



We hear many questions about medical needs and access to free health care in Greece. People sometimes tell us that their specific conditions and complaints are not dealt with; or that they are given a basic painkiller or vitamin to treat more complex problems.

Who Is Eligible For Free Health Care?

According to a new [Greek law \(number 4368\)](#) passed in April, the following people have free access to pharmaceutical and healthcare in hospitals and medical centers all over Greece, regardless of their financial situation:

- **Recognised refugees**
- People with **subsidiary protection**
- **Stateless** people and **members of their families** (spouse and minor children)

Asylum seekers with a “protection card” — which is given to persons who *have applied for asylum, or are waiting for an interview or appeal* — have free access to hospitals in Greece, **but they have to pay for any medical examinations** (e.g. gastroscopia, blood-tests, ultra-sounds etc.) Even if an residence permit is expired or an appeals process is underway, public health for asylum seekers and refugees is free. Pregnant women, minors and disabled people have free access to health care.

What Is Included In Free Health Care?

The following medical services are [free of charge](#) for people who are identified as eligible:

- **Hospital admission and care**
- **Pharmaceutical treatment** — medicine that is **prescribed** by a doctor
- **Emergency health care**

Who Is Not Eligible For Free Medical Treatment?

People who possess a “Kharti” or registration card, but do not possess a “protection card” or are not in the eligible list above **can not access free medical checks** in hospitals in Greece.