

## How to access healthcare if you live mainly in Spain

Do you work and pay social security contributions in Spain?



Register at your local health centre with your social security number.

Are you in receipt of a Spanish state pension or benefit?



The INSS will issue you with a document showing the result of your pension or benefit application. You must present this at your local health centre.

Have you been in receipt of Spanish unemployment benefit that has now stopped?



Apply for the 'documento acreditativo del derecho a asistencia sanitaria' from the INSS.

Are you in receipt of a UK State Pension or Long Term Sickness Benefit?



Apply for an S1 form from the International Pension Centre or your local INSS.

Are you a UK posted worker in Spain?



Contact Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs.

Do you hold a Residency Certificate in Spain issued before 24th April 2012?



Apply for a 'Legislation letter' from the OHT and then apply for the 'documento acreditativo del derecho a asistencia sanitaria' from the INSS.

If none of these situations apply to you, speak with your local health centre to see if there is a special scheme you can join or take out private health insurance.

## Useful Contacts

### **INSS** National Institute of Social Security in Spain

#### **What do they do**

Control access to Spanish state health service and register form S1 from the UK.

**Tel 900 166 565** [www.seg-social.es](http://www.seg-social.es)

### **IPC** International Pension Centre

#### **What do they do**

Issue form S1 for UK State Pension and long-term Sickness Benefit recipients.

**Tel +44 191 218 7777**

<https://www.gov.uk/international-pension-centre>

### **OHT** Overseas Healthcare Team

#### **What do they do**

Issue EHIC application forms for registered S1 holders and Provisional Replacement Certificates in the case of a lost or stolen EHIC.

**Tel +44 191 218 1999** [www.gov.uk/dh](http://www.gov.uk/dh)

### **HMRC** Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs

#### **What do they do**

Issue form S1 and A1 for posted workers who are working in Spain.

**Tel +44 191 203 7010** [www.gov.uk/hmrc](http://www.gov.uk/hmrc)

### **FCO** Foreign and Commonwealth Office

#### **What do they do**

Provide help and support to British nationals abroad.

[www.gov.uk/fco](http://www.gov.uk/fco)

**Always take out comprehensive travel insurance when travelling with your EHIC**



# UK European Health Insurance Card

**Who can use it and what it's for**





## What is this leaflet for?

This leaflet has been produced to let you know about the following:

- Who is and who isn't entitled to use a UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) in Spain.
- What cover it gives you.
- How to access state healthcare in Spain if you're not entitled to the EHIC.

## Who is entitled to use the UK EHIC?

### People on a temporary stay

If you are on holiday or on a temporary stay in Spain e.g. you have a second home during some months of the year, but still consider that you live mainly in the UK, you can use the UK European Health Insurance Card in Spain.

### UK Students in Spain studying as part of a UK course

If you have come to spend time in Spain, as part of your UK studies, then the UK European Health Insurance Card is your correct form of health cover in Spain.

## If you live or are going to live mainly in Spain

If you live mainly in Spain and are outside any of the situations mentioned previously **you must register for state healthcare in another way in order to make sure you are fully protected.**

Look at the back of this leaflet or visit [healthcareinspain.eu](http://healthcareinspain.eu) to find out how to register correctly.

**If you are a UK state pensioner/insured person with a registered S1/E121 in Spain, the UK EHIC is only for use outside of Spain when on holiday within the European Union.**

## What cover does the EHIC give you?

The EHIC entitles you to all immediate and medically necessary state funded treatment for the duration of your temporary stay.

## What is medically-necessary treatment?

This is decided by the doctor and will be given to you on the same basis as an insured resident in Spain, taking into account the nature of the treatment and the length of your stay. It can include routine or specialist treatment and the monitoring of ongoing conditions, as long as the treatment can't wait until you get home.

You can also get dialysis and oxygen treatment, although you must organise this in advance of your trip with the public health authority that covers the area you are travelling to.

## Can I use it to see a private doctor?

**No.** The card is only recognised in state hospitals and health centres.

## What if I want to travel to Spain just to get treatment?

Then you can't use the EHIC. Instead you should speak to NHS England or your Local Health Board if you live in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.

## What if I'm pregnant and want to give birth in Spain?

You have to apply for form S2 through the Overseas Healthcare Team. The EHIC won't cover you.



Department  
of Health

For more information visit our website  
[www.healthcareinspain.eu](http://www.healthcareinspain.eu)