



## Your “Guide” to Host Nation Healthcare



### ***Health care overseas can be an adventure***

Using host nation medical facilities is not new. For many years, local civilian hospitals — whether in the U.S. or overseas — have provided emergency, routine and specialty care that may not be readily available at military treatment facilities.

Each ERMC Military Treatment Facility has published a “Guide to Host Nation Healthcare” to acquaint you with host nation medical care available in your area

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***Host Nation healthcare information for your area can be found online at your clinic Web page — [click here](#) and then click on your clinic.***

Army medical treatment facilities in Europe strive to meet TRICARE Access to Care standards. To assure we meet the goal of providing quality health care in a timely manner, we partner with Host Nation Preferred Providers if we cannot readily meet your healthcare needs.

You may be referred “downtown” to one of our Preferred Providers for routine or specialty care if we cannot provide it according to these TRICARE Access to Care standards.

**TRICARE Access to Care standards**

Active duty military and their Family members will be scheduled for appointments in accordance with these TRICARE standards:

<b>Appointment Type</b>	<b>Required within:</b>
Acute illness	24 hours
Routine illness	7 calendar days
Well visits	28 calendar days
Specialty care	28 calendar days

To help you understand Host Nation medical care in your area, each of ERMC’s Army health centers or clinics has a “Guide to Host Nation Healthcare” available online.

The “Guide” tells you about civilian hospitals in your local area and explains what to expect if you need to visit one. Each guide discusses Host Nation medical practices, summarizes services at major hospitals serving your area and even gives you driving directions, maps and much more.

Additional information - including a print version of the online guide - is available at your Army health center or clinic or at your TRICARE Service Center while supplies last.

***What to do in an emergency***

A medical emergency is one in which life, limb or eyesight may be in immediate danger.

Most Military Treatment Facilities are not staffed nor equipped to respond to a major medical emergency.

Time is critical during a medical emergency. Please familiarize yourself with host nation emergency care

options - including available civilian ambulance services - before an emergency.

To find out how to get medical care during an emergency, visit the ERMC Web site at <http://ermc.amedd.army.mil> and click on the “Hospitals and Clinics” link in the left menu. Then click on the name of your community on the map.

***The Host Nation health care experience***

Host nation medical clinics and hospitals have much in common with those in the United States. Host nation providers and staffs are highly educated professionals who provide excellent medical services.

***We will give you the right provider delivering the right care in the right venue***

However, remember that healthcare delivery follows cultural norms of the host country. Do not expect their medical system to be exactly like ours.

Your clinic’s “Guide to Host Nation Health Care” has information that will help you feel comfortable with host nation care. It covers topics such as what to pack for a hospital stay, how to communicate with the staff, how to ask questions of your physician and how to get help from one of ERMC’s Host Nation Patient Liaisons.

The Host Nation Hospital Information A to Z section of your “Guide to Host Nation Healthcare” contains tips, information and suggestions on inpatient visits to host nation facilities.

Remember: we are guests here. Be courteous, and talk to your Host Nation Patient Liaison if you need help understanding medical practices or explaining issues or concerns to your doctor or hospital staff.

Other topics include hospital admission, follow-up visits, local customs on dress and behavior, meals and overnight stays, and much more.

***Local hospitals***

If you require hospitalization in Europe, there are nearly 40 Host Nation hospitals that support ERMC facilities. Your clinic’s “Guide to Host Nation Healthcare” offers information specific your area.

***Maps and driving directions***

Your familiarity with care in Host Nation health care facilities begins with knowing how to get there. Your clinic’s guide will include either GPS coordinates or street addresses that you can plug into most navigational devices. There are route maps from your clinic to host nation facilities, parking details. Detailed route instructions are also included in the “Maps and Driving Directions” sections.