HOW TO REGISTER FOR HEALTHCARE IN SPAIN UNDER SPECIAL CONVENIO
Members Experience

So we arrived in Spain, well to be precise we arrived in Turre Almeria which is part of Andalucía in August 2012. Our intentions were always to do the right thing so we registered on the Padron and set about registering on the Registro de Extranjeros which you are supposed to do after 3 months of living in Spain. As we had come here in August 2012 this proved quite difficult, as we had to provide proof of income and proof of medical cover. But that is a whole different story.

Now medical cover actually wasn’t that difficult because as early retirees, I was 62 and my wife was 58 we were able to obtain S1 forms from the DWP in Newcastle, albeit with an expiry date depending on when you ceased making NI contributions. I understand now that this has been discontinued. We took the forms to the INSS office in Huercal Overa and explained our situation (the guy on the desk actually spoke good English which was better than my Spanish) and we left with stamped forms to take to our local medical centre. There with our stamped forms we were able to register and make appointments etc. as if we were Spanish citizens so everything was fine.

However there was an expiry date of Jan 2014 as the S1 forms were only temporary and after that date we discovered we were not covered medically by UK or indeed in Spain. The only option it appeared, was private medical cover via the insurance route.

However having read Maria’s Ultimate Guide to Healthcare on the Citizens Advice Spain website, it appeared there was another route which was to buy into the Spanish National Healthcare system as per a Royal decree. The only problem was that not all regions seemed to be familiar with this system, nor indeed had adopted it into their healthcare systems. Unfortunately for us Andalucía seemed to be one which was

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unfamiliar with it, and we wasted some time talking to the INSS and TGSS offices who knew nothing of it.

Then on 24th Jun 2014 the website of the Junta de Andalucía showed a link under derechos and garantias where you could download a form to apply for the convenio especial. However it didn’t tell you where you should take the completed form and strangely the next day it wasn’t available on the web site at all.

I decided to take the bull by the horns and emailed the Presidenta de la Junta de Andalucía directly, which was actually very easy on the Junta’s website and surprise, surprise I got a reply telling me where I should go with the form I had downloaded.

I was told to take it to our local medical centre along with copies of NIE etc. Which I did and they didn’t seem surprised by it unlike the INSS and TGSS office previously, so we were hopeful that it would be sorted. The guy in reception faxed our completed forms along with copies of NIE etc off to the Servicio Andaluz de Salud and told us to expect something within 30 days.

So very optimistic now we waited and waited and waited, but nothing was happening and a visit to the Medical Centre confirmed that they also had heard nothing. It was at this point that I decided I would email the Servicio Andaluz de Salud directly, and also copy in the Gabinete de la Presidenta de la Junta de Andalucía as well. So I sent scanned copies of the form and all supporting documents and asked what else I needed to do.

This was the start of dialogue which ultimately led to us being successful in achieving enrolment into the Spanish National Health Service. The one thing we hadn’t thought of was the letter from Newcastle proving that we had no access to healthcare in UK but that was really easy to obtain, just a phone call to +44 191 218 1999 and they were in the post. The main thing was establishing contact with the SAS via email websas@juntadeandalucia.es and once we had established this, it was just a matter of replying to everything and providing any information requested.
It took some time but we finally received an agreement to sign and return along with proof of first payment of €60 each which we did by post (tracked) and then we received confirmation that our copy of the signed agreement was on its way along with tarjetas sanitarias.

The only obstacle I can see for people in our situation will be where to get the initial application form from, and I do have a pdf copy which I can supply as I cannot see it available elsewhere unless someone at Citizens Advice Spain had downloaded it on the one day it was available.

By Steve Clarke
29/10/14

Note from Admin CAB Spain: pics of what the form and the explanation note look like are attached on the next page down.

Printable copies available through us.

Please email us to request copies.
SOLICITUD DE SUSCRIPCIÓN DE CONVENIO ESPECIAL DE PRESTACIÓN DE ASISTENCIA SANITARIA

1. DATOS DE LA PERSONA INTERESADA

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<th>NOMBRE Y APELLIDOS</th>
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Esta solicitud podrá formularse a través de representación voluntaria, en cuyo caso se cumplimentarán los datos de los apartados siguientes (2 y 3)

2. DATOS DE LA PERSONA REPRESENTANTE VOLUNTARIA

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3. LUGAR, FECHA Y FIRMA

Con la firma del presente escrito EL/LA REPRESENTANTE ACEPTA LA REPRESENTACIÓN CONFERIDA por la persona interesada, y declara que los datos son ciertos, así como la documentación que se adjunta, asumiendo la responsabilidad derivada de la omisión o falsedad en alguno de ellos.

En ........................................ a ................................................ de ..................................

LA PERSONA INTERESADA       EL/LA REPRESENTANTE

Fdo.: ..................................................  Fdo.: ..................................................

4. DATOS A EFECTOS DE NOTIFICACIONES (Consignar en caso de que sea distinto al anterior)

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Convenios especiales para la prestación de asistencia sanitaria

Definición

Son los convenios para la prestación de asistencia sanitaria a personas residentes en España que no tienen la condición de asegurados ni de beneficiarios del Sistema Nacional de Salud, mediante el pago de una contraprestación económica.

Requisitos

a. Acreditar la residencia efectiva en España durante un período continuado mínimo de un año inmediatamente anterior a la fecha de la solicitud del convenio especial.

b. Estar empadronados, en el momento de presentar la solicitud de suscripción del convenio especial, en algún municipio perteneciente al ámbito territorial de la Comunidad Autónoma de Andalucía.

c. No tener acceso a un sistema de protección sanitaria pública por cualquier otro título, ya sea por aplicación de la normativa nacional, de los reglamentos comunitarios en materia de Seguridad Social o de los convenios bilaterales que en dicha materia hayan sido suscritos por España con otros países.

Prestaciones

El convenio especial permitirá a las personas que lo suscriban acceder a las prestaciones de la cartera común básica de servicios asistenciales del Sistema Nacional de Salud regulada en el artículo 8 bis de la Ley 16/2003, de 28 de mayo, con las mismas garantías de extensión, continuidad asistencial y cobertura de que disfrutan las personas que ostentan la condición de asegurados o de beneficiarios del Sistema Nacional de Salud, en el ámbito de la Comunidad Autónoma de Andalucía.

La cartera común básica comprende todas las actividades asistenciales de prevención, diagnóstico tratamiento y rehabilitación que se realizan en centros sanitarios o socio sanitarios, así como transporte sanitario urgente, cubiertas de forma completa por financiación pública.

Quedan excluidas las prestaciones de la cartera común suplementaria y por tanto las siguientes:

- Prestación farmacéutica.
- Prestación ortoprotésica.
- Prestación con productos dietéticos.
- Trasporte sanitario no urgente.

Toda persona que se desplace temporalmente a territorio de otra comunidad autónoma, tendrá derecho a recibir en ese territorio las prestaciones de la cartera común básica de servicios asistenciales del Sistema Nacional de Salud.

Tramitación

El procedimiento para la suscripción del convenio especial de prestación de asistencia sanitaria se iniciará siempre a solicitud del interesado o representante voluntario.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/citizensinspain/

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