

Infectious diseases exempt from NHS charges

The treatment and diagnosis of certain infectious diseases is available to all patients free of charge, including overseas visitors.

The conditions to which this exemption applies are:

- acute encephalitis
- acute poliomyelitis
- anthrax
- botulism
- brucellosis
- cholera
- diphtheria
- enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid fever)
- food poisoning
- haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)
- human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- infectious bloody diarrhoea
- invasive group A streptococcal disease and scarlet fever
- invasive meningococcal disease (meningococcal meningitis, meningococcal septicaemia and other forms of invasive disease)
- Legionnaires' Disease
- leprosy
- leptospirosis
- malaria
- measles
- mumps
- pandemic influenza (defined as the 'Pandemic Phase'), or influenza that might become pandemic (defined as the 'Alert Phase') in the *World Health Organization's Pandemic Influenza Risk Management Interim Guidance*
- plague

- rabies
- rubella
- severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)
- smallpox
- tetanus
- tuberculosis
- typhus
- viral haemorrhagic fever (which includes Ebola)
- viral hepatitis
- whooping cough
- yellow fever
- Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)
- The exemption also applies to the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.