

Bringing proof of identity to your appointment

Hospital appointments and treatment are free to people who are living in the UK lawfully and permanently. All NHS Trusts have a duty by law to establish, without discrimination, if all patients are entitled to free NHS care. Patients not entitled to free NHS care will have to pay.

To help us decide if you are entitled to free NHS care, you are requested to bring a proof of identity **and** a proof of address with you to your new outpatient appointment (please refer to the list of acceptable documents below). If the patient is aged 16 years or under, the parent or legal guardian must bring documents to show that they are lawfully resident in the UK.

If you have **not** lived in the UK for the last six months or require further information, please contact the Overseas Visitors Office on 020 7188 7767 / 3202 before your appointment date. Do **not** call this number if you wish to talk to someone about your appointment.

If you do not normally live in the UK, you may need to **pay in advance** for your appointment and any treatment you might need.

Documents that can be used as proof of identity:*

1. Current signed passport
2. Residence permit issued by the Home Office
3. EU or Swiss national identity photo-card
4. Valid UK photo-card driving licence
5. Valid armed or police forces photographic identity card
6. Photographic disabled blue badge
7. Citizen card



***Please note:** it is best to bring proof of your right to reside in the UK (i.e. UK or EEA passport, EEA national ID photo card, visa or residence permit issued by the Home Office, Biometric Residence Card or Permit, Asylum Registration Card or a valid UK armed or police forces photo ID). This will help us to determine your eligibility more quickly and avoid delays to your treatment.



Documents that can be used as proof of current address – must be dated within the last six months:

1. Recent original utility bill (i.e. gas, electric, water, telephone - not mobile)
2. Council tax bill (valid for current year)
3. Bank, building society or credit union statement or passbook
4. Recent original mortgage statement from recognised lender
5. Current council/housing association rent book or tenancy agreement
6. Notification letter from Department for Work and Pensions / HM Revenue and Customs confirming your right to benefit or state pension

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