Health care

Slovakia provides good quality health care. Every village has a health centre and there is at least one hospital and several health centres in every city. Highly specialised hospitals are situated e.g. in Bratislava, Martin, Banská Bystrica and Košice. Every hospital has emergency service which operates in after regular hours. Emergency medical service can be reached 24/7 at the numbers 155 and 112.

Every citizen of Slovakia is mandated to pay for health insurance. Dental treatment in Slovakia is usually only partially covered by health insurance and many dentists in Slovakia do not have contracts with health insurance companies. In these cases, patients cover the treatment in full themselves. Operations and in-hospital treatments are also covered from the health insurance. Most medications are partially covered by the insurance; some medications are even fully covered while others are only available in full payment. Antibiotics and many other drugs are only available on doctor's prescription.

Emergency care costs patients 2 €. European Union citizens must have a valid European Health Insurance Card. Medical treatment for other foreigners is available for direct payment. Opening hours for health centres are usually from 7.30 a.m. till 4 p.m., but can vary. There is a standby pharmacy in every city. The list of standby pharmacies can be found on the door of every pharmacy.

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