

## ***European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)***

If you intend to travel abroad, then you should know that the old E111 form has been replaced by a new EHIC. The EHIC entitles all UK residents to state provided care in the European Economic Area (EU countries, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) for a reduced cost and sometimes free of charge. It also entitles you to access to treatment under the same terms as people living in that country.

The EHIC is complementary to travel insurance (please read the next section) and **is not** an alternative. It does not cover repatriation costs and may not cover all health costs. It also does not cover situations when people make deliberate trips abroad for treatment.

You can apply online for the EHIC card. Enter your name, date of birth and NI number to complete the form. You can also apply on behalf of your spouse and all dependant children aged under 16. The card is free and you should receive it within 7 days.

The card may also be applied for by telephone on 0845 606 2030 and may take up to 10 days to arrive.

If you wish to apply by post, an application form may be collected from your local **Post Office**. Please be aware that by this process, that it may take up to 21 days for you to receive your free card.

The **Department of Health** also has a website with valuable information for travellers, which may be found on their webpage [www.dh.gov.uk/travellers](http://www.dh.gov.uk/travellers) .

A booklet called “Health Advice for Travellers” is also available from the **Post Office**.

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Tel: 0845 606 2030

Web Site:

[www.ehic.org.uk](http://www.ehic.org.uk)

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