



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

In The Matter Of :
Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company : Docket No. LH 19-77
Medicare Supplement Insurance :
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ORDER

I, Andrew N Mais, Commissioner of the State of Connecticut, having read the record, do hereby adopt the findings and recommendations of Danny K. Albert, Hearing Officer in the above matter and issue the following order, to wit:

Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company's rate increase request for its individual Standardized Medicare supplement insurance policy forms CPL-GR-A80A (Plan A), CPL-GR-A80B (Plan B), CPL-GR-A80F (Plan F), CPL-GR-A80G (Plan G), CPL-GR-A80L (Plan L), CPL-GR-A80M (Plan M) and CPL-GR-A80N (Plan N) is approved as submitted.

The company's rate increase request for its individual Standardized Medicare supplement insurance policy forms CPL-GR-A80HF (High Deductible Plan F) and CPL-GR-A80K (Plan K) is disapproved as submitted. The inception-to-date loss ratios for these plans remain below the Connecticut minimum statutory loss ratio requirement of 65% on a Connecticut and nationwide basis. The rates for these plans are to be kept at their current rate levels, with no change.

The rate action approved herein is reasonable in relationship to the benefits and estimated claim costs the company can reasonably expect to realize under these policy forms.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 3rd day of October, 2019.

[Handwritten signature of Andrew N Mais]

Andrew N Mais
Commissioner



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PROPOSED FINAL DECISION

I. INTRODUCTION

The Insurance Commissioner of the State of Connecticut is empowered to review rates charged for individual and group Medicare supplement policies sold to any resident of this State who is eligible for Medicare.

After due notice, a hearing was held at the Insurance Department in Hartford, CT on Thursday, September 19, 2019, to consider whether or not the rate increase requested by Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company on its individual Standardized Medicare supplement insurance business should be approved.

No members from the general public attended the hearing.

No company representatives from Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company attended the hearing.

The hearing was conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 38a-474, Connecticut General Statutes, the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 54 of Section 38a-8-1 et seq. of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

A Medicare supplement policy is a private health insurance policy sold on an individual or group basis, which provides benefits that are additional to the benefits provided by Medicare.

Effective December 1, 2005, Connecticut amended its program of standardized Medicare supplement policies in accordance with Section 38a-496a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and Sections 38a-495a-1 through 38a-495a-21 of the Regulations of Connecticut Agencies.

Effective January 1, 2006, in accordance with Section 38a-495c of the Connecticut General Statutes (as amended by Public Act 05-20) premiums for all Medicare supplement policies in the state must use community rating.

The statute provides that coverage under Plans A through N may not be denied on the basis of age, gender, previous claims history or the medical condition of any covered person.

Effective October 1, 1998, carriers that offer Plan B or Plan C must make these plans as well as Plan A, available to all persons eligible for Medicare by reason of disability.

Insurers must also make the necessary arrangements to receive notice of all claims paid by Medicare for their insureds so that supplement benefits can be computed and paid without requiring insureds to file claim forms for such benefits. This process of direct notice and automatic claims payment is commonly referred to as “piggybacking” or “crossover”.

Sections 38a-495 and 38a-522 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and Section 38a-495a-10 of the Regulations of Connecticut Agencies, state that individual and group Medicare supplement policies must have anticipated loss ratios of 65% and 75%, respectively. Under Sections 38a-495-7 and 38a-495a-10 of the Regulations of Connecticut Agencies, filings for rate increases must demonstrate that actual and expected losses in relation to premiums meet these standards, and anticipated loss ratios for the entire future period for which the requested premiums are calculated to provide coverage must be expected to equal or exceed the appropriate loss ratio standard.

Section 38a-473 of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that no insurer may incorporate in its rates for Medicare supplement policies factors for expenses that exceed 150% of the average expense ratio for that insurer’s entire written premium for all lines of health insurance for the previous calendar year.

II. FINDING OF FACT

After reviewing the exhibits entered into the record of this proceeding, and utilizing the experience, technical competence and specialized knowledge of the Insurance Department, the undersigned makes the following findings of fact:

1. Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company has requested the following rate increases on its individual standardized form series CPL-GR-A80 for Plans A, B, F, FH, G, K, L, M and N:

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Increase</u>
A	12.0%
B	6.0%
F	8.0%
FH	10.0%
G	9.0%
K	10.0%
L	6.0%
M	6.0%
N	10.0%

2. There were 1,241 policies in-force in Connecticut and 202,264 policies in force nationwide as of June 2019.
3. Colonial Penn certified that their expense factors are in compliance with section 38a-473, C.G.S.
4. Colonial Penn has conformed to subsection (e) of section 38a-495c, C.G.S. regarding the automatic claim processing.
5. According to Colonial Penn the proposed rates are designed to satisfy the Connecticut statutory loss ratio of 65%.
6. The last approved rate filing ranged from no change at 0.0% to an increase of 12.0%, effective 1/1/2019.

7. Below is Connecticut specific loss ratio experience for 2016, 2017, 2018, from inception to 2018 and Inforce count as of 6/2019:

Plan	2016	2017	2018	Inception	Count
F	70.0%	77.7%	47.8%	74.8%	4
High F	47.8%	57.9%	82.2%	57.7%	836
K	62.2%	57.2%	78.3%	59.7%	349
L	272.5%	6.4%	0.0%	82.2%	0
N	85.6%	109.1%	62.6%	88.2%	52
Total	58.5%	64.2%	77.6%	63.7%	1,241

8. Below is nationwide loss ratio experience for 2016, 2017, 2018, from inception to 2018 and Inforce count as of 6/2019:

Plan	2016	2017	2018	Inception	Count
A	152.5%	154.9%	145.3%	169.5%	165
B	110.9%	92.4%	115.7%	92.1%	53
F	69.9%	70.9%	71.9%	71.1%	58,021
High F	55.2%	60.3%	64.3%	55.7%	16,134
G	75.2%	73.5%	73.8%	72.5%	25,779
K	69.2%	67.6%	72.6%	64.3%	1,447
L	81.8%	84.6%	86.9%	83.2%	572
M	70.5%	67.3%	114.4%	74.2%	39
N	72.4%	71.5%	74.4%	70.9%	100,054
Total	71.5%	71.5%	73.2%	71.0%	202,264

9. Colonial Penn's 2019 Medicare supplement rate filing is in compliance with the requirements of regulation 38a-474 as it applies to the contents of the rate submission, as well as the actuarial memorandum.

III. RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the rate increases for Plans A, B, F, G, L, M and N be approved as submitted. These rate changes are reasonable in relationship to the benefits, estimated claim costs and the anticipated loss ratios the company expects to realize on this business.

Recommend that the rate increases for Plan K and High-Deductible Plan F be disapproved as submitted. While both Plans saw a deterioration in Connecticut and nationwide experience from 2017 to 2018, other recent (2016 and 2017) Connecticut experience was below a 65% loss ratio and the inception-to-date loss ratios remain below the Connecticut statutory minimum loss ratio of 65% for both the Connecticut and Nationwide experience.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 3rd day of October, 2019.


 Danny K. Albert
 Hearing Officer