



HIV care and change of autonomous community

When a person with HIV goes to live in Spain, one of their top priorities is finding HIV care and treatment. The Spanish National Health System provides health benefits and services.



Spain is divided into 17 autonomous communities (and two autonomous cities), or regions. Each community has the power to legislate on different issues. Jurisdiction for health, for example, lies with each autonomous community. This means that each region in Spain is free to manage its own health system. The central Spanish government therefore simply operates in matters of coordination and only provides a health service directly in Ceuta and Melilla.

So, although there is a common Spanish national regulatory framework, the ways in which health services in Spain are implemented and managed may vary from one autonomous community to another. Each autonomous community has its own approach and policies for providing people with medical care.

This matters because it means that there is no common healthcare card for all autonomous communities. If you are of foreign origin and are being treated for HIV in an autonomous community, this does not necessarily guarantee that you will be given automatic and immediate care and medication in another region.

So, if you plan to change the place you live in Spain, you should find out beforehand whether that also involves a change of autonomous community. If so, you should find out what steps you will need to follow at your new destination (you can ask a local organisation about this). You should also carry as much medication with you as possible to avoid any interruption in treatment. Lastly, it is a good idea for you always to carry a copy of your medical records on you.





Descargo de responsabilidad

La información contenida en esta ficha no pretende sustituir la recibida por el médico. Las decisiones referentes a la salud siempre deberían tomarse tras consultar con los profesionales sanitarios. La información médica puede quedar desactualizada con rapidez.

Si te surge alguna pregunta tras leer esta ficha, te aconsejamos hablar con tu médico o enfermera o llamar a gTt-VIH, al 93 458 26 41, para comprobar si existe alguna novedad relevante al respecto.















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