

Statement on European Cross Border Health Care

This statement describes how NHS North and West Reading, NHS South Reading, NHS Wokingham, and NHS Newbury and District Clinical Commissioning Groups meet the requirements of European Directive 2011/24, and the policy published by NHS England (2013) to support access to healthcare in Europe.

Who is entitled to NHS funding for healthcare in Europe?

NHS funding for treatment in the European Economic Area (EEA)¹ will be provided for people who are entitled to NHS care if:

- an appropriately qualified clinician recommends the treatment;
- the patient meets the local NHS's treatment criteria;
- the cost of treatment in Europe is equivalent or less than the cost of NHS treatment.

What treatments will be funded?

NHS funding for treatment in Europe will not normally be provided for 'low priority' treatments; patients/clinicians seeking NHS funding for these treatments must apply through the Individual Funding Request process. All local commissioning policies setting out patient entitlement to treatments, and treatments and services that are not generally available to NHS patients in Berkshire West can be found on the following website:

- <http://www.fundingrequestscentralsouthern.co.uk/>

Or contact us by

E-mail: BerksWest.IFRrequests@nhs.net

Telephone: 01189 9822853

Post: IFR Team, Central Southern CSU, 57-59 Bath Road, Reading, RG30 2BA

How to apply for healthcare in Europe

Any patients living in England who wishes to have their NHS treatment in the European Economic Area should complete the application form available from the link below:

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/plannedtreatment/Documents/nhs-england-funding-for-european-healthcare-form-2013.pdf>

A national Contact Point, the 'European team', has been set up by NHS England, to manage S2 and EU Directive applications on behalf of the whole of England. Further information may be obtained by contacting the European team at: england.europeanhealthcare@nhs.net

More information about the general eligibility criteria can be found on the NHS Choices website: www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/plannedtreatment

¹ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom. NB while Switzerland is not in the EEA, Swiss nationals have the same rights as EEA nationals.