

YOU NEED HEALTHCARE WITHOUT HAVING A HEALTH INSURANCE?



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If a referral or a transfer to a contracted hospital is not possible, e.g. due to lack of expertise, a non-contracted hospital may also submit a reimbursement claim. Exception: there is no need for a referral when it concerns pregnancies and childbirth. In the southeast of the Dutch province of Noord-Brabant Máxima Medisch Centrum in Veldhoven is a contracted hospital.

For any questions about this brochure or about providing healthcare to non-registered strangers, please contact:

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Healthcare for non-registered (illegal) foreigners

This brochure is intended for those in need of care as well as for care providers.

Take this brochure with you when visiting a doctor.

Illegal strangers, not officially registered in The Netherlands, still have a right to receive healthcare services when needed.

Yet, they are not entitled to a healthcare insurance and must pay for the services themselves. Even in case, they are financially unable to settle their bill themselves, they are still entitled to receive healthcare. The healthcare provider can submit the expenses made to the 'Board of Health Insurance Providers'. Providing healthcare to non-registered strangers is definitely not illegal and is even a legal duty when necessary.

Eligible persons:

1. Illegal foreigners in the Netherlands;
2. Foreigners who submitted an application for a residence permit;
3. Foreigners who have objected or have resisted after their application for a residence permit was denied.

Non-eligible persons:

- Dutch citizens;
- Citizens of Aruba, Curaçao and Saint Maarten;
- EU-citizens;
- Citizens of Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

I need medical care

- For medical care you should visit the 'huisarts' (General Practitioner (GP)). All GP's, including the ones in your vicinity will help you when necessary. The GP will always take care of you, even if you are unable to reimburse him for his expenses. Beyond office hours you can visit the 'centrale huisartsenposten' (central GP stations) in your neighbourhood. In case of an emergency you should go to the nearest hospital.
- It is possible that your GP considers it necessary to perform a blood test. For a blood test you must go to Diagnostiek voor U in Helmond and Eindhoven (see insert), or to a hospital. The results of the test will be presented to you by the GP. The making of an ultrasound is only possible in Eindhoven.
- Whenever necessary, your GP will transfer you to a specialist, e.g. in a hospital. This will always be the Máxima Medisch Centrum in either Eindhoven or Veldhoven. When considered necessary, you will be admitted to hospital, even if you cannot afford the treatment.

- Medical prescriptions can be collected at special pharmacies (apotheek) (see insert). The pharmacist will always submit the prescribed medication, even if you are unable to pay for it.
- You will always be charged for dental care, unless you are under the age of 18.
- You will be charged for the first 20 treatment sessions at a physiotherapist.
- For mental healthcare you may turn to a psychologist or psychiatrist. The best way to contact these specialists is by visiting the GGZe in Eindhoven.
- When pregnant, you can see an obstetrician for support. In case you cannot afford it, treatment is free. You will give birth at home, but if necessary you may deliver in hospital (Máxima Medisch Centrum). Subsequently you are entitled to maternity care.
- You are entitled to home nursing and caring and if necessary you may be admitted to nursing home Dommelhoeve in Eindhoven.
- If necessary, you will be taken to a hospital by an ambulance.

I provide healthcare

These non-registered foreigners must pay for their own healthcare. Whenever they cannot afford it, the healthcare provider can turn to the Zorginstituut Nederland for a contribution. On its website (www.zorginstituutnederland.nl) you will find additional information (mainly in Dutch) concerning the regulations. You will also find a claimform on this website. The healthcare providers listed below are eligible for a contribution of the Zorginstituut Nederland:

- All GP's
- All obstetricians and midwives
- All dentists
- All paramedics
- Contracted pharmacies
- Contracted GGZ (Mental Health Care) and AWBZ (Exceptional Medical Expenses Act) institutions.
- Contracted suppliers of resources
- All hospitals. There is a difference between contracted hospitals and non-contracted hospitals. The Zorginstituut Nederland has contracted several hospitals throughout the Netherlands where non-registered strangers are able to receive any necessary healthcare. Contracted hospitals can claim their expenses from the Zorginstituut Nederland according to the conditions of their mutual agreement.