

MEDICAL TREATMENT CARD

Instructions for patients entitled to financial assistance from the Charleroi CPAS (Public Centre for Social Welfare)

If your residence situation does **not entitle you to register with a health insurance mutual**, your **normal and actual place of residence** is within the city of Charleroi and you wish to receive medical assistance, you can **apply for a medical treatment card** from the Charleroi C.P.A.S.

Procedure to follow:

- **Apply for a medical treatment card** from the Antenne Sociale Etrangers (Foreign Nationals' Social Welfare Department) of the Charleroi CPAS at 15/17 Boulevard de l'Yser, 16000 Charleroi.
- **You must cooperate with the social welfare enquiry and provide all relevant documents.**
- **You must agree to a home visit** by the social worker so that he can establish that you are resident in Charleroi and your need for assistance.
The CPAS is bound by professional confidentiality and does not provide any information to the Police or Charleroi's Foreign Nationals' Department.
- If you are **homeless**, you must provide an attestation of attendance at night shelters or the address of the person with whom you are staying.
- The CPAS has an obligation to make a decision within one month from the date of receipt of your application: you will then be notified by the CPAS of the decision on your application for a medical treatment card.

If you do not have a medical treatment card

If you need to consult a doctor, you must go to our Centre's Foreign Nationals' Social Welfare Department and **ask for an expenses form for the consultation.**

This is a document which entitles you to have costs paid by the CPAS and which is to be handed to your doctor.

NB, you will still have to pay some costs (patient share).

If a doctor prescribes medicaments for you or refers you to a specialist, you must also go to our Centre's Foreign Nationals' Social Welfare Department to apply for the costs to be paid and obtain an **expenses form to cover the medicaments or specialist's costs.**

NB, you will still have to pay some costs (patient share).

Once you have your medical treatment card

This card entitles you to **have your medical treatment (doctor, specialist, etc.) and medicaments paid for** by the CPAS **on payment of a small amount** (patient share or patient contribution).

You must **show your medical treatment card when you go to the doctor, hospital or pharmacy.** You will then only have to pay part of the cost as explained above.

Period of validity of the medical treatment card

The period of CPAS assistance is shown on your medical treatment card.

ONE MONTH BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH ASSISTANCE ENDS – if you wish to apply for an extension to your medical treatment card – you are requested to make another appointment with your social welfare assistant.