



European Consumer Centres Network

TOURISM IN GERMANY

This brochure will provide you with information on health in Germany. You will find practical advice and important legal information covering the different topics. We have tried to include all the relevant information concerning travel to Germany and your stay in Germany; however the information provided is not fully detailed on all points and should be viewed as a guide not as a verbatim statement of the law.

Health care in Germany

Citizens of the European Union

- ◆ If you are a citizen of the European Union and you have a compulsory health insurance, if you get sick in Germany or are victim of an accident, you can get refund for the needed medical expenses if you presented before the treatment to the German doctor or in a German hospital the **European Health Insurance Card** (EHIC). This card replaces the E111 form and other EU forms (E110, 119, etc).
- ◆ The card is available at your health insurance board. It's an individual card so each member of your family should have one. It's valid one year and for free but it is not given automatically so think of asking your social security centre a few weeks before leaving.
- ◆ When presenting your card to the doctor, you shouldn't have to pay for the treatment. However, please note that some health professionals may not know the mechanism of the EHIC.
- ◆ If you have a chronic condition and are likely to need treatment abroad, you should contact your usual health provider for information about appropriate medical centres for your stay in Germany and about any associated costs.
- ◆ However, it may be useful to pay for an additional travel insurance that covers additional costs such as repatriation.

Third countries (non-EU countries)

- ◆ If you're coming from a country that isn't a Member State of the European Union and your home country has no special agreement with Germany with regard to social insurance, you are not protected by the compulsory health insurance in Germany. Since you would have to pay the costs for the medical treatment yourself, we recommend you to take a **private health insurance** that covers any medical or repatriation costs when abroad.

Pharmacy and medical care

- ◆ There is a large network of pharmacies in towns and cities, and although the opening hours are generally like the other shops, there is always an emergency pharmacy at night, on Sundays and during bank holidays. The address of the nearest emergency pharmacy is usually written on the door of the closed ones.
- ◆ To obtain certain types of medicines, a prescription provided by a doctor is needed. Other medicines are freely sold and can be then supplied to you over the counter. The pharmacist will be able to give you any further information.

Emergency numbers

Medical emergencies: 112

Police emergencies: 110

Fire Service emergencies: 112

For further information, the European Consumer Centres (ECCs) will be pleased to help you. You can find further information and a complete list of all ECCs under:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/consumers/redress/ecc_network/index_en.htm



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