

EEA member states

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus (Southern), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, UK, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Switzerland by special arrangement.

- People visiting the UK from these countries will need to supply a valid European Health Insurance Card or replacement certificate for all necessary NHS hospital care to be free of charges to them. An S2 would be required for planned care in the UK
- A UK State Pensioner living in any of these countries with a registered S1 document for residence overseas will be entitled to all types of NHS hospital treatment without charges
- EEA people coming to the UK with the intention to stay may still be insured in their home country and hold a valid European Health Insurance Card – if we obtain it we can reclaim healthcare costs from the EEA country

Reciprocal Health Agreements (non-EEA)

For specific details please contact the Overseas Visitor Team
Evidence of coverage under the reciprocal agreement will be required.

Anguilla, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, British Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Isle of Man, Jersey, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Montserrat, New Zealand, Serbia, St Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands.

Within the reciprocal agreements there are a number of variations in the level of free treatment afforded to visitors travelling to the UK. Generally, only immediate medical treatment is to be provided free of charge and they do not usually apply when the person has travelled to the UK for the purpose of obtaining healthcare. Further details can be provided on request.

This is not a full description of the NHS (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2017 and more details can be obtained via - www.dh.gov.uk/overseasvisitors or from:

**Andrea Makin, Overseas Co-ordinator
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust,
Email: cddft.overseasvisitors@nhs.net
Phone: 01325 743031**

Overseas Visitors Patient Information Leaflet

Not everyone is entitled to free NHS hospital treatment in England

We have a legal obligation under the NHS (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2017 to identify patients who are required to pay for NHS hospital services they receive because they are not ordinarily resident or exempt of charges in the UK.

Whether a person is ordinarily resident in the UK is essentially assessing whether that individual:

- Is **lawfully** in the UK;
- Is here **voluntarily** – it will be rare for a person not to be in the UK voluntarily; and
- Is **properly settled here for the time being**; and
- In the case of ***non-EEA nationals' subject to immigration control, has Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) in the UK.***

A person is **not** ordinarily resident in the UK simply because he/she:

- Has British nationality or holds a British passport;
- Is registered with a GP;
- Has an NHS number;
- Owns property in the UK;
- Has paid (or are currently paying) National Insurance contributions and taxes in the UK.

If a person is found to **not be ordinarily resident**, circumstances of the individual will require investigation to determine if any of the exemptions in the above regulations applies. Please speak to the Overseas Visitor Team for more details (see reverse).

