



# Accessing treatment abroad







## Governing legislation at a glance

FEBRUARY 2024

*As a resident in the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, or Norway (EU/EEA) with healthcare coverage, you have the right to medical treatment in any other EU/EEA country. Your country of residence will cover part or all of your medical costs. Contact your country's National Contact Point to find out about your patient rights and get all the information on the documents and the procedures to be followed.*

For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions for outgoing patients](#). Information about rules for social security coordination with the UK can be found [here](#).

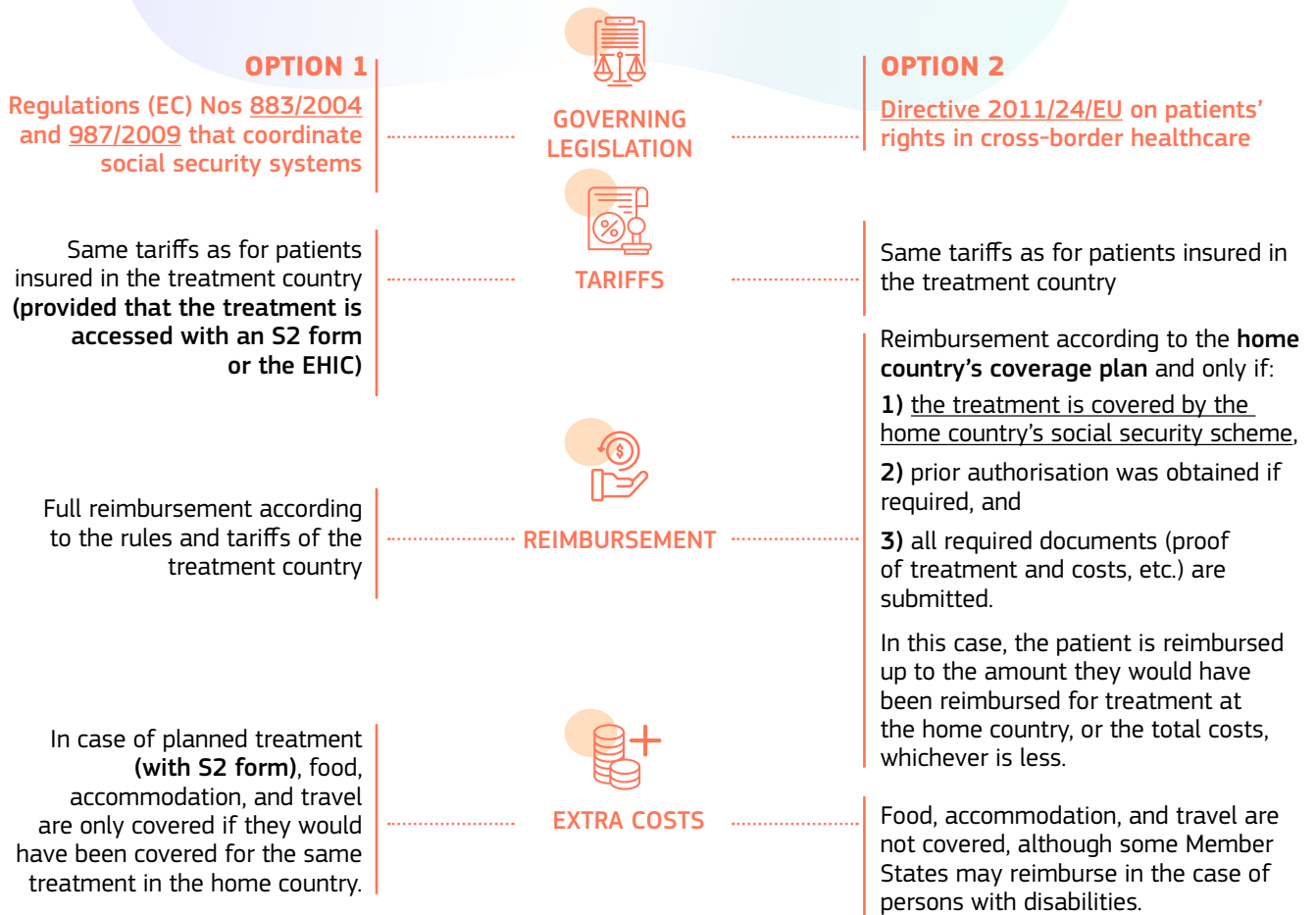
### TREATMENT ABROAD

<p><b>OPTION 1</b> Regulations (EC) Nos <a href="#">883/2004</a> and <a href="#">987/2009</a> that coordinate social security systems</p>	<p> <b>GOVERNING LEGISLATION</b></p>	<p><b>OPTION 2</b> <a href="#">Directive 2011/24/EU</a> on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare</p>
<p>Public or contracted private healthcare providers</p>	<p> <b>PROVIDER</b></p>	<p>Any public or private healthcare providers</p>
<p>Planned treatment: Prior authorisation (form S2) Unplanned necessary treatment: <a href="#">European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)</a></p>	<p> <b>CONDITIONS OF USE</b></p>	<p>Applies <b>only to treatments covered</b> by the national insurance plan of the home country. <b>Planned treatment:</b> May need prior authorisation with a country-specific form (not the S2). <b>Unplanned necessary treatment:</b> No EHIC requirement</p>
<p>Mostly covered directly by national health insurance providers. Payment might be requested if this is the normal practice for patients in the treatment country.</p>	<p> <b>PAYMENT</b></p>	<p><b>Patient pays, full payment upfront</b></p>
<p>According to the <b>treatment country's coverage plan</b> (tariffs, procedures, etc.)</p>	<p> <b>REIMBURSEMENT</b></p>	<p>According to the <b>home country's coverage plan</b> (tariffs, procedures, etc.) Potential partial or full reimbursement after filing for reimbursement in home country. Estimated expenses (prior notification) provided prior to treatment in some countries</p>
<p>Any EU/EEA Member State and <b>Switzerland</b> Different rules in place for the <b>UK</b></p>	<p> <b>TREATMENT COUNTRIES</b></p>	<p>Any EU/EEA Member State (<b>excluding Switzerland</b>)</p>

See 'Section 1.2. Who is entitled to cross-border healthcare? Which countries are covered?' in the [Frequently Asked Questions for outgoing patients](#) for more information on exceptions, or contact your [National Contact Point](#).



## TARIFFS AND REIMBURSEMENT



## USEFUL LINKS



[Your Europe: Health](#)



[European Health Insurance Card](#)



[Manual for Patients on accessing healthcare in any EU/EEA country](#)



[National Contact Points](#)

Please see Section 3.3 of the European Commission's [Manual for patients](#) for more details on the pros and cons of both legal frameworks.



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