

Insurance - Mediclaim policy - Pre existing disease - Non-disclosure - Burden of proof - Prescription - Mere mentioning in the prescription would not amount to establishing a concealment - Senior Citizens policy - Pre-medical check-up - Having opted to waive of was thus conscious - Insurer liable. [PLRonline # 446681]

PRINT / DOWNLOAD PDF

You are on the the PLRonline.in Lite version. Full Judgment with detailed headnotes for **Premium Subscribers** only . Subscribe today

Summary

Mediclaim Policy and Pre-existing Diseases

- Burden of Proof on <u>insurance</u> Company: The insurance company must prove non-disclosure of a preexisting condition by the policyholder. Mere suspicion is insufficient to repudiate a claim without concrete <u>evidence</u>.
- Evidence in Medical Prescriptions: A doctor's note mentioning a past complaint does not necessarily prove concealment of a pre-existing condition by the policyholder.
- **Heart Disease Specifics:** There's no evidence that the claimant knowingly concealed a heart condition. The onset of heart disease can be sudden and unknown to the insured, and mere inquiry about symptoms does not imply awareness of a pre-existing condition.

Senior Citizens Policy

- Awareness of Risks by Insurance Companies: Insurance companies issuing Senior Citizens Red Carpet Insurance policies are presumed aware of the associated risks, especially since these policies often have higher premiums and sometimes waive pre-medical check-ups.
- **Obligation of Insurers:** Insurers must demonstrate a breach of policy terms by the beneficiary. Failure to do so implies acceptance of the risk by the insurer.

Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, Section 22D

• Role of Permanent Lok Adalat (Public Utility Services): PLA must adhere to principles of equity, fairness, <u>natural justice</u>, and objectivity. The High Court should not interfere with its decisions unless they are unsustainable based on evidence and proper interpretation.

Tags: 1478500, 1497500, 311602, 3317404, 3319403, 401708, 445560, Cause of action, conduct, Contract, def, Deficiency in service, Discharge, Equity, Evidence, Filing, Gm, ICICI LOMBARD GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED v. RAM AVTAR SHARMA, IDA, insurance, Insurance - breach of policy, Interest, Judgment, Jurisdiction, Justice Vinod S. Bhardwaj, Legal Services Authorities Act, Maintainability, material concealment, Mediclaim, Natural justice, Pre-existing disease, Principle of equity, public utility services, Punjab and Haryana, Review, Service, Subscribe, Title, Uberrima fides, Writ