

# 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](http://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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