

Healthcare explained

Access to the NHS in England if you are an S1 form holder



2021



Some former UK residents do not have to pay for NHS treatment when visiting England. This includes S1 form holders living in the EU, Switzerland, Iceland, Norway or Lichtenstein, on or before 31 December 2020.

Take a copy of your S1 form with you when you visit the UK. You may be asked to present this if you need to access treatment. If you no longer hold a copy, you can call the Overseas Healthcare Services (0191 218 1999) and request a copy.

Remember that you cannot use your EHIC to access NHS treatment in the UK. The EHIC can be used when visiting the EU, Switzerland, Iceland, Norway and Lichtenstein.

If you return to the UK permanently and you are ordinarily resident, you will be able to access NHS care without charge.



For further information, search "Healthcare for visitors to the UK from the EU" on gov.uk



I am an S1 form holder living in the EU from 1 JAN 2021

Because the NHS is a residency-based system, under NHS rules UK nationals who move abroad on a permanent basis lose their entitlement to free NHS healthcare.

You should take out appropriate travel insurance when visiting the UK, as you would when visiting any other country. Any treatment you may have to pay for will be charged at 150% of the national NHS rate.

Accident and emergency treatment and GP appointments are free to all regardless of residency entitlement.

These include:

- ✓ A&E services not including emergency treatment if admitted to hospital
- ✓ Treatment for most infectious diseases

If you return to the UK permanently and you are ordinarily resident, you will be able to access NHS care without charge.

