

NOTE NO 06

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and has the honour to inform the Ministry that following the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union on 31 January 2020, the Government of the United Kingdom has modified the design of the current European Health Insurance Cards issued by the UK from 1 February 2020. The changes reflect the UK's status as a non-EU Member State participating in the EHIC scheme, and is similar to the approach already taken by Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

The Government of the United Kingdom has already informed the EU through the letter sent to the Administrative Commission on 27 January. This letter and the new design is presented in Annex A.

The Government of the United Kingdom asks that the Government of Lithuania note this change and communicate it to local healthcare providers to ensure UK-insured persons continue to be able to access needs-arising healthcare as provided in the basic regulations (EC 883/2004 and EEC 1408/71) until the end of the Transition Period, scheduled for 31 December 2020 and should they be entitled in the future under the Withdrawal Agreement.

During the Transition Period, until the end of 2020, the rights of UK Nationals and their family members and UK-insured under EU rules for the purposes of accessing healthcare and other benefits will not change.

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania the assurances of its highest consideration.



BRITISH EMBASSY  
VILNIUS

20 February 2020

**Annex A: Letter to the Administrative Commission**

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

<b>A.C. XXX/19</b>
<b>UK EHIC design following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union</b>
<b>United Kingdom – 27/01/20</b>
<b>Orig.: EN</b>

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION  
FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS**

**Subject: Design of the UK EHIC following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union**

**Note from United Kingdom of 27 January 2020**

**Introduction**

Following the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union on 31 January 2020, the United Kingdom Government intends to modify the design of the current UK EHIC cards it issues to reflect its new status.

As agreed as part of the Withdrawal Agreement, EHIC entitlements for all UK-insured people will continue until the end of the Implementation Period.

They will also continue over the longer-term for specific groups of UK and EU residents covered by the Citizens' Rights Agreement – Part II of the Withdrawal Agreement.

A decision on the future participation of the United Kingdom in the EHIC scheme after the end of the Implementation Period for individuals who are not, or cease to be, covered by the Withdrawal Agreement is a matter for negotiation as part of the UK's future relationship with the European Union.

**Future Design of the UK EHIC**

The Administrative Commission is asked to note that the United Kingdom Government now intends to modify the design, provided for by the Decisions of the Commission regulating the function and design of the EHIC and Provisional Replacement Certificate<sup>1</sup>, of the EHIC cards it issues, effective for new or replacement cards applied for from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020. The changes will reflect the UK's status as a non-Member State participating in the EHIC scheme and is similar to the approach already taken by Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C\\_.2010.106.01.0023.01.ENG](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2010.106.01.0023.01.ENG) & [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C\\_.2010.106.01.0026.01.ENG#tr3-C\\_2010106EN.01002601-E0003](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2010.106.01.0026.01.ENG#tr3-C_2010106EN.01002601-E0003)

The changes include the removal of the EU Mark from the EHIC card, as provided for by Decision S2 setting out the technical specifications of the EHIC card. The United Kingdom Government will also be amending the back of the EHIC card to signpost people to further information on using the EHIC following the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union.

The new design is presented at Annex A.

UK EHICs that were issued prior to Exit Day comply with the current specifications including the EU Mark, and will remain in use (the UK does not propose to withdraw these cards) for persons covered in accordance with the Withdrawal Agreement - there are currently 27m UK EHICs with the previous design.

No changes are planned to the Provisional Replacement Certificate.

### **Conclusion**

The United Kingdom Government asks that Member States note this change and communicate it to local healthcare providers to ensure UK-insured people continue to be able to access sickness benefits in kind as provided in the basic regulations (EC 883/2004 and EEC 1408/71) until the end of the Implementation Period and should they be entitled in the future under Part 2 of the Withdrawal Agreement.

**Annex A: New Design of the UK EHIC**

EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE CARD

UK

3 Name

4 Given names

5 Date of birth

6 Personal identification number

7 Identification number of the institution

8 Identification number of the card

9 Expiry date