

# NHS migrant charges

## An attack on our communities

### An attack on #ourNHS

The Government is using racist NHS migrant charges to divide people. They want to distract us from:

- the relentless **cuts to NHS services**
- the **attacks on staff pay and working conditions**
- the current **reorganisation of the NHS** into 44 regions, which will eventually be run as Accountable Care Organisations – wide open for takeover by large, international, private health corporations.

**Our NHS was always meant to be free at the point of use for all.**

Aneurin Bevan, who founded the NHS, said foreigners would pay their share by paying our consumer and other taxes.

**Genuine 'health tourism' is not a big NHS problem.** The Government has no real data, but a *New Statesman* report estimated the cost as being, at most, 0.3% of the NHS budget.

**Migrant charges are not bringing in extra money for the NHS.** In 2015, a third of hospital trusts were spending more to collect these charges than they were making. But any surplus goes straight to the Government's central funds anyway. It is NOT extra funding for our cash-strapped NHS!

**This is RACIST.** Wherever you come from, we ALL deserve great healthcare.

**This is UNFAIR.** No-one should have to pay 150% of the cost of services that should be free. Neither should people on working visas – including many non-EU doctors, nurses and care staff – be forced to pay twice. They already pay tax and National Insurance.

**This is WRONG.** NHS staff are health workers. They shouldn't be made to police immigration controls.

**This is DANGEROUS** – for migrants AND for public health in general.

**Don't be fooled.** Migrant charges are really meant to start making us think that it's normal to charge people for healthcare and to deny them care.

Today it's migrants. But tomorrow it will be UK citizens who don't have health insurance.



**Say no to racist migrant charges. Fight for the NHS**



- Write to your MP
- Join Keep Our NHS Public



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<https://keepournhspublic.com/>

# Treatment in the **NHS**

## Migrants still have rights

### New NHS charges

Because the Government changed the law in 2014, some migrants are now being charged for using the NHS.

### Healthcare surcharge

If you are here on a work or study visa for more than six months you now pay a charge of £150 (students) or £200 (workers) every year. So do your family members.

### Overseas visitors

Overseas visitors are now charged 150% of the cost of hospital treatment. You will also be charged in advance when hospital staff like midwives provide services outside the hospital.

**But some services are still free.**

### Free NHS treatment

**You have free use of the NHS if:**

- you're a UK citizen and you live in the UK, or get a UK pension
- you're a UK citizen who works for the UK Government abroad
- you're settled here, with indefinite leave to remain
- you have applied for indefinite leave to remain, or
- you come from a country in the European Economic Area.



**You will also get free treatment if:**

- you're an asylum seeker, failed asylum seeker, or if you are detained
- you were a victim of modern slavery or trafficking, or domestic abuse
- you are a 'looked-after' child.

**And some services are still free for everyone**

**You do NOT have to show your passport to use these services.**

You can see a GP (family doctor). You need to register with them first.

Treatment for serious infectious diseases is free – including tuberculosis and HIV.

Contraceptives are still free from family planning clinics.

Treatment in A&E is free. (You will be charged if you're admitted to hospital.)

Treatment for serious mental health problems is free.

**Make sure you get the healthcare you need**  
**Don't pay for services you should get for free!**