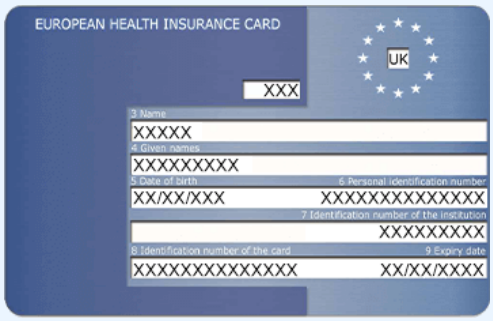
European Institute for Gender Equality

European Health Insurance Card in Lithuania



Valstybinė ligonių kasa - VLK
(National Health Insurance Fund)
Tel: +370 5 236 4100
Email: vlk@vlk.lt
For emergencies Call 112

What is the European Health Insurance Card?

As an EU citizen, if you unexpectedly fall ill during a temporary stay in another EU country - whether on holiday, a business trip or studying abroad - you are entitled to any medical treatment that can't wait until you get home. You have the same rights to healthcare as people insured in the country you are in.

The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is a document issued at no cost to the holder. It certifies that the holder is to receive state-provided medically necessary medical assistance a temporary stay in any of the EU Member States (plus Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), under the same conditions and at the same cost (in some countries at no cost) as people insured in that country. The card is the proof that you are insured in an EU country.

Even if you don't have an EHIC, or you can't use it (for instance, for private health care), you can't be refused treatment, but you might have to pay for your treatment upfront and claim reimbursement once you get home.

EHIC in Lithuania

The EHIC enables access to public funded healthcare, not private treatment. With it, you can receive only emergency or very basic medical care. Thus, it will not serve as medical insurance in case of common illness such as cold, temperature, etc.

Treatment, coverage & costs

Doctors

To use your EHIC, you must consult a doctor at a public healthcare clinic. Treatment is at no charge if you show your EHIC and passport.

Dentists

Only urgent dental treatment services are free of charge in public hospitals and policlinics. However, the costs of the material substances used for the dental treatment are not covered by the EHIC. Most of the dentists work privately, therefore you will have to pay for the costs of treatment yourself.

Public dental healthcare provider

Vilniaus universiteto ligoninės Žalgirio klinika
Žalgirio st. 117, Vilnius
+37052721031
www.zalgirioklinika.lt

Hospital treatment

You can access the accident and emergency department of any hospital in Lithuania. Show your EHIC and your passport upon admission. In all other cases, you will need a referral from a doctor. If you seek non-emergency hospital treatment without a referral, you will be charged the full cost.

Public medical health providers

Even though you can receive medical aid in all cases, there are some health institutions in Vilnius that provide easier access to healthcare services for foreigners in English, thus overcoming the language barrier. These include:

Respublikinė Vilniaus universitetinė ligoninė
Šiltnamių st. 29, Vilnius
+370 5 216 9140
www.rvul.lt

Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos
Santariškių st. 2, Vilnius
+370 5 236 5000
www.santa.lt

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VšĮ Vilniaus miesto klinikinė ligoninė
Antakalnio st. 57, Vilnius
+370 5 234 45 19
www.vmkl.lt

Further useful information is available at this link: http://www.vlk.lt/sites/en/health-insurance-in-Lithuania/health-insurance-system .

Prescriptions

Part of the cost of prescribed subsidised medicines is covered by the national health insurance fund (Valstybinė ligonių kasa - VLK). You will need to pay any remaining amount in addition to the full price for any pharmaceutical products not listed in the national price list of subsidised medicine.

Ambulance

Transportation by ambulance is free of charge.

Reimbursement

You will only be charged for your share of the treatment costs which are not refundable in Lithuania. Separately, if you have to pay for care, you should contact your national health insurance provider when you return home to seek reimbursement.

Patient contribution

The patient covers part of the cost of subsidised medicine. Co-payment depends on the type of medicine. It should not exceed 20% of the reference price of the subsidised medicine. Keep in mind that the reimbursement level depends on the pharmaceutical in question and the illness diagnosed.

Dialysis, oxygen & chemotherapy

In Lithuania your EHIC covers the provision of renal dialysis and chemotherapy in Lithuania. In order to access such services you should arrange and pre-book the necessary medical treatment.

Take note that it will not cover the costs of:

- private healthcare or services that are not part of the national healthcare system.
- being repatriated to your home country or to travel abroad specifically to receive treatment, including going abroad to give birth.

So the EHIC does not serve as a guarantee of free services. As each EU Member State's healthcare system is different, services that cost nothing at home might not be free of cost in another Member State.

What to do if I forget to bring or lose my EHIC

If medical treatment becomes necessary during your stay in Lithuania, but you do not have your EHIC with you, you might have to pay for the treatment and later claim for reimbursement. Make sure you keep all relevant receipts and bills. You will have to provide them at your country of insurance.

Doctors & hospitals accepting the EHIC

Information about healthcare institutions that have a contract with the territorial health insurance funds, are available on their websites:

- hospitals - VILNIAUS TERITORINĖ LIGONIŲ KASA (In Lithuanian only)
- hospitals - KAUNO TERITORINĖ LIGONIŲ KASA (in Lithuanian only)
- hospitals - Klaipedos teritorine ligoniu kasa (in Lithuanian only)
- hospitals - Siauliu teritorine ligoniu kasa (in Lithuanian only)
- hospitals - PANEVĖŽIO TERITORINĖ LIGONIŲ KASA (in Lithuanian only)

A link of EHIC related information issued in all EU Member States is found at the following link .

Loss of card

Contact for holders of EHICs
issued in Lithuania:
Valstybinė ligonių kasa - VLK
(National Health Insurance Fund))
Tel: +370 5 236 4100; +370 5 2661364
Email: vlk@vlk.lt

What action can you take if your EHIC is not recognised?

If your EHIC is not recognised by the authorities of any EU Member State (or Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) you can request your home insurer to contact the doctor or hospital abroad.

Alternatively you can consult SOLVIT. SOLVIT is a (mainly) online service provided free of charge by the national administration in each EU Member State. The best way to contact SOLVIT is via this link: https://ec.europa.eu/solvit/what-is-solvit/index_en.htm .