

# Chapter 10. How to deal with those under reciprocal healthcare agreements and other international obligations – Department of Health Charging Regulations

## Reciprocal healthcare agreements (non-EEA) (Regulation 14)

10.1 The UK has reciprocal healthcare agreements with some non-European Economic Area (EEA) countries. Overseas visitors who can present evidence that they are nationals, citizens or lawful residents of one of these countries should be treated as exempt from charges in respect of treatment that the relevant agreement entitles them to.

Evidence required:

*Proof that the person is a national/citizen/resident (as appropriate) of the country and that they are resident in that country, e.g. passport, residence permit, identity card, social security card, utility bill etc. For referrals for elective treatment (see below), confirmation from the relevant country/the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) that the referral has been agreed.*

10.2 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	Level of cover provided (see key)	Further information

<p>medical treatment is to be provided free of charge, to allow the overseas visitor to return home for other needs. Also, the agreements do not usually apply when the person has travelled to the UK for the purpose of obtaining healthcare. However, this is not always the case. See the table below for the level of free treatment by country, and other conditions that apply.</p> <p>Country</p>		
Anguilla	1*	Applies to all residents of that country. Can also refer four patients to the UK for free NHS hospital treatment.
Armenia	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Australia	1*	Applies to all residents of that country.
Azerbaijan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Barbados	1*	Applies to all residents of that country.
Belarus	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	Applies to all insured persons of that country.
British Virgin Islands	1*	Applies to all residents of that country. Can also refer four patients to the UK for free NHS hospital treatment.
Country	Level of cover provided (see key)	Further information
Falkland Islands	4	Applies to all residents of that country. Can refer an unlimited number of patients to the UK for free elective treatment.
Georgia	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.

Gibraltar	3	Applies only to citizens resident in that country when that citizen is not expected to stay in the UK for more than 30 days. Can also refer an unlimited number of patients to the UK for free elective treatment (see 10.4).
Isle of Man	2	Applies to all residents of the Isle of Man for a period of stay in the UK that has not exceeded, nor is expected to exceed, three months.
Jersey <sup>12</sup>	2	Applies to all residents of Jersey for a period of stay in the UK that has not exceeded, nor is expected to exceed, three months.
Kazakhstan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Kosovo	3	Applies to all insured persons of that country
Kyrgyzstan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Macedonia	3	Applies to all insured persons of that country.
Moldova	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Montenegro	3	Applies to all insured persons of that country.
Montserrat	1*	Applies to all residents of that country. Can also refer four patients per year for free NHS hospital treatment.
New Zealand	2	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Russia	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Serbia	3	Applies to all insured persons of that country.
St Helena	1*	Applies to all residents of that country. Does not include Ascension Island or Tristan da Cunha. Can also refer four patients per year for free NHS hospital treatment.
Tajikistan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Turkmenistan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Turks and Caicos Islands	1*	Applies to all residents of that country. Can also refer four patients per year for free NHS hospital treatment.
Ukraine	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.
Uzbekistan	1	Applies only to citizens resident in that country.