

Behavioural Economics for the Insurance Customer

Nick Mingo, Swiss Re ICMIF Biennial Conference November 2019





A short intro to Behavioural Economics (BE)



What is behavioural economics?

Traditional Approach

Assumes that people:

- Are **rational** & have set preferences
- Seek to maximise utility, i.e. do whatever is in their best interest



To change behaviour...

Provide **information** to help <u>people better understand costs</u>

Use **financial incentives**: change the relative 'prices' of costs and benefits



Behavioural Science Approach

Understands that people:

- Are not always rational
- Are hugely affected by seemingly irrelevant "contextual" factors



To change behaviour...

Change the context in which people make decisions ("nudge")



Test everything in the real world and measure if it has an impact



Thinking fast and slow (or not at all...)

Traditional Approach

Assumes that people:

- Are **rational** & have set preferences
- Seek to **maximise utility**, i.e. do whatever is in their best interest

Behavioural Science Approach

Understands that people:

- Are **not always rational**
- Are hugely affected by seemingly irrelevant "contextual" factors

System 2

- Reflective, slow
- Conscious
- Analytic
- High energy consumption

System 1

- Automatic, fast
- Unconscious
- Associative
- Low energy consumption



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Behaviour Biases (mental shortcuts)

Humans tend to:

Be overconfident and misjudge how disciplined they will be in the future Delay making a decision if it is complex/confusing or avoid it altogether

Be more concerned with possible losses than possible equivalent gains

Follow others

Stick with the default option, even if it's not the best

Care more about immediate benefits and costs than those in the future

Settle for something that is good enough rather than searching for the best

Applying BE theory to customer behaviour



London Bus Customer Satisfaction



London Bus Customer Satisfaction



Photo Ref: transportforall.org.uk







Photo Ref: Twitter



Photo Ref: Twitter

Insurance Customer Behaviour



If you tried to design a system to bring out the worst in humans, it would look a lot like the insurance of today.

Lemonade

Photo Ref: www.markbprince.com

Dan Ariely,
Chief Behavioural Officer, Lemonade.





Recognise human biases; design interactions to guide the customer

Nick, this is our most popular hospital cover for couples in NSW!

Basic

\$57.58*

fortnightly

Cover for the basics, like emergency ambulance and accidental injury. Plus, it could help you avoid paying extra tax.

MORE W

SELECT MY COVER (>)

Standard

Hospital

\$88.05*

fortnightly

Support your lifestyle without paying for things you're less likely to need.

MORE V

SELECT MY COVER

Advantage

Hospital

\$113.12*

fortnightly

A high level of hospital cover without the added cost of pregnancy.

Top Hospital

\$139.85*

fortnightly

Starting a family? This is the cover you need for pregnancy and birth-related services.

MORE V

SELECT MY COVER (2)

MORE W

SELECT MY COVER (2)





Recognise human biases; design interactions to guide the customer

Highly Recommended: Trip Protector



Yes, Add Trip Protector for \$25.86 covering all passengers in this reservation.

All these benefits for a fraction of the ticket cost:

- Reimburses costs if you have to cancel or interrupt your trip for reasons like covered illness, injury, layoff, and more
- Coverage for additional expenses associated with travel delay
- 24/7 award-winning assistance service
- No, I choose not to protect my \$470.20 purchase. I understand by declining coverage I am responsible for all cancellation fees and delay expenses.

Swiss Re Case Studies

Isn't this all just common sense?



Your turn to predict the outcome using the ICMIF App

Which message do you think would be **most effective** in getting customers to actually change their monthly premium payment method to automatic bank transfer?

- 1 Using bank transfer is easy and is protected by a direct debit guarantee
- 2 Your current payment method involves hassle for you each time you make a payment
- 3 Switch to bank transfer payments and receive a \$10 voucher
- 4 Here is a \$5 voucher, and a request to switch your payment method, please
- It is time to update your payment details, please choose from the following 2 options



What we actually found

Using bank transfer is easy and is protected by a direct debit guarantee

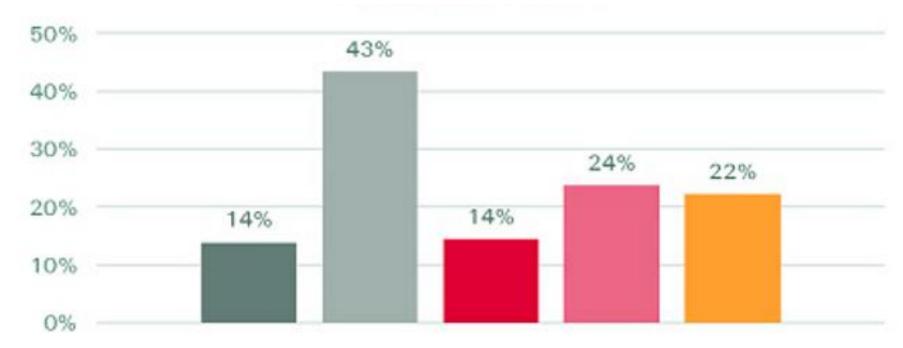
Your current payment method involves hassle for you each time you make a payment

Switch to bank transfer payments and receive a \$10 voucher

Here is a \$5 voucher, and a request to switch your payment method, please

It is time to update your payment details, please choose from the following 2 options

Response rates





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Interactive Voice Recording (IVR) for customer policy administration



We will have your requests via smart-phones or IVR and send you the forms. Most people like you find the smart-phone method to be the quickest and easiest and press [1]

- If you hold a smart-phone, Press [1]
- If you have your policy number ready and wish to proceed with IVR, press
 [2]
- •To listen to the guidance again, press [9]

Great news, you're almost finished. It should take less than 30 seconds from now to complete the request.

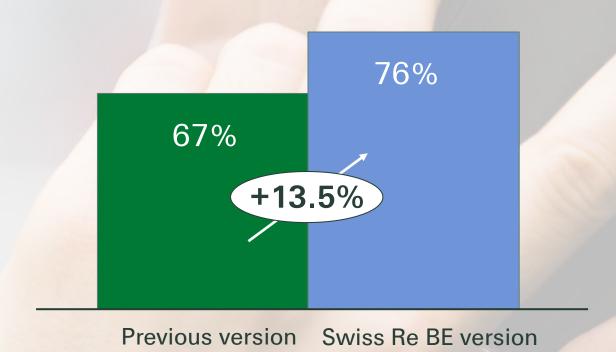
You will have a short message with URL. Please push your smart-phone number followed by #

Swiss Re BE Version

Interactive Voice Recording (IVR) for customer policy administration



Successful registration to change bank account



Requesting claims reports

Previous client version:



8. Please outline what aspects of your patient's functional capacity are impacted by their symptoms, restrictions or limitations by completing the table below

Ability	Tolerance level	Frequency	
		(N) Never, (O) Occasional, (W) With Rest Breaks, (F) Frequent	
Lifting	5 Kg	W	
Pushing/Pulling	5 Kg	<i>V</i>	
Reaching		0	
Bending	_	0	
Standing	3 o Mins/hours	W	
Sitting	2 Mine/hours	ω	

Swiss Re Behavioural Economics test version:

Lifting	18-25kg	13-17kg	8-12kg	4-7kg	1-3 kg	Nil
	Able to lift a bag of cement	Able to lift an 18 month old child	Able to lift a vacuum cleaner or one case of 24 cans of drink	Able to carry a full (dry) washing basket, or 2-3 shopping bags	Unable to lift a laptop computer	Unable to lift a 1L milk or soft drink bottle (1kg)

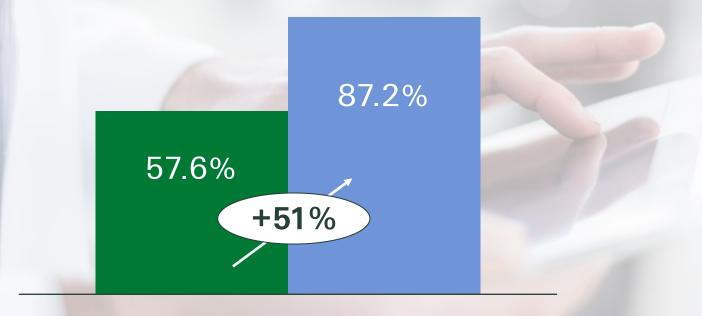
Requesting claims reports



Relative increase of 51% in doctors fully completing the table

Customer benefits:

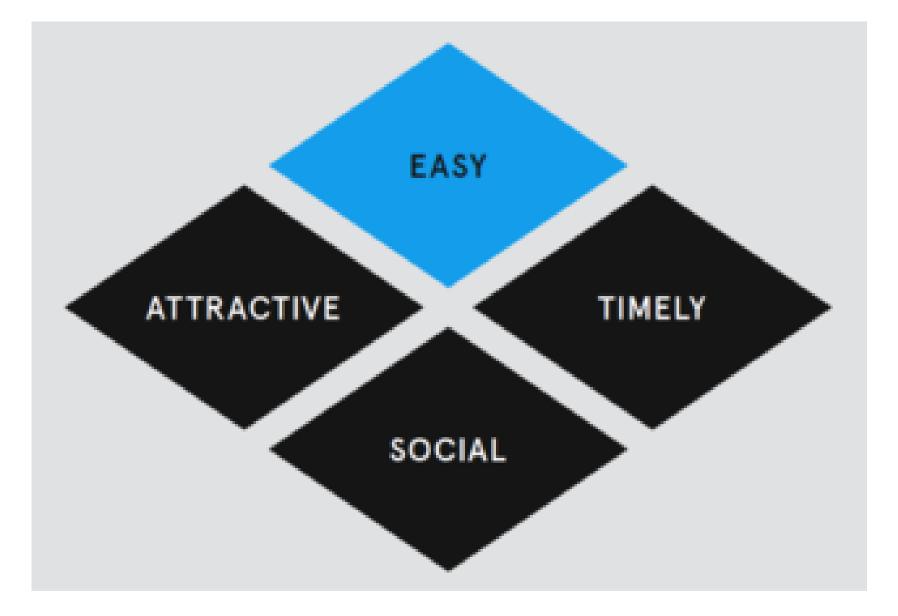
- ✓ Claims decided and paid more quickly
- ✓ Earlier implementation of return to work support



Previous version Swiss Re BE version

How to apply these insights with your customers

EAST: A useful framework to start with





Uber

 $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$

Problem Statement

Receive problem statement from partnership teams

Behavioural Science Deep Dive

Translate problem statement into relevant behavioural science concepts

Science-backed Product Ideas

Propose concrete product ideas based on findings from scientific research

Prioritisation

Work with partnership team to prioritise product ideas based on estimated impact and potential risks

Experimentation

Lead experiments to test the ideas

Ethical Considerations



Nudge or **Sludge**?



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▲ Cheapest tickets in Section 11 😝

You only have 09:35 left to complete your purchase. Prices may rise or these tickets may no longer be available after this time.

OK

Get it or regret it

HK\$1,528

per ticket

Sold

1 day ago on our site Someone else is going in your place.

N. 🚯

together.

per ticket

Select

09:13 left to complete purchase

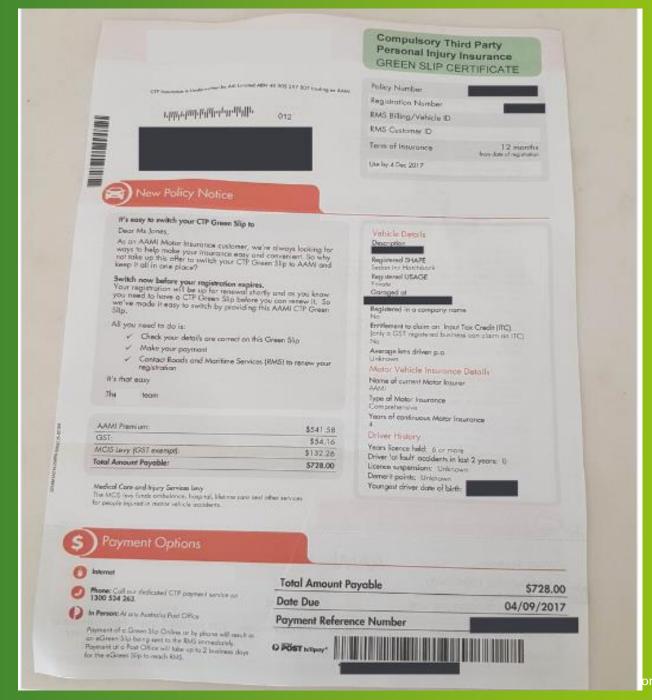
Please note that these tickets may not be available again if you abandon them •

Abandon My Tickets

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Nudge or **Sludge**?









Thank you!

how customers
actually behave
rather than how
they should behave

