
- It provides 24-hour-a-day nursing service by a nurse;
- It is under the supervision of a staff of duly-licensed physicians;
- It provides organized facilities for diagnosis and for major operative surgery either on its premises or in facilities available on a prearranged basis; and
- Hospital does not mean primarily a clinic, nursing home, rest or convalescent home, extended care facility, hospice or similar establishment nor, other than incidentally, a place providing care for persons with mental illness or nervous disorders, the aged, or those suffering from alcoholism or drug addiction.

Confinement means the time in which a covered person is a registered bed patient in a hospital on the order of a physician for medically necessary medical treatment. Confinement in a special unit of a hospital used primarily as a nursing, rest, or convalescent home shall be deemed to be confinement in an institution other than a hospital.

## Pre-existing condition limitation and definition

A pre-existing condition is defined as any medical condition or sickness for which medical advice, care, diagnosis, treatment, consultation or medication was recommended or received from a doctor within five years\* immediately preceding the covered persons' effective date of coverage; or symptoms within the five years\* immediately prior to the coverage that would cause a reasonable person to seek diagnosis, care or treatment will not be a covered benefit. "Consultation" means evaluation, diagnosis, or medical advice was given with or without the necessity of a personal examination or visit.

\*Six months in ID, KY, MI, ND, NH, NM, OH, WA, WY; 12 months in CO, CT, IN, LA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NV, SD, VA; 24 months in FL, IL, UT; and 36 months in MT.

## Usual, reasonable and customary charge

The usual, reasonable and customary charge for medical services or supplies is the lesser of: a) the amount usually charged by the provider for the service or supply given; or b) the average charged for the service or supply in the locality in which it is received; (c) the reasonable charge made for the same service or supply in the same geographic area.

## Coverage termination

Coverage ends on the earliest of the date: the date the policy terminates; the date you become eligible for Medicare; the expiration date of your coverage; the premium is not paid when due, if such payment has not been made within 31 days following such premium due date; you become eligible for Medicare; you cease to be a member of the association<sup>1</sup>; the group master Policy terminates; you enter full-time active duty in the armed forces; or intentional fraud or material misrepresentation has been made in filing a claim for benefits; or the date of your death. A dependent's coverage ends on the earliest of the date: your coverage terminates; the dependent becomes eligible for Medicare; or the dependent ceases to be eligible.

## Renewability of coverage

STM is not renewable. In some states you are allowed to apply for another STM insurance plan. Your application is subject to eligibility, underwriting requirements and state availability of the coverage. The next coverage period is not a continuation of the previous period; it is a new plan with a new deductible, coinsurance and pre-existing condition limitation. Note that based on your state, you may be limited to two or three consecutive terms only.

<sup>1</sup>Applies only to states where association membership is required.

## Exclusions

The following is a partial list of services or charges not covered by Secure STM. Limitations and exclusions may vary by state. Please refer to the policy/certificate of insurance for a complete list and detailed information about the plan's limitations and exclusions.

- Expenses for the treatment of pre-existing conditions;
- Expenses incurred prior to the effective date of a covered person's coverage or incurred after the expiration date;
- Expenses that do not meet the definition of or are not specifically identified under the Policy as covered expenses;
- Expenses to treat complications resulting from treatment, drugs, supplies, devices, procedures or conditions which are not covered under the Policy or are experimental or investigational services or treatment;
- Expenses for purposes determined by Us to be educational;
- Amounts in excess of the usual and reasonable charges made for covered services or supplies or which you or your covered dependent are not required to pay;
- Expenses to the extent that they are paid or payable under another insurance or medical prepayment plan, Medicare-paid expenses or expenses for care in government institutions;
- Expenses paid under workers' compensation or an automobile insurance policy;
- Expenses incurred by a covered person while on active duty in the armed forces, expenses from war;
- Expenses incurred while engaging in an illegal act or occupation or during the commission, or the attempted commission, of a felony or assault;
- Expenses for the treatment of normal pregnancy or childbirth, except for complications of pregnancy and normal newborn care unless medically necessary due to sickness or injury;
- Expenses for voluntary termination of normal pregnancy or contraception; infertility treatments or sterilization;
- Expenses related to sex transformation or penile implants or sex dysfunction or inadequacies, physical exams, prophylactic treatment;
- Expenses for the treatment of mental illness or nervous disorders; alcoholism or drug addiction; expenses incurred for loss sustained or contracted in consequence of the covered person being intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic;
- Expenses incurred in connection with programs, treatment, or procedures for tobacco use cessation;
- Expenses resulting from suicide or attempted suicide;
- Expenses for dental treatment or temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ) of any kind except as specifically covered;
- Expenses for radial keratotomy; vision exams, eyeglasses or contact lenses, including the fitting of; treatment of cataracts;
- Routine hearing exams or hearing aids;
- Expenses for cosmetic or reconstructive procedures, services or supplies including breast reduction or augmentation or complications except as specifically covered;
- Outpatient prescriptions, unless shown as included in the Schedule of Benefits;
- Expenses incurred in connection with any drug or other item used to treat hair loss;
- Treatment of feet unless due to injury or illness;
- Expenses incurred in the treatment of acne, or varicose veins; weight loss programs or diets;
- Expenses for rest or recuperation cures or care in an extended care facility, convalescent nursing home, a facility providing rehabilitative treatment, skilled nursing facility, or home for the aged, whether or not part of a hospital; transportation expenses, except as specifically covered;
- Expenses for services or supplies for personal comfort or convenience;
- Expenses for services provided by immediate family;
- Expenses for sleeping disorders;
- Expenses incurred in the treatment of injury or sickness resulting from participation in skydiving, scuba diving, hang or ultralight gliding, riding an all-terrain vehicle such as a dirt bike, snowmobile or go-cart, racing with a motorcycle, boat or any form of aircraft, any participation in sports for pay or profit, or participation in rodeo contests; participating in interscholastic, intercollegiate or organized competitive sports;
- Expenses for the purchase of a noninvasive osteogenesis stimulator (bone stimulator);
- Expenses for services or supplies of a common household use; medical care, treatment, service or supplies received outside of the United States, Canada or its possessions;
- Expenses for spinal manipulation or adjustment; expenses for acupuncture;
- Expenses for marital counseling or social counseling; private duty nursing services;
- Expenses for the repair or maintenance of a wheelchair, hospital-type bed or similar durable medical equipment; orthotics, special shoes, spine and arch supports, heel wedges, sneakers or similar devices unless they are a permanent part of an orthopedic leg brace;
- Expenses incurred in connection with the voluntary taking of a poison or inhaling gas;
- Expenses incurred in connection with obesity treatment or weight reduction including all forms of intestinal and gastric bypass surgery, including the reversal of such surgery even if the covered person has other health conditions that might be helped by a reduction of obesity or weight;
- Expenses for replacement of artificial limbs or eyes; removal of breast implants; or expenses for a service or supply whose primary purpose is to provide a covered person with 1) training in the requirements of daily living; 2) instruction in scholastic skills such as reading and writing; 3) preparation for an occupation; 4) treatment of learning disabilities, developmental delays or dyslexia; or 5) development beyond a point where function has been demonstrably restored.

This coverage is not required to comply with certain federal market requirements for health insurance, principally those contained in the Affordable Care Act. Be sure to check your policy carefully to make sure you are aware of any exclusions or limitations regarding coverage of pre-existing conditions or health benefits (such as hospitalization, emergency services, maternity care, preventive care, prescription drugs, and mental health and substance use disorder services). Your policy might also have lifetime and/or annual dollar limits on health benefits. If this coverage expires or you lose eligibility for this coverage, you might have to wait until an open enrollment period to get other health insurance coverage. Also, this coverage is not "minimum essential coverage." If you don't have minimum essential coverage for any month in 2018, you may have to make a payment when you file your tax return unless you qualify for an exemption from the requirement that you have health coverage for that month.

Short-term medical expense coverage under the Secure STM plan is not available in all states. This brochure provides a very brief description of the important features of the Secure STM plan. This brochure is not a policy and only the actual policy provisions will control. The policy itself sets forth in detail the rights and obligations of both the policyholder and the insurance company. It is, therefore, important that you READ THE POLICY CAREFULLY. In the states of ID, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NV and SD coverage is offered under an Individual Short-Term Medical Expense Insurance Policy Form No. SSL-ISTM-1104. The policy form number will vary based on the state in which it is issued. In other states, short-term medical expense coverage is available to members of Communicating for America, Inc. (CA), the Group Policyholder and is issued in the District of Columbia under Group Policy Form SSL-STMP-1104. Coverage is offered under a group Certificate of Insurance, Form No. SSL-STM-1104. CA is a national, non-profit 501(c)3 association headquartered in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, with an office in Washington, D.C., that has been providing valued member benefits and savings since 1972. Your enrollment as a member of CA is completed upon receipt of the association dues. CA is not affiliated with Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York, nor is it part of the insurance coverage.

### **About The Loomis Company**

The Loomis Company (Loomis), founded in 1955, has been a leading Third Party Administrator (TPA) since 1978. Loomis has strategically invested in industry leading ERP platforms, and partnered with well-respected companies to enhance and grow product offerings. Loomis supports a wide spectrum of clients from self-funded municipalities, school districts and employer groups, to large fully insured health plans who operate on and off state and federal marketplaces. Through innovation and a progressive business model, Loomis is able to fully support and interface with its clients and carriers to drive maximum efficiencies required in the ever evolving healthcare environment.

### **About Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York**

Standard Security Life was founded in 1958, and is domiciled in the State of New York and headquartered in New York City. It is licensed in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Standard Security Life provides various lines of life, health and disability insurance, including: employer medical stop-loss, disability benefit law (DBL), short-term medical, group major medical, individual and group dental and vision, individual accident and health insurance, group term life, specialty programs designed for volunteer emergency service personnel, including group life insurance and service awards programs. Standard Security Life is rated A- (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company, Inc., a widely recognized rating agency that rates insurance companies on their relative financial strength and ability to meet policyholder obligations (an A++ rating from A.M. Best is its highest rating).

### **About The IHC Group**

Independence Holding Company (NYSE:IHC), formed in 1980, is a holding company that is principally engaged in underwriting, administering and/or distributing group and individual specialty benefit products, including disability, supplemental health, pet, and group life insurance through its subsidiaries (Independence Holding Company and its subsidiaries collectively referred to as "The IHC Group"). The IHC Group includes three insurance companies (Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York, Madison National Life Insurance Company, Inc. and Independence American Insurance Company), and IHC Specialty Benefits, Inc., a technology-driven full-service marketing and distribution company that focuses on small employer and individual consumer products through general agents, telebrokerage, advisor centers, private label arrangements, and through the following brands: [www.HealtheDeals.com](http://www.HealtheDeals.com); [Health eDeals Advisors](http://Health eDeals Advisors); [Aspira A Mas](http://Aspira A Mas); [www.PetPartners.com](http://www.PetPartners.com); and [www.PetPlace.com](http://www.PetPlace.com).

