

HEALTHCARE FOR CITIZENS FROM EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES





There are two channels through which citizens from the European Union can receive healthcare in another member state. Both generally require prior authorisation from the country of origin. If you are living with HIV and intend to travel to a European Union country or if you are a European citizen with HIV and you are going to travel to Spain, this information might prove useful to you.

THERE ARE TWO CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH EUROPEAN UNION CITIZENS CAN RECEIVE HEALTHCARE IN ANOTHER MEMBER STATE:

1) Cross Border Healthcare

People who opt for this method must pay the costs of healthcare in advance and subsequently apply for reimbursement in their country. Through this channel you may receive healthcare in private or public centres.

European Union citizens must determine beforehand in their country of origin whether the healthcare they are requesting is reimbursable. Eligibility for some treatments in destination countries also requires prior authorisation in the country of origin.

Although it is not usual, people with HIV can apply for this type of care before travelling to a European Union country whenever they anticipate that they may be left without antiretroviral treatment during a long stay. If this occurs, you should pay for the healthcare and antiretroviral treatment in advance in the destination country and later request reimbursement in your own country.

Further information about this channel is available by completing the form at: https://encuestas.msssi.gob.es/limesurvey/index.php/859532

2) Healthcare through Social Security Coordination Regulations

This channel guarantees European Union citizens healthcare in different circumstances, such as when they travel or when they are displaced or temporarily reside in another member state. For stays of under 3 months, people should use this channel and apply for the European Health Card, which entitles the holder to receive healthcare without having to pay in advance. This channel also allows European citizens to request reimbursement of the healthcare costs that they may have paid in a European Union country, even if they are a European Health Card holder.

The autonomous communities in Spain also use this method when they need to refer a citizen to a European country to receive programmed healthcare.



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People with HIV from European Union countries who are staying temporarily or permanently in another member state may receive antiretroviral care and treatment free of charge. To be eligible for this they must be a holder of the European Health Card and possess official documentation acknowledging their right to healthcare in the country of destination. The documentation must be obtained from the health authorities of the country of origin before travelling. Once the person is in the country of destination, they must request the health authority to acknowledge this right.

Further information about this channel is available using the following link: https://www.seg-social.es/wps/portal/wss/internet/InformacionUtil/32078/966/1819/1821



