


Health insurance

Insurance is compulsory in Germany. Do you have a residence permit? Then you must register with a regular health insurance fund. There you will receive an insurance card. This will give you the same benefits as everyone else in Germany.

 [Health insurance website](#)


Do you have an acute illness abroad? You will also receive basic care in many foreign doctors' surgeries and hospitals. You can obtain information from your health insurance company.


You can choose a general practitioner (family doctor) of your choice. Do you need treatment from a specialist? Then you will receive a referral from your family doctor.


 Are you going to a hospital? Are you seeing a therapist? Are you seeing a doctor? Then take your insurance card with you.

Insurance card

The insurance card is very important. You can use it to go to the doctor. The doctor's work is paid for by your insurance. The card is also your insurance throughout Europe. It is called the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). You can use it to go to the doctor in any EU country.

 Are you travelling to a country outside the EU? Then you should take out additional insurance. Insurance for abroad protects you while travelling. It's called international health insurance.

Would you like to understand the German healthcare system? You can find information on this  [website](#). This information is available in German and English.

 As a refugee or asylum seeker, you are not yet covered by health insurance. You need a health insurance voucher. You can use this to go to the doctor. You can obtain these certificates from the [social welfare office](#).