

We're adding a Communicable Disease exclusion to your policy

When your policy renews, a new *Communicable Disease* exclusion will be added. We are adding this exclusion to your policy to ensure we can continue to be there to pay claims and remain sustainable in the long term.

Why are we adding this exclusion?

As your insurance provider, it's important we're there for you when you need us. Our reinsurance cover – which is insurance for insurance companies – is a core part of this. Reinsurance ensures we are able to provide cover if there's a large event like an earthquake or a major flood.

Reinsurance can be influenced by factors such as the financial impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Globally, reinsurers have reduced the cover they provide, resulting in reduced reinsurance cover being available to us. Because of this, we need to make a change to the insurance we provide.

What does this new exclusion mean for you?

If you have a claim, the new exclusion will affect a claim or portion of a claim that is related to communicable diseases. This includes diseases that are infectious or quarantinable, like coronaviruses, measles, or smallpox. For examples of how this may apply at claim time please visit vero.co.nz/exclusionfaqs.

If the exclusion applies to your claim, your claims consultant will discuss it with you. Vero remains committed to supporting customers in the event of any claim.

The exclusion that applies to your policy is below. You can review it in your updated policy wording at vero.co.nz/insurance-documents.

We're here to help

If you have any questions about this change, or about your policy, please call Vero on **0800 505 905** or email at veroenquiry@vero.co.nz. We're available from 8.30am–5pm Monday to Friday.

Communicable Disease Exclusion

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary within your insurance contract or any endorsement, this insurance excludes any *loss*, damage, interruption, legal liability, claim, cost, expense or other sum of whatsoever nature (including any increased or additional costs or expenses of a claim to which this exclusion does not otherwise apply) directly or indirectly arising out of, contributed to by, or in connection with:

- i. Communicable Disease; or
- ii. Fear or threat (whether actual or perceived) of Communicable Disease; or
- iii. Actions taken by any person, entity or public authority to respond to, control, prevent or suppress Communicable Disease;

regardless of any other cause or event contributing concurrently or in any other sequence thereto.

In this exclusion, 'Communicable Disease' means:

- i. Any disease (whether human, animal, plant or otherwise) which can be transmitted directly or indirectly from any organism to another organism by means of any substance or agent (including without limitation any virus, bacterium, parasite or other organism or any variation thereof, whether living or not); or
- ii. Any Infectious Disease or Quarantinable Disease as defined in or declared under the Health Act 1956.

A reference to the Health Act 1956 includes any amendment, replacement or successor legislation. A reference to Infectious Disease or Quarantinable Disease shall have the meaning found in any replacement definition or of any equivalent or substantially similar term defined in or declared under any amendment, replacement or successor legislation.