

MEDICAL ROUTE IN LITHUANIA

The insured by the compulsory health insurance in Lithuania get access to a number of health services that are paid by the Territorial Patient Funds from the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).



ELDERLY PEOPLE



PREGNANCY



ILLNESS



CHILDREN

ELDERLY PEOPLE



In Lithuania the health care services for elderly people are covered by the Compulsory Health Insurance and Social Insurance system.

Essential medical care services are provided free of charge by the hospitals, nursing and palliative hospitals, medical rehabilitation institutions, polyclinics, general practitioners, centres of family medicine – any having an agreement with one of the territorial patient funds on the provision of these services. Social Support Centers of the Municipalities are responsible for elderly care – meal services, provision of technical aids, home-care and day-care services, short/ long term residential care services. There are number of organizations that provide assistance for elderly people in Lithuania, such as The Red Cross Society, The Order of Malta Volunteers, The Caritas Lithuania, Lithuanian Samaritans etc.

PREGNANCY AND BABY BIRTH



Prenatal, maternal and neonatal health care Lithuania is covered by the national health care system. Services provided by health care

institutions working with one of the territorial patient funds are free of charge. Services are provided by gynecologists, pediatricians, neonatologists, obstetricians, general practitioners/ family doctors and pediatric nurses. All pregnant women are required to perform at least 4 medical check-ups and examinations with their GP/ family doctors. Giving birth at home is not prohibited by Lithuanian laws. However in home birth cases families have to cover the incurred expenses for the received medical help and support. NHIF warns that giving birth at home involves very high potential of the risk of complications. In 3 days period after the mother's and the baby's return home they are visited at home by GP/ family doctor. Then during the period 1 year both mothers and their babies are closely monitored by GP/ family doctors.

In Lithuania all residents are entitled to parental leave and allowance for 1 year (100% of average earnings) or 2 years: 52 weeks 70% and 52 weeks 40% (either mother or father can take it or take the leave in shifts).

EMERGENCY



112

Essential medical aid is provided free of charge to all persons 24/7. In case of emergency call an ambulance by dialing 112 or go to the nearest emergency department. You will find it in the nearest hospital.

NO EMERGENCY

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (PHC)



Basic healthcare and preventative care services in Lithuania are provided by GPs at Family Medical Centres and polyclinics offering diagnostics, preventive treatment and basic surgery. Currently, about 25% of physicians work in the primary care sector under contracts with the State Patient Fund. Their services are free for persons insured by the compulsory

health insurance. A patient can choose a treatment institution and a GP. The patient first has to consult their family doctor/ GP, who decide what kind of help is needed. The GPs hold all patients' medical records. Therefore, a GP can decide whether a specialist referral is necessary and, if so, recommend appropriate specialist in a particular field. In this case the consultation will be free of charge. Otherwise a patient will have to pay for the medical help provided under the prices of the healthcare institution.

PHARMACIES



Medicines are sold in pharmacies with and without prescription. Some medicines for specific cases and diseases are fully or partially reimbursed by the National Health Patient Fund. In this case the prescriptions should be issued using a special document – a reimbursed medicines passport (can be received at any healthcare institution), and the medicines should be bought in the pharmacies, having an agreement with one of the territorial patient funds.

HOSPITAL / SPECIALIST



Access to a specialists/ hospital is free of charge when the patient is referred by a GP. For private treatment referral is not required. In this case, the treatment costs are covered by the patient.

After receiving a referral the patient has to schedule an appointment with a specialist. Usually it is done by phone or using an electronic pre-registration system at <https://ipr.sergu.lt>.

HEALTH INSURANCE



Lithuanian Health Care System is based on compulsory health insurance (CHI). It covers all employed persons; children under 18, school-children and students, pensioners, the disabled,

the unemployed, pregnant women, mothers until their children become 8 years of age, mothers with two or more children until the latter become of 18 age are covered by state funds. The CHI covers primary outpatient, specialised outpatient and inpatient health care, first aid, nursing care, maintenance treatment, expensive test and procedure, medical rehabilitation, sanatorium treatment and other services. Funds from the CHIF are also used to compensate the insured for expenditures related to the acquisition of reimbursable medicines, medical aids and orthopedic equipment. Persons not insured by CHI must cover the cost of treatment themselves.

DENTIST



Dental care will be free of charge for persons insured by the compulsory health insurance when consulting a dentist who works with one of the territorial patient fund. Patients pay for dentures, some medicine and materials used for dental care. For pensioners, disabled persons and recipients of social assistance some dentures are reimbursed by the Health insurance scheme. Dental care is only partly covered by the Health insurance scheme, and the treatment is largely provided by private dentists.

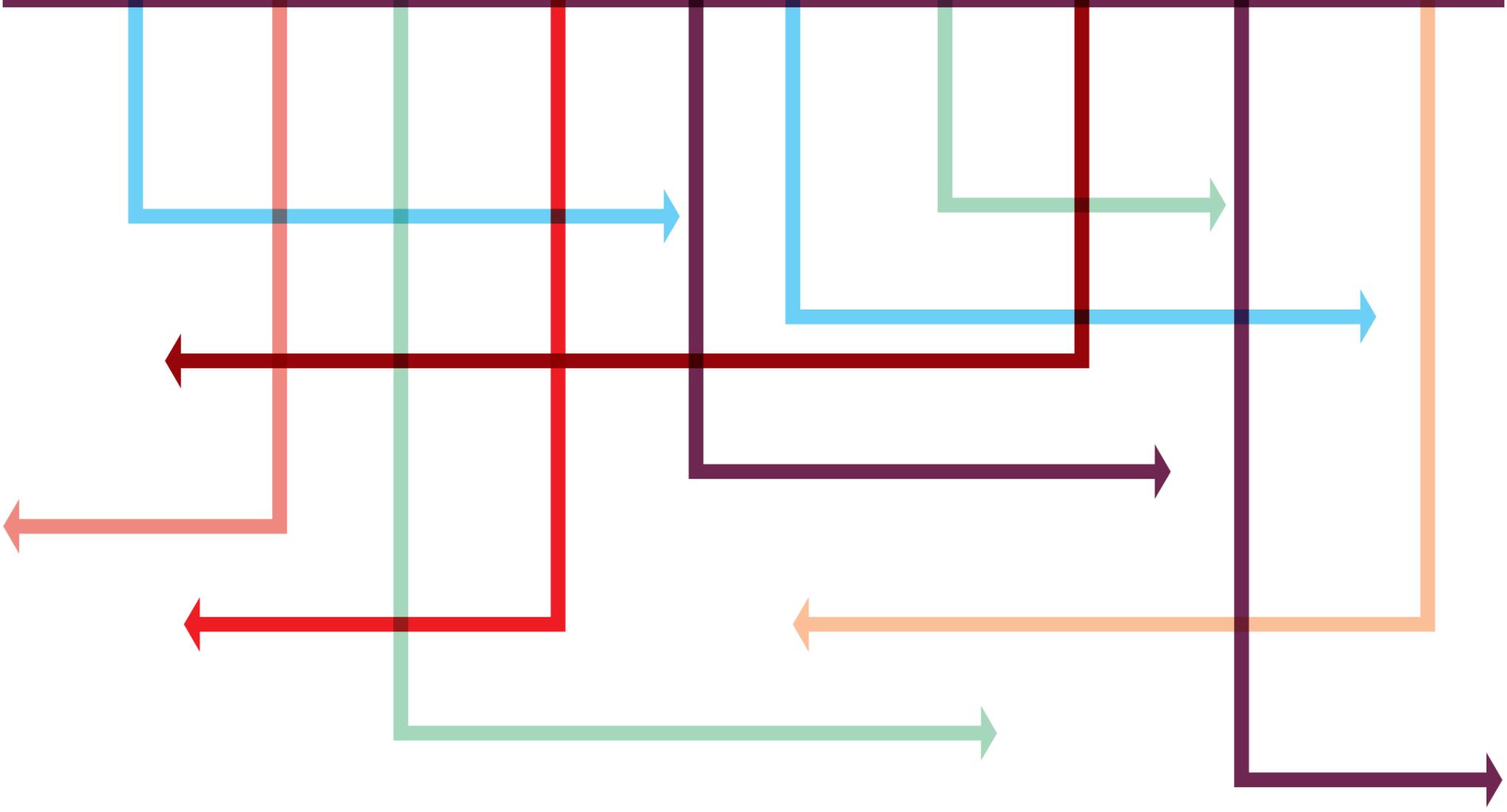
CHILDREN – VACCINATIONS



The vaccination policy in Lithuania is regulated by an official Immunization Calendar. The free of charge vaccinations are for: Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, Pertussis, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Influenzae type b, Poliomyelitis, Measles, Mumps, Rubella. Vaccinations are given to children at the following ages: within the first 24 hours after birth, at months, 6-7 years old, 12 years old and 15-16 years old.

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