

Table 3 The validity period of the EHIC, 2015

MS	Validity period of the EHIC
BE	1 to 2 years (i.e. until 31/12 of the next year)
BG	1 year (economically active persons), 5 years (children), 10 years (pensioners)
CZ	5 years
DK	(max) 5 years, shorter periods for specific cases
DE	several days/weeks to several years (same period of the national card)
EE	max 3 years (adults), max 5 years (children)
IE	4 years
EL	1 year (employed and self-employed), 1 to 3 years (pensioners), app. 6 months (students)
ES	2 years, 12 months (one competent institution)
FR	2 years
HR	3 years (all insured persons), 4 to 5 years (diplomatic personnel)
IT	6 years
CY	max 5 years
LV	3 years
LT	max 2 years (active population), up to 6 years (those insured by State means), max 1 year (students)
LU	3-60 months (proportionate to the length of the insurance record), min 1 year for defined groups registered with an S1
HU	max 3 years (insured persons), max. 4 years for posted civil servants
MT	5 years (subject to the applicant moving to another country throughout the validity period)
NL	1, 3 and 5 years Most competent institutions issue an EHIC for a period of 5 years.
AT	1 or 5 years, 10 years (pensioners)
PL	6 months, 5 years (pensioners), shorter periods in defined cases
PT	3 years
RO	1 year
SI	1 year, 5 years (pensioners and their family members, children)
SK	indefinite (possibility of a limited duration for foreign workers on fixed-term contracts)
FI	2 years
SE	3 years
UK	5 years, 1 year maximum for frontier workers – Gibraltar residents
IS	3 years, 5 years (pensioners)
LI	5 years
NO	3 years
CH	between 3 and 10 years (5 years on average)

Source Update EHIC report 2015 – Table 2 (Pacolet and De Wispelaere, 2015)

3.2. Raising awareness

Most Member States provide information on EHIC to insured persons, sometimes just before the start of the winter or summer season (e.g. BG, EE, PL and SI), by means of websites (BE, EL, ES, HR, IT, LT, PL, UK and SI), brochures/guides/leaflets/flyers (BE, DE, UK and ES), a mobile application (CZ), Facebook (CZ and NO) and telephone assistance (IT, PL and SI) (see also Annex II – Table A1). Good practices, amongst others, are:

- On the website of DVKA (the German Liaison Office Health Insurance – International) insured persons can find a series of leaflets 'Urlaub in ...' [Holidays in ...]. These leaflets explain how to obtain healthcare in the Member State concerned using the EHIC;
- Information on the website of the Greek National Organisation for Healthcare Provision (EOPYY) is made available in English regarding the access to the Greek healthcare system;
- Information guides and brochures are sometimes produced in other languages as reported by Italy;