

WAC 284-50-080 Preexisting conditions. (1) An advertisement which is subject to the requirements of WAC 284-50-070 shall, in negative terms, disclose the extent to which any loss is traceable to a condition existing prior to the effective date of the policy. The use of the term "preexisting condition" without an appropriate definition or description shall not be used.

(2) When a policy does not cover losses resulting from preexisting conditions, no advertisement of the policy shall state or imply that the applicant's physical condition or medical history will not affect the issuance of the policy or payment of a claim thereunder. This rule prohibits the use of the phrase "no medical examination required" and phrases of similar import, but does not prohibit explaining "automatic issue." If an insurer requires a medical examination for a specified policy, the advertisement if it is an invitation to contract shall disclose that a medical examination is required.

(3) When an advertisement contains an application form to be completed by the applicant and returned by mail for a direct response insurance product, such application form shall contain a question requiring a response by the applicant or a statement in prominent type, all in capital letters, which reflects the preexisting condition provisions of the policy immediately preceding the blank space for the applicant's signature. For example, such an application form shall contain a question substantially as follows:

"Do you understand that this policy will not pay
benefits during the first year(s) after the issue
date for a disease or physical condition which you
now have or have had in the past?" YES

Or a statement in prominent type, all capitalized, substantially as follows:

"I UNDERSTAND THAT THE POLICY APPLIED FOR WILL NOT PAY BENEFITS FOR
ANY LOSS INCURRED DURING THE FIRST YEAR(S) AFTER THE ISSUE DATE
ON ACCOUNT OF DISEASE OR PHYSICAL CONDITION WHICH I NOW HAVE OR HAVE HAD IN
THE PAST."

[Order R-76-2, § 284-50-080, filed 3/4/76; Order R-73-1, § 284-50-080, filed 2/28/73, effective 4/1/73.]