**General rules**

The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) provides access to medically necessary healthcare in Latvia. The doctor attending to you will decide what type of care you need. The doctor will take into account your state of health and the planned duration of your stay in Latvia. In the event of a health emergency, you are entitled to the same level of care under Latvia’s public healthcare system as Latvian citizens. Such care is provided under the same conditions as for Latvian citizens.

**How to receive treatment**

If you need medical assistance, take your EHIC along with your identity card or passport and go to the nearest public health facility. This facility must have an agreement with the National Healthcare System. For information about available GPs, call 8001234 (free call).

A GP may give you a referral for specialist or hospital care. Keep any referrals provided, as you will need them for further treatment. In an emergency, you can go to hospital without a referral or call the emergency number: 113 or 112.

You must indicate that you wish to be treated in accordance with EU legislation.

The entity authorised to transport the patient to hospital is Neatliekamās medicīniskās palīdzības dienests (NMP).

**What do I have to pay for?**

In Latvia, you have to pay for certain services, although they are free in Poland. Therefore, such paid services will not be reimbursed by the National Health Fund (NFZ). Here are examples of paid services in Latvia and their estimated costs:

* **an appointment with a GP** – from EUR 1.42 to EUR 4.27,
* **diagnostic tests in connection with outpatient treatment** – from EUR 1.42 to EUR 35.57,
* **dental treatment** – according to the price list of a given dentist, adults can choose any dentist who has an agreement with the public healthcare system. The treatment is free of charge for children and young people up to the age of 18,
* **hospital treatment** – daily rate from the second day of stay of EUR 10 and EUR 7.11 for treatment in specialised hospitals. The total charges may not exceed EUR 355.72 per hospital stay and EUR 569.15 per year,
* **paying for medicines** – a flat rate applies for reimbursable medicines amounting to EUR 0.71 and 0%, 10%, 25% or 50% of the price of the medicine. Other medicines are fully paid for by the patient,
* **ambulance transport** – free of charge in emergencies.

Children and young people up to 18 years of age, dialysis patients and pregnant women, women in labour and postpartum until 42 days after delivery are exempt from additional fees.

The patient pays for their own health services in the following areas: cosmetic surgery and cosmetology, induced abortions (except for medical reasons), services provided by stem cell banks, spa treatments, unconventional medicine, etc.

The patient must bear the cost of medical transport to Poland.

**Does the EHIC cover treatment for coronavirus?**

In Latvia, if you get coronavirus, you will receive assistance under the same conditions as for Latvian citizens. However, you must bear the cost of ambulance transport to Poland.

**How can I get a prescription?**

If you need a prescription for medicines, go to a doctor who has an agreement with the National Healthcare System. The prescriptions are valid for 3 months.

**Can I be reimbursed for private healthcare?**

All costs for medical treatment in Latvian facilities outside the public health system are covered by the patient.

When you return to Poland, you can apply for a reimbursement of the costs incurred. However, they will be reimbursed according to the Polish rates that apply in settlements between the National Health Fund and Polish healthcare providers. The amount reimbursed may not exceed the actual expenditure incurred.

[Conditions and procedure for claiming reimbursement for treatment in private facilities.](http://www.kpk.nfz.gov.pl/pl/leczenie-w-innym-panstwie/zwrot-kosztow-swiadczen.html)

**How to claim reimbursement for medical expenses**

In order to claim the expenses paid for medical treatment, submit a request for reimbursement to your National Health Fund branch. Attach the original receipts and proof of payment.

**Where to find more information**

For more information on the healthcare system in Latvia, contact the liaison body:

Nacionālaisveselībasdienests

Cēsu iela 31 k-3,

LV-1012 Riga,

Latvija

Phone: 00371 67045005

Fax: 00371 67043701

[www.vmnvd.gov.lv](http://www.vmnvd.gov.lv)