



There are public and private healthcare institutions in Lithuania. All persons (both insured and not by compulsory health insurance) have access to public, municipal as well as private health care institutions. The difference is that non-insured persons are required to pay for all healthcare services provided both in private and public as well as municipal health care institutions.

Public healthcare institutions are public institutions belonging to the Lithuanian national healthcare system. Provision of services for the persons covered by [compulsory health insurance \(PSD\)](#) is free except in cases when certain medical tests or procedures are not paid for by the State Patient Fund. In many public clinics you can get medical services in Russian, in some – also in English language (it all depends on the doctor, so it is wise to ask upon registration). Registration with a public healthcare facility is important, given the fact that in this healthcare institution you will be entitled healthcare service provision **for free** (as in other European Union member states, free provision of healthcare services is provided only in the institutions which have concluded agreements with Territorial Patient Funds for such service provision).

In the event of illness, you should first contact the healthcare institution with which you are registered and your general practitioner who will examine you for free, order medical laboratory tests, prescribe treatment and, if needed, refer you to a specialized doctor for a consultation or hospitalization. You should bear in mind that to see a medical specialist, you usually need a referral from your GP. In the absence of referral, you will have to pay for the services provided. **You will also have to pay for the visits to a GP working in another healthcare institution, other than the one you are registered with.**

How shall I register?

- **Choose a health care institution** (an outpatient clinic, primary healthcare center or a family medical centre) and go to the healthcare facility of your choice.
- Provide your ID, fill out an application form and choose a **practitioner**.
- Do not forget that registration with a specific healthcare institution is only limited to persons who are covered with compulsory health insurance, regardless of whether the healthcare institution in question is public or private.

Private healthcare institutions work under a license issued by the Ministry of Health. These healthcare institutions provide paid services. Their prices are set according to an internal procedure. Some private health institutions have concluded agreements with Territorial Patient Funds whereby they apply discounts to the persons covered by compulsory health insurance and do not charge for the services provided. They

may also have concluded agreements with private health insurance companies concerning a direct reimbursement of fees for healthcare services. In private healthcare institutions it is more likely to get medical services in English language.

Source: National Health Insurance Fund