

Moving to the UK after 31st December 2020 from an EU or EFTA Country

Nationals from these countries will normally have to apply for a visa and pay the Immigration Health Surcharge to enable them to come to the United Kingdom to take up residency and work.

The Law

The law says that all NHS Trusts in the UK are legally obliged to assess whether a person accessing NHS hospital treatment is entitled to receive it. When charges apply, a relevant NHS body must make and recover charges from the person liable to pay for the NHS services provided to the overseas visitor, these charges cannot be waived.

The Trust has an Overseas Visitors Team, their role is to decide whether a person is ordinarily resident or in the UK for purpose which allows them access to treatment without charge.

Your Responsibility

It is **your** responsibility as the patient to make such enquiries to ascertain whether NHS charges will apply for an episode of care. Secondary (hospital) care is not the same as Primary (GP) care. Just because you have been referred to the hospital by a GP and was not charged by your Practice, **IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU DO NOT PAY FOR YOUR HOSPITAL TREATMENT.**

If you are unsure whether you will be charged for your hospital treatment — it is advisable you call the Overseas Visitor Team on one of the numbers on the front of this leaflet.

Prompt action may save you receiving unexpected invoices

If you have been asked to complete a Patient Registration Form —please hand it in to the Receptionist before leaving

This leaflet is a general guide and not a full statement of the current regulations. Please ask the hospital providing treatment for further information or see the Department of Health website www.gov.uk “search” overseas visitors – charging regulations

Version 6 February 2021

EU, EEA or Swiss CITIZENS RESIDING IN THE UK



**How to ensure you and your
children can continue to re-
ceive NHS treatment free of
charge after 31/12/2020**

Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Overseas Visitor Team— Finance Office
Hermitage lane
Maidstone
Kent
ME16 9QQ
Phone : 01892 635895
Email : mtw-tr.overseas@nhs.net

Overview

If you're an EU or EFTA citizen who lived in the UK by 31 December 2020, you must apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021. . Close family members can join you where the relationship existed before 31 December 2020 by getting a EUSS family permit. Also a family member of an eligible person of Northern Ireland can apply."

If your application is successful, you'll [get either settled or pre-settled status](#).

The EEA includes the EU countries and EFTA countries - Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. You may be able to [stay in the UK without applying](#) - for example, if you're an Irish citizen or already have indefinite leave to remain.

The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021. You must usually have started living in the UK by 31 December 2020.

The EUSS scheme will stay open after 30 June 2021 for family members coming in afterwards, and certain allowable late applications.

Settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme

Settled status is also known as 'indefinite leave to remain under the EU Settlement Scheme'.

Settled status is not a status you get automatically - EU citizens have been able to apply for settled status since March 2019. You're usually eligible for settled status if you have been living in the UK for at least 5 years .

[If your child is born or adopted after 31 December 2020](#)

Your children are eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme if you started living in the UK by 31 December 2020 ,even if you have not yet applied yourself.

If your child is born or adopted in the UK before **1 April 2021**, you must make an application for them by **30 June 2021**.

If they were born after 1 April 2021, you must apply within **3 months** of the date they were born or adopted."

If a parent has **settled status when their child is born**, the child will automatically get British Citizenship.

If a parent was granted **settled status after their child was born and is ordinarily resident**, the child will be a British citizen if both the following apply:-

- Parent was eligible for status on 30 June 2021
- Child was born after 30 June 2021

ADVICE FOR VISITORS TO THE UK (Do Read this if you are having family or friends visiting you in the United Kingdom)

Will I have to PAY for my Hospital Treatment?

Charges will apply:

- If you are a British citizen or if you have Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) or status under the EU Settlement Scheme, and you are not ordinarily resident in the UK
- If you entered the UK on a visit visa or a visa of less than 6 month duration —**if you apply to change your visa after your arrival to the UK, charges apply until you have been granted a BRP, or you have ILR— this applies even though you may have paid the mandatory Healthcare Surcharge**
- If you are unlawfully in the UK
- If you are a Failed Asylum Seeker (unsupported by NASS or Local Authority)
- If you are visiting from the European Union and are not exercising a Treaty Right (ie lawfully working, studying, self sufficient) and are not in receipt of a European Health Insurance Card (which is not issued in the UK)

When will I NOT be Charged?

- If the treatment you have received was in the Emergency Department (ED) **only** (charges will apply if you are transferred or come directly to: an Acute Assessment Unit, Clinical Decision Unit, Cardiac Suite, intensive Care unit or any other area in the Hospital).
- If you are being treated for certain infectious diseases (list available)
- Refugees and their dependents
- Asylum Seekers or Failed Asylum Seekers receiving S4 support or support from a Local Authority under Part 1
- Individuals receiving support under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (the 1999 Act) from the Home Office.
- Patients being treated for Domestic Violence
- Victims or Suspected Victims of Modern Slavery
- Anyone receiving compulsory treatment under a court order or who is detained in a hospital or deprived of their liberty (e.g. under the Mental Health Act 1983 or the Mental Capacity Act 2005) is exempt from charge for all treatment
- Prisoners or Immigration Detainees

Entitlement to treatment is based on an individual's merits and is not transferable to a partner or a spouse.

Those Entitled to Some NHS Treatment (without Charge):

According to your Country's' agreement—Treatment is limited to treatment, "**the need for which arose for any condition after your arrival" in the United Kingdom**".

- Anyone, including a refugee, stateless person or a member of the family travelling with them who are in receipt of a European Health Insurance Card issued in their country of residence who normally live in another EU Member State but are visiting the UK .
- Anyone, or the spouse or child of anyone, who is a national of a country that has signed the European Social Charter and is genuinely without the means to pay for their treatment.
- Anyone living in a country with which the UK has a bilateral reciprocal healthcare agreement, (some bilateral reciprocal agreements are limited to nationals of that country only

Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement Countries

European Union countries (EU):-

NEED TO BRING A VALID EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE CARD

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus (south only), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden .



Citizens Resident in the following countries :- Faroe Islands****, Gibraltar**, New Zealand, Norway, Serbia

All residents irrespective of nationality of the following countries :- Anguilla, Australia, British Virgin Islands, Falklands, Isle of Man,* Israel***, Jersey*, St. Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands.

Insured Residents in the following Countries:- Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Montserrat, North Macedonia, Serbia

*Visits not exceeding 3 months

** Visits not exceeding 30 days

*** Limited Treatment

****Danish Nationals only