



'76% of HIV+ people cancel their insurance after diagnosis'

Unusual Risks the medical financial advisers have today published the results of their latest research into the insurance needs of HIV Positive people. They have recently established that 76%* of HIV+ people cancel an insurance contract following their diagnosis.

Their recent survey asked searching questions about the insurance needs of HIV+ people and in particular the terms and conditions around Life Assurance, Income Protection, Critical Illness and Private Medical Insurance that are directed towards the HIV community.

During the survey it was established that each person responding to the survey had on average surrendered or cancelled almost two financial products and it was also established that 50%* of respondents had surrendered their Life Assurance or Life Insurance plans, even though they were likely to have been covered for HIV.

Chris Morgan, Marketing Manager of Unusual Risks, Mortgage & Insurance Services www.unusualrisks.co.uk Says;

'It is quite shocking to think that over three quarters of people diagnosed with HIV are cancelling their insurance policies after their diagnosis, it would appear that this is without checking the terms and conditions of the contract first'.

'We have found that the majority of Income Protection, Critical Illness and Private Medical Insurance Policies don't cover people in the event of HIV. However, the majority of Life Assurance and Life Insurance plans do in fact cover people in the event of a HIV diagnosis'

'The opportunities for people living with HIV in regards to Mortgages and Insurance have improved dramatically over the last few years, with people now able to protect their families and mortgages with Life Assurance and Life Insurance'

Unusual Risks latest survey follows a previous poll that established 82%* of HIV Positive people had no Life Assurance at all. This was a direct comparison to a recent Swiss Life survey where the figure for the wider community was 52%.

The findings of both surveys indicate that the HIV community are still in the early stages of looking after their financial needs and are still dramatically underinsured for their needs. This situation is mainly due to years of exclusion and discrimination from within the financial services industry.

Unusual Risks are committed to helping HIV+ people find the best Life Assurance, Life Insurance and Mortgages for their financial needs. They can be contacted by phone 0845 474 3075, or E-mail Enquiries@unusualrisks.co.uk and on the web www.unusualrisks.co.uk

** Survey Results:*

Unusual Risks surveyed 123 HIV Positive people based in the UK through Baseline Magazine between September 2012 and October 2012 and asked them 'Following your HIV Diagnosis, have you ever cancelled an Insurance Policy due to the Terms and Conditions?'

Of the people that responded 93 said yes and 30 said no. We then asked, If yes, which type of policy did you cancel? 63 said Life Assurance, 37 Income Protection, 18 Critical Illness, 41 Private Health Insurance, 30 said I have Not Cancelled.

In their previous survey that was conducted between November 2011 and December 2011, HIV Positive people were asked 'Do you have any form of Life Assurance? Of the people that responded 18 said yes and 82 said no.

Chris Morgan

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Notes to editors:

1. Chris Morgan would be happy to discuss with editors features on financial planning for people with HIV, Hep C or pre-existing medical conditions.
2. Chris Morgan is the Marketing Manager of a firm of mortgage and insurance advisers that offers specialist advice to people with HIV, Hep C or pre-existing medical conditions.
3. Unusual Risks can be found at www.unusualrisks.co.uk
4. Chris has over the years contributed to many features and interviews for titles such as Positive Finance, Baseline, African Eye Voice, Positive Nation, The Guardian, The Telegraph, The Independent, The Observer, Evening Standard and Money Observer.
5. Unusual Risks is a Trading Style of Compass Mortgage and Insurance Services who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Registration number 497173. Please note most Buy to Let mortgages are not regulated by the FSA.