

# USD Global Health Fund

An investment fund option for variable life insurance products of **The Manufacturers Life Insurance Co., (Phils), Inc.**

## Investment Objective

The Fund aims to maximize total return by investing substantially all of its assets in one or more collective investment schemes which aims to provide medium to long term capital growth by investing mainly in equity and equity-related securities in health care and related industries globally, which are listed on any stock exchange. The Target Fund may invest in companies which derive a significant portion of their earnings from medical and pharmaceutical products and services. The remaining assets may include bonds and deposits.

## Fund Information

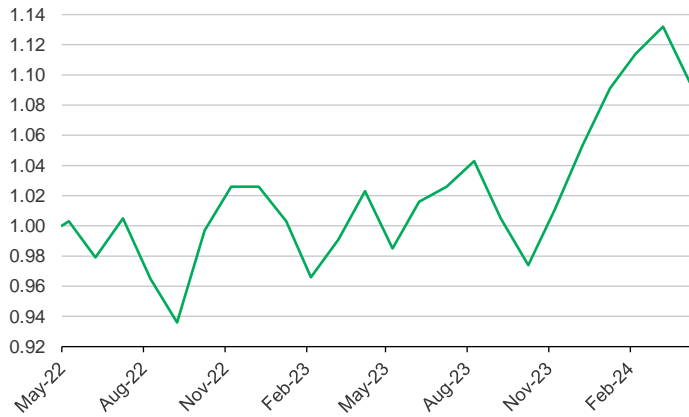
<b>Inception Date</b> May 2022	<b>Fund Size</b> USD 510.08 thousand	<b>Fund Currency</b> US dollar	<b>Dealing/Valuation</b> Daily
<b>Price (NAV/unit)</b> USD 1.095	<b>Management Fee</b> 2.25% per annum	<b>Bloomberg Ticker</b> PHEQUUH	

## Performance Return (April 30, 2024)

USD Global Health Fund (net of management fee)	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Absolute	-3.27%	3.99%	7.04%	n.a.	n.a.	9.50%
Annualized	n.a.	n.a.	7.04%	n.a.	n.a.	4.80%

Past performance is not an indication of future results. Information about the portfolio's holdings, asset allocation, or country diversification is historical and is not an indication of future portfolio composition, which will vary.

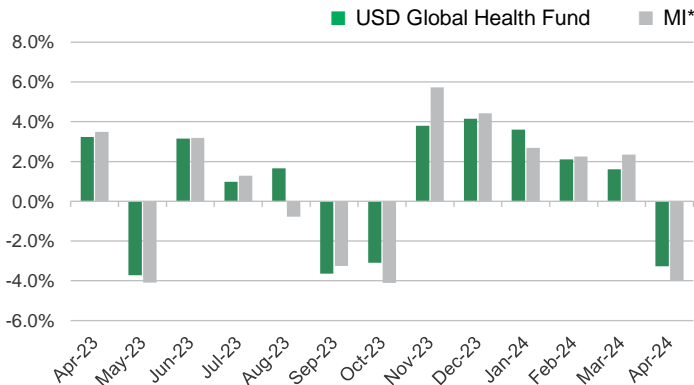
## Monthly Net Asset Value per Unit



## Top Five Holdings

Eli Lilly and Company	9.73%
Novo Nordisk A/S Class B	8.04%
Merck & Co., Inc.	6.38%
AstraZeneca PLC	5.14%
UnitedHealth Group Incorporated	5.00%

## Monthly Performance



\*100% MSCI World/Healthcare NR USD index

This is not a deposit product. Earnings are not assured and principal amount invested is exposed to risk of loss. This product cannot be sold to you unless its benefits and risks have been thoroughly explained. If you do not fully understand this product, do not purchase or invest in it.

## Portfolio Breakdown

### Asset Allocation (at Market Value)



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## Market Review

Stocks moved lower in April as investors continued to weigh the shifting outlook for central bank policy. Rising commodity prices and stubbornly high US inflation readings dampened optimism that the US Federal Reserve Board (Fed) would be able to cut interest rates in 2024. This represented a significant reversal from the beginning of the year when the futures markets were indicating expectations for six rate cuts in 2024. This development caused bond yields to push higher, with the US two-year note closing the month above the key 5% level. Currency market volatility and geopolitical uncertainty—especially with respect to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East—were additional factors weighing on sentiment. The resulting downturn was broad based, with losses for the majority of the developed markets and both the growth and value styles. Emerging markets bucked the broader trend and finished with a gain, however, as Chinese stocks continued the rebound that began in early January.

The healthcare sector declined during the period and lagged, as measured by the MSCI World Index. The biotechnology, healthcare equipment and supplies, and life sciences tools and services sub-sectors detracted, while the pharmaceuticals and healthcare providers and services sub-sectors performed.

## Outlook

We believe that the defensive characteristics of the sector coupled with solid organic growth in select companies should provide strong performance over a full market cycle. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic has created structural changes within healthcare that provides enhanced investment opportunities across select segments of the sector. We expect mergers and acquisitions to remain abundant as healthcare companies with strong balance sheets utilize excess capital to expand pipeline and product offerings.

Within biopharmaceuticals, we are focused on companies with best-in-class product portfolios serving patients in disease states with inelastic demand. Our previous findings related to structural changes in the healthcare industry support the urgency to effectively manage other pre-existing disease states (cancer, metabolic syndrome, asthma, and other immunologic disorders), which our research suggests pre-dispose these comorbid patients to higher morbidity and mortality post-COVID. Accordingly, this has led us to favor biopharmaceutical companies over-indexed to cardiovascular disease, neurological disease, and diabetes.

Fundamentals within select areas of both the healthcare equipment and supplies and life science tools and services industries remain attractive. Specifically, we believe select companies will continue to reap the benefits of the excess cashflows generated from COVID testing, consistent with the emerging endemic state of COVID. We believe several of these companies will generate above market returns as the incremental research, capex, and pipeline investments they have implemented reach fruition in the coming quarters and years.

Within the healthcare providers and services industry, we see value in select supply chain companies, specifically pharmaceutical wholesalers. We expect these companies to see improving margins from accelerating drug inflation and continued recovery in prescription volumes. We have also modified our positioning in select healthcare insurers, given the pressures on profit profiles associated with COVID-19-induced backlog in office visits and surgeries in the Medicare population.

Overall, we continue to emphasize a bottom-up fundamental research process informed by our assessment of emerging scientific and medical trends, coupled with a thorough intrinsic valuation analysis. This approach should ensure that our allocation of capital is focused on companies tackling important unmet medical needs, pursuing underappreciated market opportunities, and/or demonstrating an ability to bend the healthcare cost curve.

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The investment fund option for The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company's variable life insurance product is managed by Manulife Investment Management and Trust Corporation.

The Fund mentioned in this document is specific to variable life insurance contracts and is not considered a mutual fund. Yields depend on interest and foreign exchange rate levels, both of which may fluctuate. Other factors that affect yield include changes in the credit standing of the issuers and changes in the value of the stocks and dividends received. Further, investments of the Fund may provide that their values be determined based on prices or yields of other securities, instruments or foreign currencies, and such provisions may result in negative fluctuations in the value of these investments and, in turn, the Fund's yields. Thus, the performance of the separate account(s) is not guaranteed and the value of the policy could be less than the capital invested. THE VARIABLE LIFE POLICYHOLDER SHALL BEAR ALL INVESTMENT RISKS. Past performance of the Fund is not necessarily indicative of future performance. Yields are not guaranteed.

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