

Guide To **Individual Underwriting** 

## About Equitable Life of Canada

Equitable Life® is proud to be one of Canada's largest mutual life insurance companies. We are owned by our participating policyholders, not shareholders. This allows us to focus on management strategies that foster prudent long-term growth, continuity and stability.

We are dedicated to meeting our commitments to our customers – to provide good value and meet their needs for insurance protection and wealth accumulation – now and in the future. That's why Canadians have turned to Equitable Life since 1920 to protect what matters most.

Equitable Life is a focused, stable and strong company. We have sufficient earnings and capital to meet our future growth targets, and we continue to grow steadily. Our growth in sales has been driven by our ability to implement our strategic plan, placing a priority on products, service and execution. Our financial success reflects our continued commitment to profitable growth and our ability to navigate a changing regulatory and economic environment.

Our mutual structure is a key element of our value proposition, along with our diversified product portfolio and superior service. As an organization we're progressive, competitive and firmly committed to serving the best interests of our policyholders, through longer-term strategies that foster ongoing stability, growth and profitability.

#### About this guide

This guide provides you with an overview of how common medical and non-medical conditions impact the underwriting on Equitable Life individual insurance products, through four categories of information:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Provides a basic background on each condition.	Details key elements affecting the underwriting decision.	Provides an indication of the likely underwriting decision for a specific condition and does not guarantee that an offer can be made. Actual decisions will be based on assessment of all sources of information as required for each applicant and his or her individual condition(s).	Details the information that may be obtained for medical conditions, such as an Attending Physician's Statement (APS), and provided by the applicant for non-medical conditions. If this information is not provided or is incomplete, subsequent reports may be required and may delay the underwriting decision.

Further to the information on medical and non-medical conditions, the guide also includes the Evidence of insurability schedule, Einancial underwriting guidelines, Recent immigrant and temporary resident guidelines, Preferred underwriting classifications, Smoking status information for each product, and information about Equitable Life's Stop Smoking Incentive Program.

# Guide to Individual Underwriting

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#### Helpful information to gather for all medical conditions

- Date of diagnosis
- 2. Age of applicant at date of diagnosis
- Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed
- Any time off work
- 5. Any hospitalizations
- Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment
- Date and results of last medical follow-up and/or medical tests
- Any pending tests or investigations
- 9. Current smoking status
- 10. Date and details of the last occurrence of symptoms/episodes/flare-ups

#### Importance of complete information

Providing complete information on your client's medical and non-medical conditions helps ensure an accurate assessment as quickly and efficiently as possible. Where questionnaires are required, they must be completed in full and signed by the applicant. Available questionnaires include:

- Drinking Habits
- Respiratory
- Climbing
- Scuba Diving
- Drug Use
- Aviation
- Foreign Travel
- Parachuting
- Nervous Disorders
- Motor Sports
- Financial

#### Underwriting decisions

Underwriting will either accept, decline or postpone a decision. If your client's application is:

- ACCEPTED, an offer of insurance is being made at either a standard or substandard risk classification. Sub-standard risk (sometimes referred to as a "special class" risk) can result in a rating that will increase the premiums by a multiple ranging from 150% to 350%.
- DECLINED, the applicant has been deemed uninsurable and no offer of insurance is being made.
- POSTPONED, an offer of insurance may be considered for the applicant at a future date.

#### **Questions?**

For more information, contact your Equitable Life Regional Sales Manager.

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Alcohol Use/Abuse  Considered as past or present consumption in excessive quantities, to the point of dependence, or risk of abuse and/or dependence.	Current age Amount of alcohol declared Any diagnosis of abuse or dependence How long abstinent or moderate consumption Any relapses Member of alcohol self-help group Treatment with medication	Ratings dependent on:	Required: Drinking Habits Questionnaire APS MVR Blood profile  Helpful: Details of any favourable aspects such as continued employment; attendance at self-help group; total abstinence; no relapses Details of related treatment in a hospital or rehabilitation facility Results of any testing related to liver function or cardiac disease Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Date and results of last medical follow-up
Alzheimer's Disease  Alzheimer's-type dementia is a disease of older people and prevalence increases with age. This disease leads to a severe loss of intellectual function. The dementia is severe and progressive. The earliest symptoms are a failure of memory, especially for recent events, and decreasing efficiency at work or home.		Present or suspected cases:  • Decline	
Anemia Iron deficiency Anemia is the most common type and is defined as a reduction in the red blood cells (RBCs) in the blood.  Anemia is sometimes due to blood loss, failure of the bone marrow to produce sufficient cells, or premature destruction of cells.	Type of Anemia Cause of the Anemia, if known Details of all testing done and any referrals to specialists (to include dates, names of tests and names of specialists seen) Blood test results Current and past treatment Type of medication previously and currently taking Any coexisting impairment	Ratings dependent on:  • Type  Range:  • Preferred, Preferred Plus; standard to decline  Iron Deficiency Anemia, fully investigated and no underlying conditions:  • Usually standard  Anaplastic Anemia:  • Usually decline  Hemolytic Anemia:  • Standard to 200%	Helpful:  Type and cause of Anemia Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Details of ongoing surveillance of the condition, e.g. blood tests Date and results of last medical follow-up

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Aneurysm Disorders of the aorta include bulges (aneurysms) in weak areas of its walls and separation of the layers of its wall (dissection). These disorders can be immediately fatal, but they usually take years to develop. Aneurysms may also develop in other arteries.	Type and location of aneurysm Date occurred Cause of the aneurysm Size and stability of the aneurysm Present condition Blood pressure control Any history of smoking Any current treatment	Six months after surgery:  Considered on an individual basis  Small Abdominal Aneurysm with no surgery; small and maintained for last three years (or since diagnosis if shorter); stable with regular follow-up:  150 – 200%  Large Abdominal Aneurysm with no surgery:  Decline  Abdominal Aneurysm with surgery, minimum of six months post:  150 – 250%  Small Cerebral Aneurysm with no surgery, minimum of six months post diagnosis:  Rating determined based on history of aneurysm  Large Cerebral Aneurysm, no surgery:  Decline  Cerebral Aneurysm with surgery (six months to two years post):  Typically substandard rating, if no complications may be considered standard  Thoracic Aneurysm:  Typically declined	Required: APS Paramedical  Helpful: Type, cause and size of the Aneurysm Date of diagnosis Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Details of ongoing surveillance tests Details of lifestyle modifications Details on past and present smoking habits Details of lipid and blood pressure control Date and results of last medical follow-up
Angina Pectoris  Angina, also called Angina Pectoris, is temporary chest pain or a sensation of pressure that occurs while the heart muscle is not receiving enough oxygen.	Refer to Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)	Postpone until six months after initial treatment; then submit trial application.	

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Anxiety Anxiety disorders involve a state of distressing, chronic but fluctuating nervousness that is inappropriately severe for the person's circumstances.	Current severity of the condition Current treatment Medications and dosage prescribed Diagnosis of an acute or chronic case of Anxiety Number of episodes Any coexisting psychiatric or medical conditions (Depression, Stress, etc.) Any history of substance abuse	Ratings dependent on:  Severity Frequency  Mild: Standard (one episode), to 150% (more than one episode)  Moderate: Standard to 150% (one episode), 150% to 200% (more than one episode)  Severe:  150% and up (one episode) to 200% and up (more than one episode)	Requirements:  Nervous Disorder Questionnaire  Helpful:  Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment  Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, and compliance  Impact of Anxiety on lifestyle and daily activities  Frequency of symptoms  Details of time off work due to this condition  Past psychiatric history, including admissions to hospitals/clinics for any psychiatric condition  Details of any counselling including dates and duration  Details of coexisting medical factors  Date and results of last medical follow-up
Apnea/Sleep Apnea/ Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) Sleep Apnea is a serious disorder in which breathing repeatedly stops long enough to disrupt sleep and temporarily decrease the amount of oxygen and increase the amount of carbon dioxide in the blood.	<ul> <li>Age of applicant</li> <li>Type of Apnea (obstructive, mixed or central)</li> <li>Current severity of the condition</li> <li>Treatment prescribed</li> <li>Compliance with the prescribed treatment</li> <li>Date of the last sleep study</li> <li>Height and weight of the applicant</li> <li>Any coexisting medical condition (Hypertension, Arrhythmia, etc.)</li> <li>Any history of smoking</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on: Severity Treatment Age  Mild, no present complications: Standard  Moderate, no present complications treatment: 150 to 175%  No ongoing treatment: Age 64 and younger: 175% to decline Age 65 and older: 150% to decline  Severe, ongoing treatment: 150% to decline  Severe, no ongoing treatment: Decline	Requirements:  • Likely APS  Helpful:  • Dates and results of all sleep studies  • Type and severity of the Apnea  • Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, and compliance  • Lifestyle modifications prescribed (current and previous)  • Details of time off work due to this condition  • Smoking status, past and present  • Date and results of last medical follow-up
Arteriosclerosis  Arteriosclerosis is a condition in which patchy deposits of fatty material develop in the walls of medium-sized and large arteries, leading to reduced or blocked blood flow.	Refer to:  Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)  Stroke Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)	Postpone until six months after initial treatment; then submit trial application.	

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Arthritis, Rheumatoid Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammatory arthritis in which joints, usually including those of the hands and feet, are inflamed, resulting in swelling, pain, and often destruction of joints.	<ul> <li>Current severity, duration and joints affected</li> <li>Current treatment, medication or any surgery</li> <li>Any hospital visits or time off from work</li> <li>Age at onset</li> <li>Any current complications</li> <li>Any coexisting conditions</li> <li>Level of functioning, including activities of daily living, mobility</li> <li>Current job duties</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Severity Treatment  Mild to moderate: Standard to 175%  Severe: 200% and up  Rapidly progressive or highly disabling: Decline	Helpful:  Date of diagnosis Symptoms experienced Since diagnosis have the symptoms become more or less severe, or stayed the same? Dates, reason and results of related hospitalizations or emergency room visits Dates of related time off work Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Compliance with the above Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Date and results of last medical follow-up
Asthma is a condition in which the airways narrow – usually reversibly – in response to certain stimuli.	<ul> <li>Current age</li> <li>Date Asthma was diagnosed</li> <li>Severity of Asthma symptoms</li> <li>Frequency of symptoms and times they occur</li> <li>Details of medications and dosages prescribed</li> <li>Hospital visits due to this condition</li> <li>Compliance with prescribed treatment and medication</li> <li>Limitations to activities of daily living</li> <li>History of smoking</li> <li>Coexisting impairments, such as COPD, Psychiatric diseases, Alcohol Use/Abuse, Coronary Artery Disease, etc.</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age Severity Frequency Smoking status  Age 6 – 75, mild or intermittent: Standard to 150%  Age 6 – 75, moderate: 150% to 200%  Age 6 – 75, severe: 200 to 250%  Over age 75, mild intermittent or mild persistent: Usually standard  Over age 75, moderate: Usually decline  Note: Smoking with Asthma may increase ratings.	Required: Respiratory Questionnaire  Helpful: Date of diagnosis Symptoms Increasing frequency or severity of symptoms since diagnosis Dates, reason and results of related hospitalizations or emergency room visits Dates of related time off work Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Compliance with the above Lifestyle modifications requirements or recommendations (e.g. smoking cessation) Results of all Pulmonary Function Tests Description of current activity level Family history of severe respiratory disease Smoking status Date and results of last medical follow-up

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Atrial Fibrillation /Atrial Flutter Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter are very fast electrical discharge patterns that make the atria contract very rapidly, with some of the electrical impulses reaching the ventricles and causing them to contract faster and less efficiently than normal.	Current Age Date Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter was diagnosed, and the age of client when condition first began Number of times this occurs Type of investigations/treatment Any coexisting conditions/heart disease Chronic or paroxysmal	Ratings dependent on:  Age Severity Frequency  Condition recently found: Postpone or decline  Good control – less than four attacks per year, no underlying conditions, age 60 and under: Standard to 150%  Good control – less than four attacks per year, no underlying conditions, over age 60: 150 – 175%  Chronic condition requiring treatment, age 60 and under: 150 – 200%  Chronic condition requiring treatment, over age 60: 200 – 250%	Requirements: APS  Helpful: Age at diagnosis Symptoms experienced Frequency and severity of symptoms Tests conducted Family history of Coronary Artery Disease, valvular disease, or stroke Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed Compliance with the above Modifications to lifestyle or daily activities Date and results of last medical follow-up
Bariatric Surgery  Bariatric surgery alters the stomach, intestine, or both to produce weight loss. Bariatric Surgery is sometimes referred to as Stomach Stapling.	Weight before surgery     Reason for surgery     (restrictive or     malabsorptive)     Any other conditions     (such as diabetes,     hypertension, heart     disease)     Any complication during     or after the surgery     Weight loss after     surgery	Ratings dependent on:  Type of surgery Severity Treatment Weight pre and post treatment  Restrictive Surgery up to three years post: 150% – 175%  Malabsorptive surgery less than one year post: Postpone One to five years post: 200%  More than five years post: Standard to 150%  Either surgery, more than 10 years post, stable weight, no complications: Standard	Required:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Barrett's Esophagus Barrett's esophagus is a metaplastic change of the mucosal cells lining the lower esophagus due to injury, often caused by chronic reflux of stomach acid into the esophagus.	<ul> <li>Current age</li> <li>Testing completed (endoscopy, biopsy)</li> <li>Current condition</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on: • Severity • Treatment	Required:  APS  Helpful:  Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment  Date and results of last medical follow-up or tests
Blood Pressure	• Refer to Hypertension		
Bypass Surgery	Refer to Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)	Postpone until six months after initial treatment.	
Cancer: Basal Cell Carcinoma Basal cell carcinoma is a cancer that originates in cells of the outer layer of skin (epidermis). It very rarely spreads.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type of cancer and staging</li> <li>Type of treatment and date completed</li> <li>Any recurrence or secondary cancer</li> <li>Any serious complications from treatment</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Number of occurrences  Severity  Initial occurrence:  Typically standard provided it was excised completely and without recurrence  Recurrences:  Dependent on severity	Helpful:  Date of diagnosis  Date of removal or treatment History of other skin lesions  Date and results of last medical follow-up

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Cancer: Breast  Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women after skin cancer and, of cancers, is the second most common cause of death among women after lung cancer.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type of cancer and staging</li> <li>Type of treatment and date completed</li> <li>Any recurrence or secondary cancer</li> <li>Any serious complications from treatment</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age at diagnosis Staging of the disease Prescribed treatment  Trial applications suggested.  Carcinoma in situ (non invasive) has lower ratings and can be considered after treatment is complete.  All other types and staging: Postpone for two years or more	Required: APS  Helpful: Date of diagnosis Type and stage of breast cancer Any node involvement? Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Date and results of last medical follow-up
Cancer: Leukemia  Leukemias are malignant cancers of blood cells which can be chronic or acute.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type of leukemia and staging</li> <li>Type of treatment and date completed</li> <li>Any recurrence or secondary cancer</li> <li>Any serious complications from treatment</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  • Type  • Staging  A preliminary inquiry may be warranted to determine if we can accept an application.	Requirements: APS  Helpful: Date of diagnosis Type and stage of leukemia Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Date and results of last medical follow-up
Cancer: Lung Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in both men and women. It occurs most commonly between the ages of 45 and 70. There is a strong association between lung cancer and smoking.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type and stage of lung cancer</li> <li>Type of treatment</li> <li>Any recurrence or spread to other organs</li> <li>Any serious complications from treatment</li> </ul>	Applications considered if:  All treatment is completed Applicant does not smoke No recurrence  Trial applications suggested.  Low-grade cancers with: Negative nodes are considered following postponement of three months Positive nodes are considered following postponement of five years  Any form of metastasis: Decline	Required:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Cancer: Prostate Prostate cancer is the most common cancer found in males and one of the most common causes of cancer death.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Pathology including stage and Gleason grade</li> <li>Type of treatment</li> <li>Any recurrence or metastasis</li> <li>Any serious complications from treatment</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Type Staging Gleason score  Low Grade Prostatic Intraepithelial Neoplasia (PIN): Standard  Applicants under age 50: Decline  Applicants within one year of diagnosis: Postpone	Required:  APS PSA Test  Helpful: Date of diagnosis Type, stage and pathology of the cancer Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Date and results of last medical follow-up
Cancer: Skin, Borderline Malignancy This includes basal cell carcinoma, dysplastic nevus, lentigo maligna.	<ul> <li>Number and type of lesions</li> <li>No invasion into other tissue</li> <li>Type and date of treatment</li> <li>Any recurrence</li> <li>Any ongoing risk factors</li> <li>Family history of skin cancer</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age  Number of lesions  Type  Prescribed treatment  Range:  Standard (fewer than 10 lesions) to decline (more than 10 lesions)	Required:
Cancer: Skin, Malignant The most serious of all skin cancers is malignant melanoma. Older and fair skinned people are the most at risk.	<ul> <li>Type of skin cancer</li> <li>Pathology including depth and thickness of the tumour</li> <li>Type and date treatment was completed</li> <li>Any recurrence</li> <li>Any ongoing risk factors</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Type Depth and thickness of tumour Treatment Date of treatment Pathology report (required for tentative ratings) Within one year of diagnosis or treatment: Postpone	Required:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Cancer: Thyroid  Cancer of the thyroid is common among women and is treatable with a good success rate.	Type of thyroid cancer (papillary, follicular etc.) Pathology Type of treatment Age of applicant Response to treatment or any complications	Ratings dependent on:  Age at diagnosis  Type Staging  Within five years of treatment: Standard to decline  Five years post treatment: Standard in most cases	Required: APS  Helpful: Pathology report Type and stage of the cancer Recovery status Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Details of any complications Date and results of last medical follow-up
Congenital Heart Disease  A number of varieties of malformations of the heart. All vary significantly in severity and treatment.	Based on the number of congenital heart problems to be considered. An email inquiry to indnewbus@equitable.ca with details of the heart disease and any related treatments or surgery is recommended.		Helpful:  Type of congenital disorder  Details of any surgery, treatment or medications
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)  Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is persistent obstruction of the airways occurring with emphysema, chronic bronchitis, or both disorders. It can be progressive and deteriorating.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Smoking history and current smoking status</li> <li>Severity of symptoms</li> <li>Treatment</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Severity Age Smoking status (current and within the last year) Additional health risks including CAD, Bronchitis, Emphysema  Range: Standard to decline  Mild: Standard to 150%  Moderate: 175% to 250%  Severe: Decline	Required:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)  Coronary artery disease is a condition in which the blood supply to the heart muscle is partially or completely blocked.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Severity, number of vessels involved</li> <li>Any residual problems, current status</li> <li>Treatment, surgery, medications</li> <li>Smoking Status</li> <li>Co-morbid factors, e.g. Hypertension, Diabetes</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age (higher ratings for younger applicants) Severity of disease  Within six months of diagnosis: Not considered  Under age 40: Likely decline  Range: 200% to decline, but lower ratings and even Standard are possible	Required:  APS  Helpful:  Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment  Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates  Impact on activities and lifestyle  Date and results of last cardiac consultation
Crohn's Disease  A chronic inflammatory disease that can affect any part of the GI tract. It can include ulceration and/or malabsorption problems.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Severity of the last episode</li> <li>Any hospitalizations or surgery</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age (higher ratings for younger applicants)  Severity of disease  Range:  Standard (for remission over five years), to decline	Required: APS  Helpful: Weight stability Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and related treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Details and results of related surgeries Date of and results of last colonoscopy and/or medical follow-up
Depression  Depression is a feeling of sadness intense enough to interfere with functioning. It may follow a recent loss or other sad event but is out of proportion to that event and lasts beyond an appropriate length of time.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Severity</li> <li>Any hospital treatment, or treatment in any other medical facility</li> <li>Any suicide attempt or suicidal thoughts</li> <li>Type of treatment including number and type of medication(s)</li> <li>Any loss of work</li> <li>Illegal drug use</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age Current status and severity of the depression Cause of the depression e.g. situational Lifestyle Support system Loss of work  Range: Standard (for good control of symptoms) to decline  Favourable factors: No missed work or hospitalizations within the last five years No social drug use No suicide attempts or thoughts Good follow-up with medical professionals Good response to treatment	Required:  Nervous Disorder Questionnaire  APS  Helpful:  Type and cause of the Depression  Date of diagnosis  Frequency of episodes  Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment  Medications, dosages and other treatments prescribed, with start and end dates  Impact on activities and lifestyle  Personal assessment of current control of symptoms, with or without medication  Date and results of last follow-up

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Diabetes Diabetes is a metabolic disorder caused by inadequate production or use of Insulin.  Type 1 Diabetes (IDMM) requires insulin and is generally diagnosed at a young age.  Type 2 Diabetes (NIDDM) is generally diagnosed later in life and is also referred to as Adult onset diabetes. Treatment is either oral medication or it can be controlled by diet and exercise.  Gestational diabetes occurs during pregnancy.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type of Diabetes</li> <li>Degree of control</li> <li>Any other health risks e.g. Hypertension, build, smoking status</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Current age Age at diagnosis Type of Diabetes Degree of control Any other health risks e.g. Hypertension, build, smoking status  Range: Standard to decline	Required:
Emphysema	Refer to Chronic     Obstructive Pulmonary     Disease (COPD)		
Epilepsy/Seizures  Epilepsy is a broad term for a number of types of seizure disorders. Partial (Focal) Seizures, Generalized Epilepsy, generalized seizures.	Cause and type of seizures Degree of control with or without medication Current age Age at diagnosis Frequency of seizures Date of last seizure Compliance with prescribed medications, dosages and related treatments	Ratings dependent on:  Current age Age at diagnosis Type and frequency of seizures  Range: Standard to decline  No seizures for seven years: Considered for standard rates	Required: Possible APS  Helpful: Precise diagnosis e.g. absence seizure (petit mal), atonic seizures (drop attacks), myoclonic seizures, tonic-clonic seizures (grand mal), simple partial seizures, complex partial seizures (psychomotor) Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and other treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Time off from work due this condition Impact on activities and lifestyle Date and results of last medical follow-up
Family History  Any family history of Polycystic Kidney Disease, Huntington's Disease, Motor Neuron Disease, colon and breast cancer in first degree relatives (including children) can be recognized as a concern for underwriting purposes.	<ul> <li>Type of disease</li> <li>Age at onset of family members</li> <li>Multiple family members with this disease</li> </ul>	Family history relating to breast cancer, colon cancer, Huntington's disease, Motor Neuron Disease, or Polycystic Disease are of concern and further evidence may be required.	Required:  Completion of entire Family History section of the application, including type of disease, relation to applicant and age at onset Results of any screening for colon or breast cancer

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Hepatitis  Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver, occurs as both acute and chronic hepatitis. Acute hepatitis is a result of viral infection, including hepatitis A, B, C and E, or damage by drugs or toxins such as alcohol.	<ul> <li>Type of Hepatitis and date of diagnosis</li> <li>Current status including any recent or ongoing infection</li> <li>Any damage to liver or other organs</li> <li>Current treatment and history of treatment/liver biopsy</li> <li>History of any intravenous drug use</li> </ul>	History of Hepatitis A:  Standard  Hepatitis B carrier status with no current infection and normal blood profile:  Standard to 175%. Unable to consider infants and children.  Current infection: Postpone to decline  Hepatitis C: Considered if asymptomatic and current health is excellent.  Hepatitis B and C co-infection: Decline  Evidence of liver damage: Likely decline	Required:  Blood profile with current Hepatitis screening, except for a history of Hepatitis A  Possible APS  Helpful:  Type of Hepatitis and if carrier status only  How it was contracted  Any liver testing including ultrasound, CT scan, liver biopsy, with dates and results  Date and results of last medical follow-up
Hypertension Hypertension is considered a sustained elevation in blood pressure (BP) above the level considered acceptable for the individual's age and gender.	<ul> <li>Current age and age at onset</li> <li>Type of treatment</li> <li>Any other cardiac risk factors</li> <li>Current blood pressure readings</li> <li>Family history of cardiac disease</li> <li>Build</li> <li>Smoking status</li> </ul>	Generally standard for blood pressure readings with values in the normal range and no co-morbid factors.	Required: Paramedical  Helpful: Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment  Medications, dosages and other treatments prescribed, with start and end dates  Compliance with the above  Date and results of last cardiac consult if applicable, or last medical follow-up
Illegal Drugs and Marijuana Including any current or past history of Cocaine, Heroin, Ecstasy, Amphetamines or Barbiturates and any addiction to Percocet, Oxycontin or Oxycocet.	Type and amount of current drug use History of drug use with date of last use Occupation Family history of drug use History of depression History of criminal behaviour Age Motor Vehicle Report (MVR)	Current use of drugs other than occasional use of Marijuana:  • Decline  Prior use of Ecstasy or Cocaine and occasional use of Marijuana:  • Decline  Daily use of Marijuana:  • Standard to 150%  Occasional use of Marijuana:  • May be considered for Standard Non-Smoker rates  Marijuana use up to two times weekly:  • May be considered for Standard Non-Smoker rates  • May be considered for Standard rates on an individual basis	Required: Drug Use Questionnaire APS  Helpful: Details of current and past drug use and treatments with dates Details of drug- related hospitalizations or emergency room visits Details of drug related charges History of depression, suicidal thoughts or attempts Date and results of last medical follow-up

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Myocardial Infarction/MI/Heart Attack/Coronary Thrombosis  Permanent damage of a portion of the heart muscle due to inadequate oxygen supply and coronary blood flow.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Severity of the attack/disease and how many vessels involved</li> <li>Type of treatment</li> <li>Medications and dosages prescribed</li> <li>Smoking status</li> <li>Extent of any residual effects or permanent damage</li> <li>Any additional health risks</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age at onset Cause Severity  Trial application suggested.  Within six months of episode/attack including date of treatment: Not considered  Unfavourable factors: Smoking status Co-morbid factors Recent episodes Younger applicants (age 40 and under, likely decline)	Required:
Older Age Applicants  Applicants age 65 and older may require some additional underwriting specific to their age.	<ul> <li>Current age</li> <li>Employment status</li> <li>Smoking status with regard to any health risks</li> <li>Family support</li> <li>History of falls/accidents</li> <li>Use and type medication(s)</li> <li>Regularity of medical check-ups</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Applicant's health and lifestyle  Any adverse health risks	Required:  Age and amount requirements as per plan and face amount Possible APS  Helpful: Frequency of activity Frequency of medical check-ups Date and results of last medical check-up
Seizures	Refer to Epilepsy/Seizures		
Stroke  A stroke is an interruption of the blood supply to any part of the brain causing permanent damage. It can be caused by a haemorrhage, vascular event, or thrombosis.	<ul> <li>Current age and age at onset</li> <li>Number of events/episodes</li> <li>Type of treatment/medication</li> <li>Smoking status</li> <li>Extent of any residual affect or neurological deficit</li> <li>Any additional health risks</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age at onset  Cause  Type  Within one year of episode of stroke:  Postpone  Unfavourable factors:  Younger applicants  Recent episodes  Smoking status  Other health risks e.g. Diabetes, Hypertension	Required:

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)  A TIA is an episode of neurological dysfunction that lasts no more than 24 hours and has no residual or permanent damage.	<ul> <li>Age at diagnosis and current age</li> <li>Type of treatment</li> <li>Medications and dosages prescribed</li> <li>Number of episodes</li> <li>Smoking status</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age Date of attack(s) Smoking status  Within six months of attack: Postpone  Unfavourable factors: Other health risks e.g. Diabetes, Hypertension	Required: APS  Helpful: Date and number of attacks Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and other treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Details of related hospitalizations or emergency room visits Time off from work related to this condition Impact on activities and lifestyle Date and results of last medical follow-up
Ulcerative Colitis  Ulcerative colitis is a chronic disease in which the large intestine becomes inflamed and ulcerated.	<ul> <li>Current age</li> <li>Severity of symptoms and disease</li> <li>Date of last flare-up</li> <li>Medications and dosages prescribed</li> <li>Hospitalizations or emergency room visits</li> <li>Weight stability or weight loss</li> <li>Medical complications or other health risks</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:      Current age     Age at diagnosis     Severity of disease  Range:     Standard to decline  Unfavourable factors:     Younger applicants will have higher ratings  Within six months of surgery, flare-up or diagnosis:     Postpone	Required: APS  Helpful: Colonoscopy screening results with dates Contact information including full name, address and telephone numbers for medical professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment Medications, dosages and other treatments prescribed, with start and end dates Compliance with the above Date of last episode or flare-up Date and results of last medical follow-up

#### **Build Charts - Adults**

This chart provides guidelines for ratings based on build. It applies to all adults regardless of their age or gender. Minor variations may apply.

Example: If you are 5'6" tall and weigh 250 pounds you would be rated 200% for build.

Rating									
	150%	175%	200%	225%	250%	275%	300%	325%	350%
Height (ft/in)				٧	Veight (lb	s)			
4'10"	179	185	192	199	207	214	220	224	229
4'11"	186	193	200	208	215	222	229	233	239
5'0"	191	199	205	213	221	228	235	240	245
5'1"	199	206	214	222	230	237	244	249	255
5'2"	204	211	219	227	236	244	250	256	261
5'3"	212	219	228	236	245	253	260	266	271
5'4"	220	227	236	245	254	263	270	277	282
5'5"	226	233	242	251	260	269	277	283	289
5'6"	234	242	251	260	270	279	287	293	299
5'7"	239	247	257	266	276	286	294	300	306
5'8"	248	256	266	276	286	296	304	311	317
5'9"	254	262	272	282	292	303	311	318	325
5'10"	262	271	282	292	303	313	322	329	336
5'11"	268	277	288	299	309	320	329	336	343
6'0"	277	287	298	309	320	331	340	347	355
6'1"	283	293	304	315	327	338	348	355	363
6'2"	293	302	314	326	337	349	359	367	374
6'3"	302	312	324	336	348	360	370	378	387
6'4"	308	319	331	343	356	368	378	386	395
6'5"	318	329	341	354	367	379	390	399	407
6'6"	325	334	348	361	374	387	398	407	415

#### **Build Charts - Adults**

This chart provides guidelines for ratings based on build. It applies to all adults regardless of their age or gender. Minor variations may apply.

Example: If you are 168 cm tall and weigh 114 kgs, you would be rated 200% for build.

Rating									
	150%	175%	200%	225%	250%	275%	300%	325%	350%
Height (cm)				٧	Veight (kg	s)			
147	81	84	87	91	94	97	100	102	104
150	85	88	91	94	98	101	104	106	108
152	87	90	93	97	100	104	107	109	111
155	91	94	97	101	104	108	111	113	116
157	93	96	100	103	107	111	114	116	119
160	96	100	104	107	111	115	118	121	123
163	100	103	107	111	115	119	123	126	128
165	103	106	110	114	118	122	126	128	131
168	106	110	114	118	123	127	130	133	136
170	109	112	117	121	125	130	133	136	139
173	113	116	121	125	130	134	138	141	144
175	115	119	124	128	133	138	141	144	147
178	119	123	128	133	138	142	146	149	153
180	122	126	131	136	141	145	150	153	156
183	126	130	135	140	145	150	154	158	161
185	129	133	138	143	149	154	158	161	165
188	133	137	143	148	153	159	163	167	170
191	137	142	147	153	158	164	168	172	176
193	140	145	150	156	162	167	172	175	179
195	144	149	154	160	166	172	177	181	184
198	147	152	158	164	170	176	181	185	183

### **Non-Medical Risks**

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Aviation, Commercial These pilots include those participating or working in passenger and freight carriers within North America, crop dusting, bush pilots, charters, photography, flight instructors etc.	<ul> <li>Type of flying and hours in-flight</li> <li>Total hours as a pilot with special flying accreditations</li> <li>Type of aircraft flown and destinations</li> <li>Expected flight hours in next 12 – 24 months</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Type of specialized flying  Experience as a pilot including hours per year in flight  Range:  Standard rates up to \$10.00 extra per thousand  Unfavourable factors:  Any health risks  Note:  Special exclusion clauses generally not available	Required:  Aviation Questionnaire  Helpful:  Aviation license(s) held  Type and frequency of specialized flying  Total experience as pilot in logged hours per year  Any accidents?
Aviation, Private  These are non-professional pilots who generally fly for business and/or pleasure.	<ul> <li>Type of flying and hours in-flight</li> <li>Total hours as a pilot with special flying accreditations</li> <li>Type of aircraft flown and destinations</li> <li>Expected flight hours in next 12 – 24 months</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Age Flying experience (in hours)  Less than 100 hours logged or under age 26 or student pilots:  \$3.50 x five years (in most cases)  Over age 26, in excess of 100 hours logged, expected flying time in next 12 months under 200 hours:  Considered at Standard rates  Note:  Special exclusion clause may be available	Required:  Aviation Questionnaire  Helpful:  Aviation license(s) held  Type and frequency of specialized flying  Total experience as pilot in logged hours per year  Any accidents?
Aviation, Sport  This includes recreational flying/sports such as hang gliding, parasailing, ultralights, parachuting etc.	Current age Type of flying Flying destinations Amateur or professional status Medical and lifestyle history	Ratings dependent on:  Type of activity Frequency Destination  Email inquiry suggested.  Notes: Special exclusion clause may be available Ratings may vary according to participation	Required:  Aviation or Parachuting Questionnaire as applicable  Helpful:  Aviation license(s) held  Type and frequency of aviation sport  Total experience as a pilot in logged hours per year  Member of a specialized flying club?  Any accidents?  Type of aircraft including if home built

### **Non-Medical Risks**

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Climbing ncluding rock, mountain, ce/snow climbing.	Current age Type of terrain Location(s) and height Frequency of climbing Experience Medical and lifestyle history	Indoor rock climbing:  Standard  Rock/mountain climbing under 13,000 feet:  \$2.50 extra per thousand  Ice climbing under 13,000 feet:  \$3.50 extra per thousand  Extreme climbing over 23,000 feet:  Decline  Notes:  Special exclusion clause may be available  Ratings may vary according to participation	Required:  Climbing Questionnaire  Helpful: Frequency, average height and location of climbing Solo climber or with a group or instructor? Climb location
Driving	<ul> <li>Number and type of infractions</li> <li>Severity of the infraction</li> <li>Current age</li> <li>Age at time of the infraction</li> <li>Impaired driving charges</li> <li>Any driving suspensions?</li> </ul>	Ratings dependent on:  Current age Severity Number of infractions  Within six months of an impaired driving charge or completion of suspension: Not considered  Two or more impaired driving charges: Decline younger applicants Higher ratings	Required:  MVR plus applicable Questionnaires (e.g. Drug Use, Drinking Habits, etc.)  Helpful:  Type and validity of driver's license  Dates and details of infractions  Dates and details of any charges of driving while impaired  Penalties including fines and suspensions  Any outstanding fines?
Missionary Travel Individuals travelling outside of Canada for missionary, peacekeeping, government diplomacy, journalistic and foreign aid work.		Missionary travel:  Not insurable  Peacekeeping, government diplomacy, journalistic and foreign aid work:  Likely decline	

#### **Non-Medical Risks**

Condition Descriptions	Important Factors	Likely Decision	Underwriting Information Requirements
Motor Vehicle Racing  This includes ARCA, Drag Racing, Sprint Cars, Stock Cars, etc.	Current age Type of vehicle Type of fuel Frequency of racing Speed Type of course Medical and lifestyle history	Ratings dependent on:  Type of vehicle Type of fuel Speed  Stock cars, demolition derby and auto/moto-cross: Standard  Range for other types of racing: \$2.50 to \$10.00 extra per thousand	Required:  • Motor Sports Questionnaire  Helpful:  • Type of vehicle raced  • Type of fuel used  • Frequency of racing  • Amateur/recreational or professional status?  • Average and maximum speed achieved while racing
Scuba Diving	Current age Experience and certification Depth of dives Frequency and location(s) Participation in extra diving activities such as exploration of caves, wrecks etc. Medical and lifestyle history Any history of specialized diving Any history of drug or alcohol use/abuse	Ratings dependent on:  Depth Dive locations Type of dive  Recreational diving at resorts, open water, lakes with depths under 100 feet: Standard  Cave dives, wreck dives, search and rescue dives, depths over 100 feet: \$2.50 extra per thousand and up  Note: Special exclusion clause may be available	Required:  Scuba Diving Questionnaire  Helpful: Diving certification level Amateur/recreational or professional status? Average dive depth Frequency and location of dives

Exclusions are not available if the avocations are part of occupational duties.

#### **Other Guides**

Click on links below to access these other guides:

- Evidence of insurability schedule
- Financial underwriting guidelines
- Recent immigrant and temporary resident underwriting guidelines

# **Smoking Definition**

Equation Generation® IV, Equimax® and EquiLiving CI	To be considered a non-smoker, the insured must not have used any cigarettes, pipe or chewing tobacco, smoking cessation products, or tobacco substitutes within the past 12 months. Up to one cigar/cigarillo is permitted per month, subject to a negative cotinine level. Clients who use marijuana, whether inhaled or ingested, may qualify for non-smoker rates (Class 3).
Term Plans and Riders	Preferred underwriting is available for face amounts starting at \$2,000,000 for ages 18–50, and \$500,000 for ages 51–60. Preferred underwriting is not available for ages 61 and above.  (See Preferred Underwriting Classifications #1345 for details.)

#### **Stop Smoking Incentive Program**



#### **Equitable Life's Stop Smoking Incentive Program** is applicable to:

- Equation Generation IV
- Equimax
- Term Plans and Riders

#### The program is not available with:

- Equiliving
- Equiliving CI Riders

#### How it works

Should your client guit smoking for 12 consecutive months within the first two policy years, Equitable Life will refund the difference between what they paid as a smoker and what they would have paid as a non-smoker for a maximum one month period. Eligibility is subject to certain conditions including a negative cotinine level, and evidence of continued insurability.

Term clients may be eligible to move from a Class 4 Preferred Smoker or Class 5 Smoker to a Class 3 Non-Smoker.

#### **Questions?**

For more information, contact your Equitable Life Regional Sales Manager.

While Equitable Life has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information presented here, the policy contract governs in all cases.

# Works for me.®

Canadians have turned to Equitable Life since 1920 to protect what matters most. We work with your independent financial advisor to offer individual insurance and savings and retirement solutions that provide good value and meet your needs - now and in the future.

But we're not your typical financial services company. We have the knowledge, experience and ability to find solutions that work for you. We're friendly, caring and interested in helping. And we're owned by our participating policyholders, not shareholders. So we can focus on your interests and provide you with personalized service, security and wellbeing.

