

## Medical Bills Can Lead To Personal Bankruptcy

Medical bills are one of the main reasons people decide to file personal bankruptcy. This may not seem like reality if you are currently in a healthy or even average state of health, but get seriously ill and the complications could be worse than you'd imagine.

### Personal Bankruptcy and Increasing Medical Costs

Medical costs have increased dramatically over the years. In 2003, medical bills made up more than 15% of the gross domestic product in the US. For minor complications and illnesses, some Americans are generally covered by medical insurance, but when their illness is more serious, long-lasting and involve higher medical costs, some Americans realize they're underinsured.

### Some Medical Insurance Fails to Cover Everything

When you are receiving ongoing medical treatment for a serious illness, the costs of co-payments, uncovered services and other expenses can increase significantly. If you happen to be laid off in the process, you may be forced to continue your medical insurance through COBRA. Although COBRA laws can help to a certain extent, it is usually too expensive for the average family dealing with a recent lay off.

If your illness takes a turn for the worse, you may find yourself unable to work. This is bad enough in itself but when you combine this with an increase in medical bills, lack of adequate medical insurance, and income reduction, you may be forced to declare personal bankruptcy to survive your financial situation. Before you make any life altering decisions with regard to bankruptcy, consult an experienced bankruptcy attorney to discuss all options available to you.