

## A Guide On Reviewing Your Term Life Insurance Policy for Peace of Mind

19 Dec 2024

Life is constantly evolving, and with every new chapter, our financial responsibilities and priorities shift. Milestones like the birth of a child, buying a new home, or advancing in your career often call for a reassessment of our financial safety nets. One vital component of this safety net is your term life insurance plans. It's essential to ensure that your term life insurance provides sufficient protection as your priorities change, helping to maintain both peace of mind and financial security.

### What is term life insurance?

Term life insurance is a straightforward and cost-effective form of life insurance that provides coverage for a specific period, or "term." If the policyholder passes away during the term, the insurer pays a death benefit to the beneficiaries. This type of insurance is particularly popular in Singapore due to its affordability and simplicity, making it an attractive option for individuals and families looking to secure their financial future. When considering your options, it's important to think about choosing between whole life or term insurance based on your long-term goals and financial situation. While term life insurance offers temporary coverage at a lower cost, whole life insurance provides lifelong protection with the added benefit of cash value accumulation.

It is important to periodically review your term life insurance policy to ensure that it meets your ongoing protection needs. Life changes, and so should your coverage. Regular reviews help you evaluate your protection value to reflect significant life events, ensuring your loved ones remain adequately protected.

## When to review your term life insurance policy

A good rule of thumb is to review your term life insurance policy every one to two years or whenever a major life event occurs. Here are some scenarios that may prompt a review

- Changes in marital status: Whether you're combining finances with a spouse or reevaluating your assets, adjusting your term life insurance policy is crucial.
- Expansion of your family with new dependents: Expanding your family is a joyous occasion, but it also comes with increased financial obligations. New dependents usually require increased coverage, such as their education expenses, to give them a good head start in life.
- Home purchase or mortgage: A new home often comes with a substantial mortgage. Boost your term life insurance policy to cover the outstanding mortgage balance
  to help ensure your family can maintain their home should an unfortunate event happen to you.
- Career changes: A new job may come with different financial responsibilities or benefits. E.g., a promotion or job change often brings a higher income and possibly more significant financial responsibilities. Your policy should reflect your current earnings and the lifestyle your family has become accustomed to.
- Retirement planning: As you approach retirement, your financial needs and goals may shift. Review your policy to align with your retirement goals so that you can

# Steps to review your term life insurance policy

still live your desired lifestyle during your golden years.

## 1. Assess your current financial situation

Begin by evaluating your current financial situation. Consider your debts, assets, income, and any changes in your financial responsibilities. Ask yourself whether your current term insurance in Singapore is sufficient to cover these obligations should something unexpected were to happen to you. This assessment will provide a foundation for determining whether you need to increase or decrease your coverage.

## 2. Review your policy's coverage

Examine your existing term life insurance policy to understand the amount of coverage it provides. Consider whether this amount would be adequate to support your family, pay off debts, and cover other expenses. If your life circumstances have changed significantly since you first purchased the policy, it might be time to boost your coverage amount.

## 3. Consider extending your policy term

Ensure your term life insurance's policy term fits your current life stage and goals and to last through critical financial responsibilities. If you anticipate significant changes to your financial commitments, consider extending your policy term. <u>i-Care</u> and <u>i-Protect</u> from China Taiping Singapore offer options to renew or convert your term policy to other life insurance plans.

## 4. Evaluate additional riders

Riders are optional features you can add to your term life insurance policy to enhance your coverage. Common riders include critical illness coverage, disability income, and waiver of premium. As your life situation evolves, you might find that adding or removing certain riders can better align your policy with your needs.

## 5. Update beneficiary information

Life changes, such as marriage, divorce, or the birth of a child, might necessitate updating the beneficiaries on your policy. Ensuring that the correct individuals are listed as beneficiaries can prevent potential legal complications and ensure that your policy benefits are distributed according to your wishes.

## 6. Keep your policy documents updated

After making any changes to your policies, ensure that all relevant documents are updated. Communicate these changes to your beneficiaries and keep them informed about the details of your policy.

## 7. Consult with an insurance professional for regular reviews

Insurance can be complex, and the process of reviewing your policy might raise questions. Consulting with a financial advisor can provide valuable insights tailored to your unique situation.

## Conclusion

Your term life insurance policy is a vital part of your financial security, providing essential protection and peace of mind for those you care about most. By routinely reviewing and updating your policy, you can ensure that it adapts to your evolving life circumstances. Whether you're embarking on a new marriage, welcoming a child, or <u>planning for retirement</u>, taking the initiative to reassess and adjust your coverage is a proactive way to safeguard your family's future.

At China Taiping Singapore, we are committed to offering comprehensive term insurance solutions tailored to your individual needs. Speak to your preferred financial advisor today to discover how you can secure the protection you need!