

- Foreign nationals are treated the same as UK citizens if they are ill with swine flu. The National Pandemic Flu Service website offers an online assessment and treatment tool for patients in England.
- Overseas visitors and/or foreign nationals living in the UK will not be charged for NHS treatment for swine flu, including antivirals. The NHS (charges to Overseas visitors) regulations have been amended so that “pandemic influenza” is now included in the list of exempt from charge diseases. Therefore the diagnosis and treatment of swine flue is free to all persons.
- With regard to access H1N1 vaccines, the current policy is that non-UK citizens should be registered with a UK GP. The first phase of the vaccination delivery programme is targeted only at those groups believed to be at risk and for frontline health and social care workers. Vaccines may be available to further groups in due course.
- The Home Office has implemented standard arrangements to review the immigration status of stranded foreign nationals in the UK, and to extend the validity of visas and/or work permits as necessary and appropriate.

Further information can be obtained from <https://www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk/>.