

Defined Contribution and Age Related Benefits: The Equitable Myth

Neil Parkin and Vivek Moodley

"The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal."

Aristotle

Today's Agenda

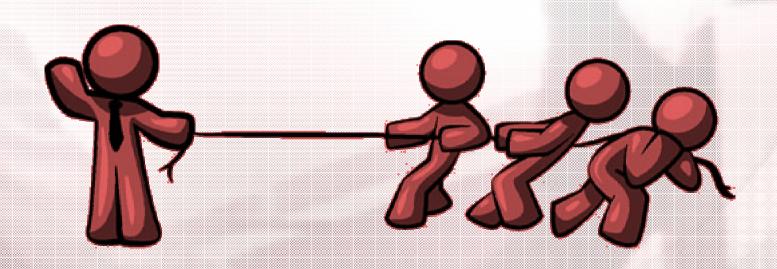


- 1. Introduction... and some background
- 2. Defined Contribution Risk and Age Related Benefits
- 3. Why would we want this?
- 4. Reviewing DC Risk schemes
- 5. The Role of the Intermediary
- 6. Structuring DC Risk schemes
- 7. The Impact of AIDS
- 8. Conclusion

Introduction



"The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal." Aristotle



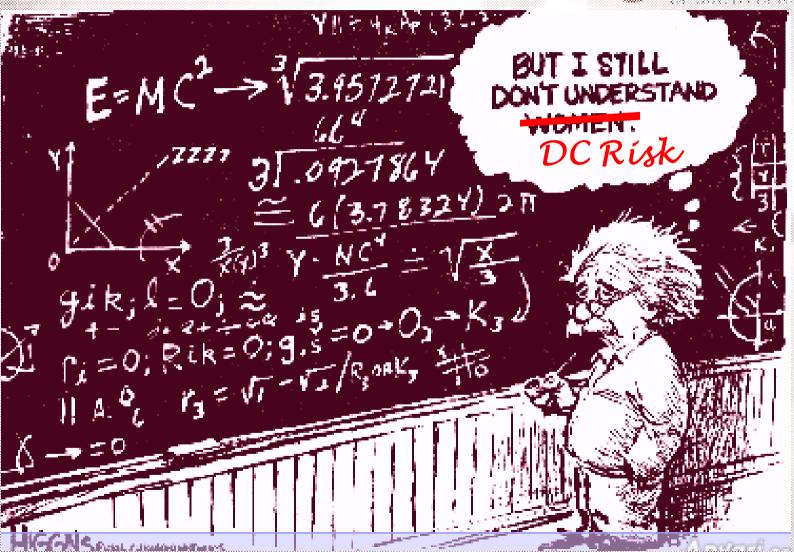
What's not covered?



- Assumption of basic group risk understanding
- Focus on death benefits
- Lump Sum Disability briefly discussed in paper
- How to price a DC Risk scheme is outlined in paper
- Credibility theory and free cover limits are not part of the scope

Complexity





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What is Defined Contribution Risk?



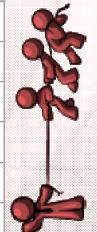
- Retirement fund changes
 - Defined Benefit vs. Defined Contribution
 - 1990s many conversions to DC funds
 - Limit employer costs and transfer investment risk
- Cost of risk cover is pre-determined and fixed
- Amount of cover fluctuates
- A useful means of limiting risk costs in the face of increasing mortality experience

What are Age Related Benefits?



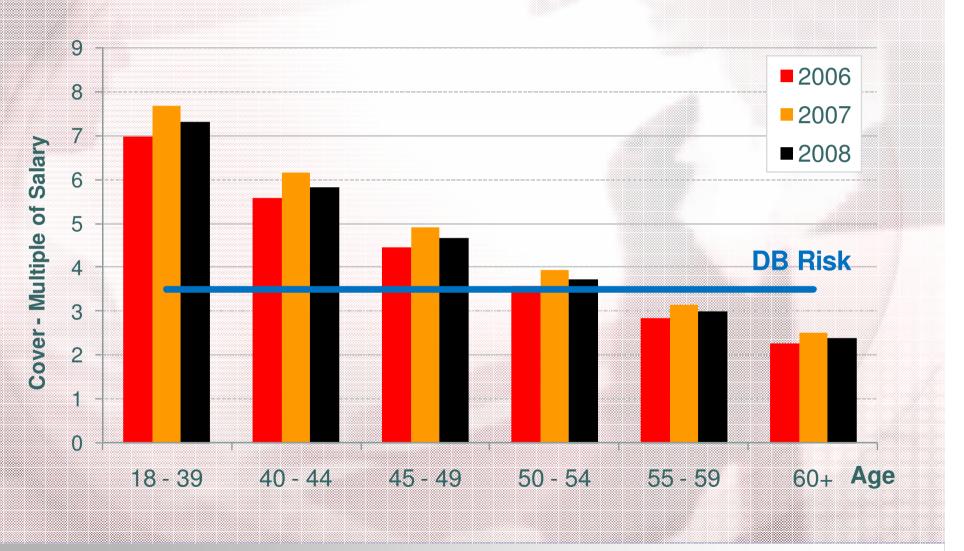
- Increasing provision of risk by retirement funds
 cross-subsidy was questioned
- DC structured retirement funds increased awareness
- Age related benefits
 - cover varies by age
 - popularised
- What is reasonable?
- o DC Risk = Age Related Cover?

Age	Cover as a multiple of salary		
18 - 39	0.0 9.0		
40 - 44	4.0		
45 - 49	3.5		
50 - 54	3.0		
55 - 59	2.5		
60+	2.0 0.25		



What are Age Related Benefits?





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Why would we want this?

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- Members' needs
- Cost saving or limiting
- Reducing cross-subsidy



Needs...

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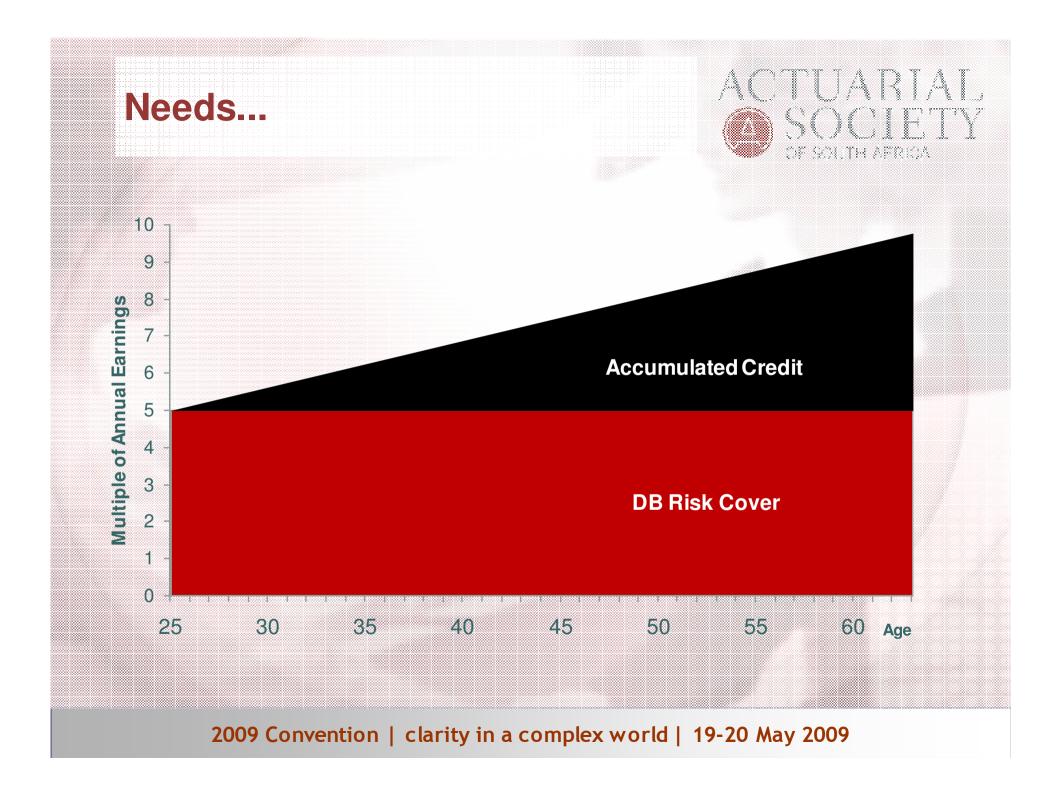
Complex!

Number of dependants?

Very different needs

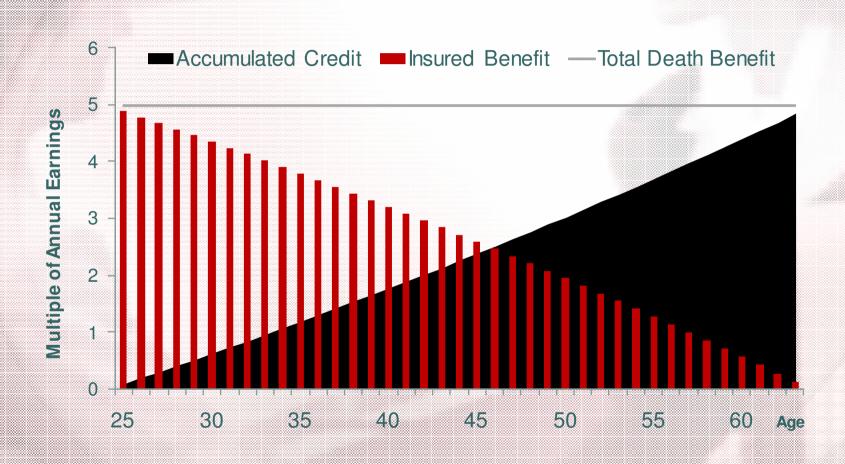
Could argue – reducing need with age





Needs...





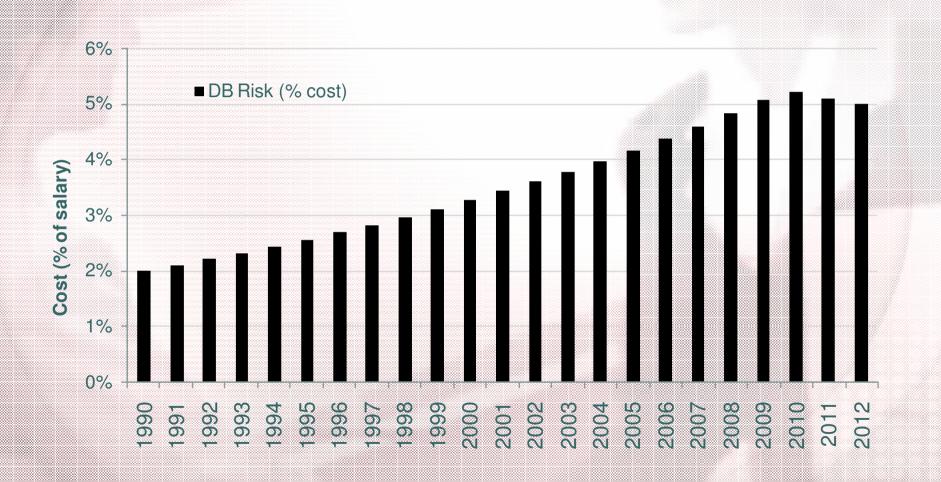
Needs...



- Complex!
- Number of dependants?
 - Very different needs.
- Could argue reducing need with age...
 - Equitable to reduce life cover by assumed retirement savings?
 - Does it make sense?
 - Preservation of savings?!

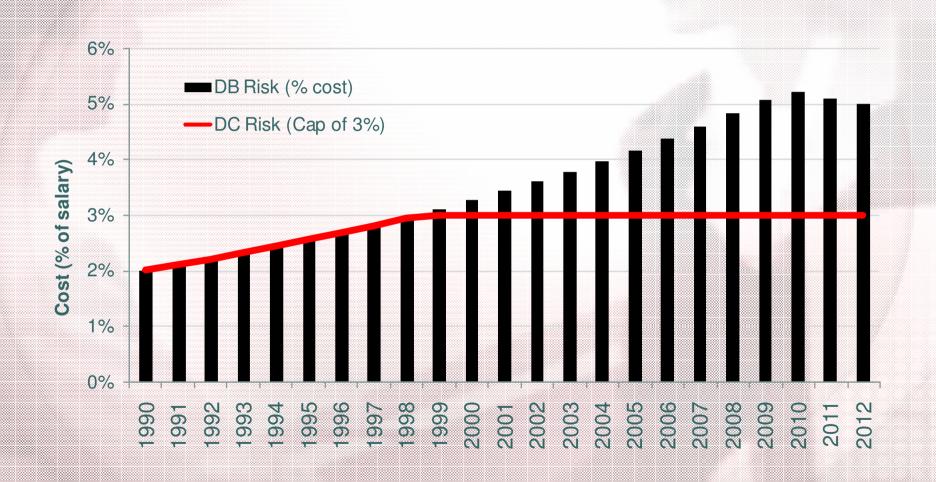
Cost Saving





Cost Saving





Removing Age Cross-Subsidy



Age cross-subsidy might be reduced, but other (and potentially larger) cross-subsidies exist...

- Gender
 - More men die!



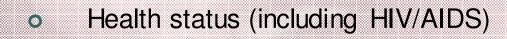
Removing Age Cross-Subsidy



Age cross-subsidy might be reduced, but other (and potentially larger)

cross-subsidies exist...

- Gender
- Income and Occupation
 - Higher vs. Lower income groups
 - Social redistribution
 - Executive schemes
- Region

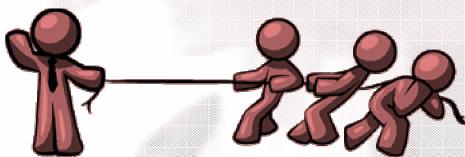




How much cross-subsidy is ok?



- Who are you asking?
- Can impact retirement savings...



- What is reasonable? And who calculated it anyway?
- Cross-subsidy is widely accepted and encouraged
- Fairness versus equity

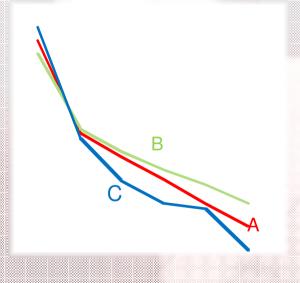
Is an imperfect DC Risk structure better or worse than a defined benefit structure?

Reviewing a DC Scheme

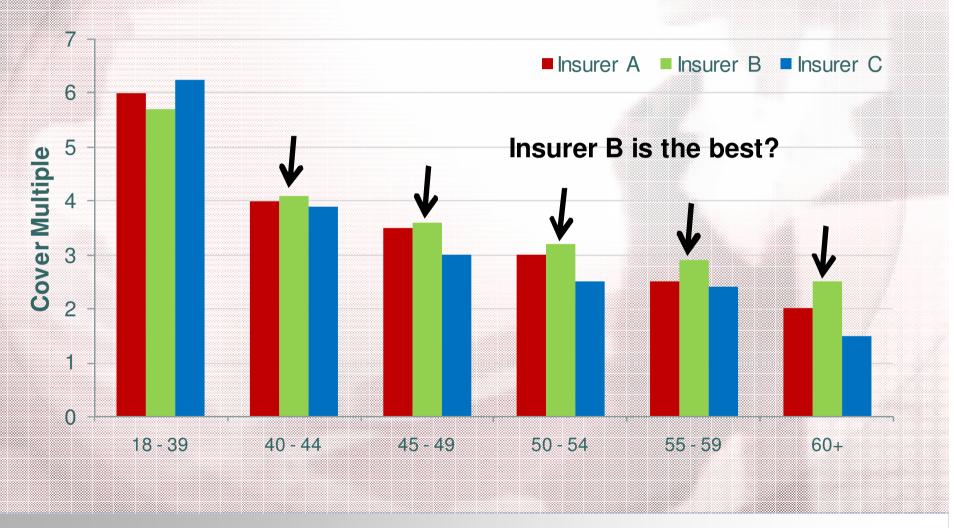


Comparing Insurers can be difficult

	Cover as a multiple of salary				
Age	Insurer A	Insurer B	Insurer C		
18 – 39	6.0	5.7	6.3		
40 – 44	4.0	4.1	3.9		
45 – 49	3.5	3.6	3.0		
50 – 54	3.0	3.2	2.5		
55 – 59	2.5	2.9	2.4		
60+	2.0	2.5	1.5		









Depends on member distribution

	Cover as a multiple of salary			% of	% of
Age	Insurer A	Insurer B	Insurer C	Members	Cover
18 – 39	6.0	5.7	6.3	50%	60%
40 – 44	4.0	4.1	3.9	15%	15%
45 – 49	3.5	3.6	3.0	9%	10%
50 – 54	3.0	3.2	2.5	7%	5%
55 – 59	2.5	2.9	2.4	9%	5%
60+	2.0	2.5	1.5	10%	5%



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60+	2.0	2.5	1.5	10%	5%



Total cover provided can help...

• But:

	Total	% of	
Age	Insurer A	Insurer B	Members
18 – 39	R 600,000	R400,000	50%
40+	R 400,000	R600,000	50%
Total	R1,000,000	R1,000,000	100%



The Role of the Intermediary



- Complex!
- Qualified & experienced Consultants
- Great responsibility for trustees
- Structuring of initial and ongoing benefits
- Help set up Risk Policy Statement
- Communication to members
- Assessment of best insurer
- DC Risk requires more time... more generous fees?



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- Objective
 - Why?
 - What risk benefits are important?
 - How much do you contribute to risk?
 - How do you feel about cross-subsidy?
- Loss of Cover
 - On initial change from DB Risk to DC Risk
 - Voluntary Schemes
 - Conversion Options
- Risk Policy Statement Governance
 - Create this on initial setup and review every 3 years
 - Defines the intention of the scheme
 - Deals with complexities e.g. mortality curves, equity



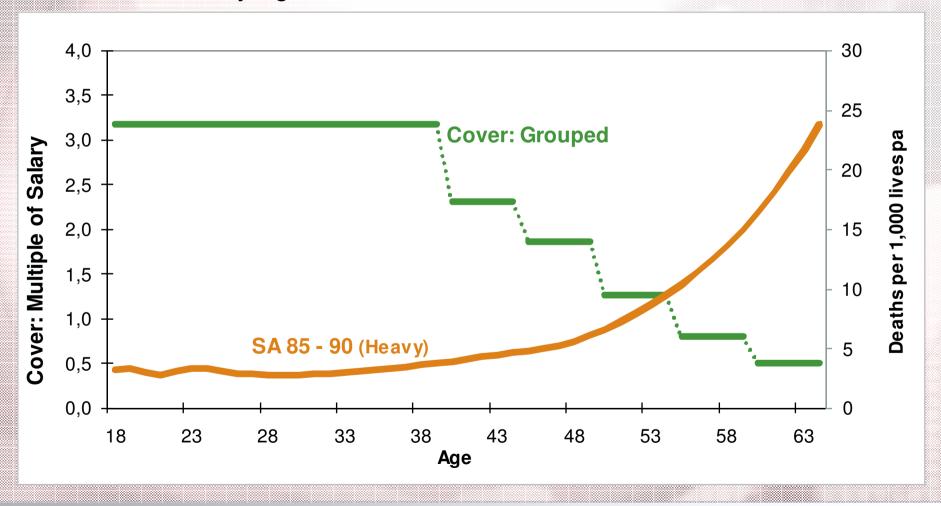


- Consult members and stakeholders
 - Easier to get buy-in from new members
 - Existing members may be resistant to change

• Advice – DC Risk schemes are complex!

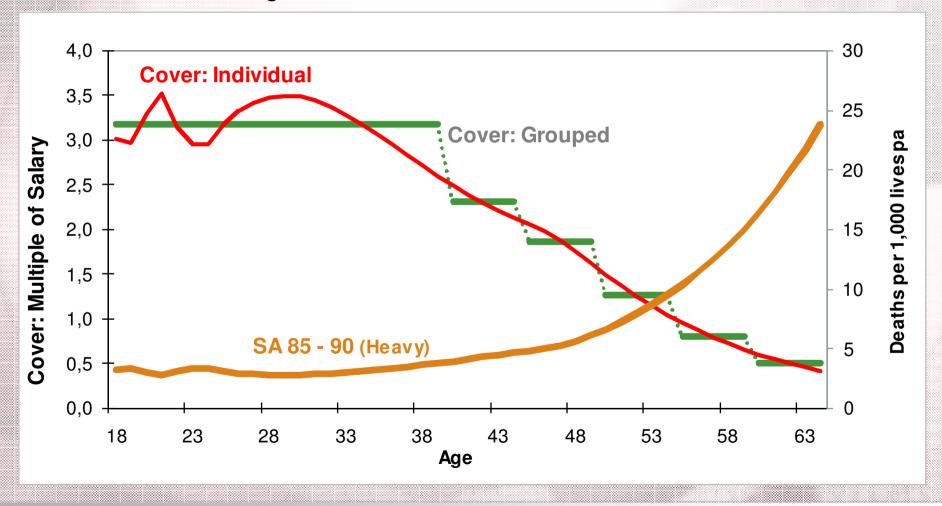


How many age bands?



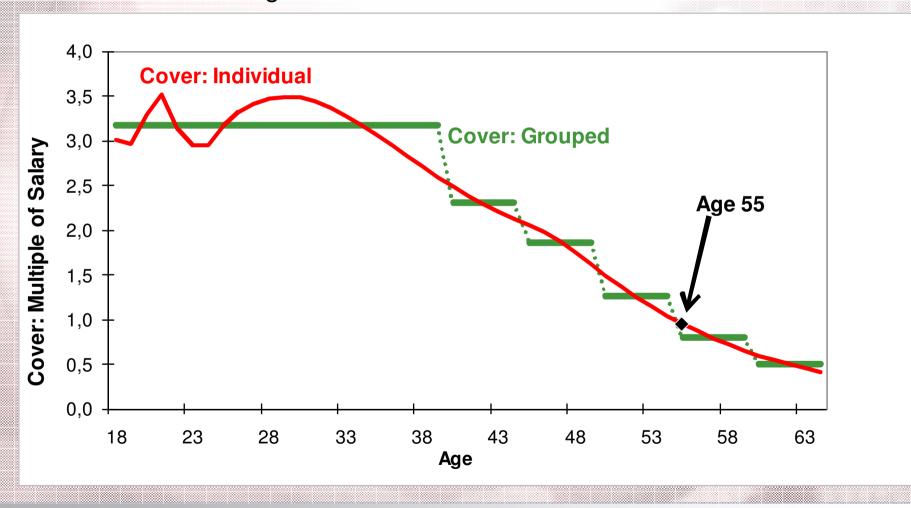


Individual Age Bands



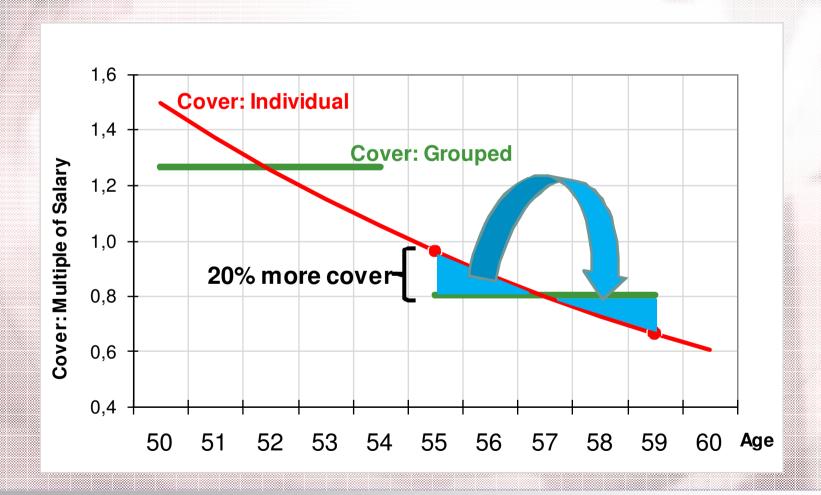


Individual Age Bands



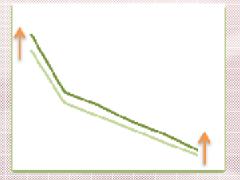


Individual Age Bands





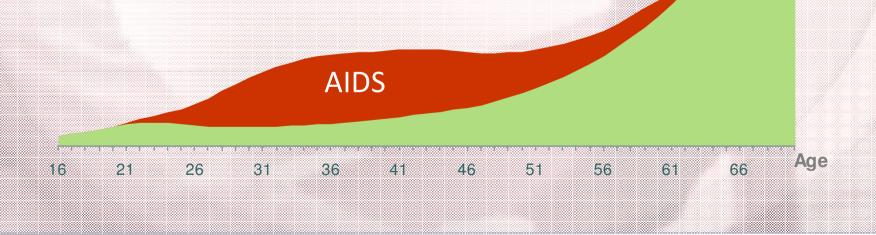
- Age bands
- Need to use a mortality curve to determine relative benefit levels
 - Scheme's mortality curve
 - Published mortality tables
 - Insurer's mortality basis
- Important future step checking appropriateness of mortality curve



The impact of AIDS

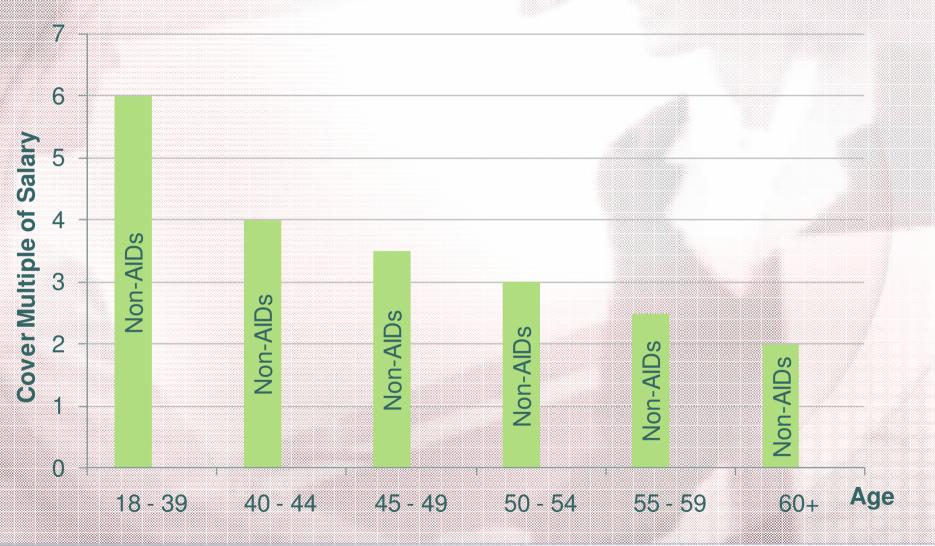


- HIV/AIDS a major cause of escalating risk costs and hence DC structures
- Biggest impact on younger to middle age groups



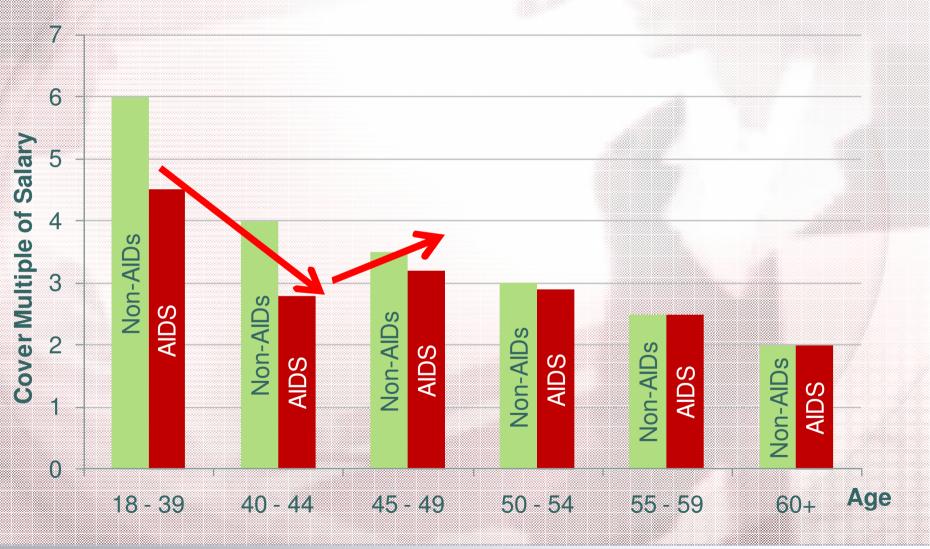












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The impact of AIDS

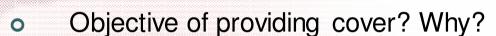


- Communicating decreasing and then increasing cover
- Benefits provided in line with expected mortality reduces crosssubsidy
- Need is not addressed?
 - Older members get more cover than younger members
 - Precisely where AIDS increases cost is where the need is the greatest
- The needs argument can thus be challenged
- Providing decreasing cover in line with increasing age works, but
 only if greater cover is allocated to lives that cost less to insure

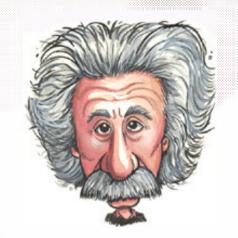
Conclusion

Complex





- Risk Policy Statement
- Equity and cross-subsidy
- Need good communication
- Annual Review critical
 - Understand impact of assumptions and curves
- Good advice







Conclusion



"The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal."

Aristotle

Thanks

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- Eric Welz (RGA Re)
- Nico Van Der Colff (Old Mutual)
- Dean Boshoff (Old Mutual)

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2009 Convention Lite and the Pensions, Health and Life Seminars
19-20 May 2009

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