

Reciprocal Health Care Agreements (RHCA) with other countries

Australia has Reciprocal Health Care Agreements (RHCA) with the following countries:

- Belgium
- Finland
- Italy
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- The Republic of Ireland
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- The United Kingdom

Under the RHCA, visitors from the above countries may be eligible for medically necessary care while they are in Australia.

What is covered under the RHCA?

People visiting Australia from:

- Belgium
- Finland
- Italy
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- The United Kingdom

may be eligible for:

- medically necessary care out of hospital
- medically necessary care as a public patient in a public hospital
- some PBS prescription medicines at the general rate.

People visiting Australia from:

- New Zealand
- The Republic of Ireland

may be eligible for:

- medically necessary care as a public patient in a public hospital
- some PBS prescription medicines at the general rate.

How to enrol in Medicare under the RHCA

People visiting Australia from:

- Belgium
- Finland
- Italy
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- The United Kingdom

need to enrol in Medicare by visiting a service centre with a completed Medicare enrolment form and the required documents as per their country's agreement.

People visiting Australia from:

- New Zealand
 - The Republic of Ireland
- don't need to enrol in Medicare and won't receive a Medicare card.

Billing a patient covered under the RHCA

- If a patient holds a valid Medicare card, they may be privately or bulk billed as per a usual Australian citizen patient.
- If a patient has registered their bank account details with Medicare, the MBS rebate may be paid directly to their nominated bank account via Medicare online.
- If a patient doesn't hold a Medicare card but is eligible for medically necessary care out of hospital under the RHCA, they may be charged a private fee and the patient can claim the MBS rebate from a Medicare Service Centre.

Find out more about the RHCA

For more information about the Reciprocal Health Care Agreements (RHCA), refer to the Services Australia website:

- www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements/when-you-visit-australia

Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this document, this information is a guide only and subject to change without notice.

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