

AFTER - Against FGM/C Through Empowerment and Rejection Project
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Services to turn to in Sweden

County Councils and Regions Healthcare Guide 1177

The guide provides information, inspiration and e-services for health and healthcare. 1177 is the number for joint services provided to the general public by the county councils and regions all over Sweden. The guide offers healthcare consultations via telephone and Internet. The guide assists patients to contact healthcare services, and to request, cancel, or reschedule appointments.

Contact: Phone: 1177 Website: 1177.se

County of Östergötland work against honour-related violence and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Östergötland County Administrative Board works on behalf of the government against honour-related violence and oppression and its various forms of expression such as child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation of girls and women (FGM).

Hedersförtryck Project is an informative website for anyone who has experienced any form of honour-related violence and oppression and is in need of help. The website has listed all services for women to turn to if they have experienced any form of violence including FGM.

Contacts: Phone: 010-223 50 00 Website: hedersfortryck.se

The National Board of Health and Welfare – Socialstyrelsen

This is a government agency under the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, with a very wide range of activities and many different duties within the fields of social services, health and medical services, patient safety and epidemiology.

Contact: Phone: 075 247 30 00 Website: socialstyrelsen.se

Women's Health

The Swedish National Healthcare system guarantees equal rights to health and medical care for everyone living in Sweden regardless of their sex. Maternity and child healthcare are free of charge throughout Sweden, and this includes asylum seekers and undocumented migrants. Women can drop in to any maternity clinics at certain times without prior appointment. The clinics provides services free of charge for pregnancy tests, prenatal care, obstetrics, contraceptive counselling, consultation and tests for sexually transmitted infections. Nevertheless, some specialist maternity care, gynaecological treatment and abortions require the payment of the cost-sharing fee.

Female asylum seekers and immigrants who do not speak Swedish have the right to request in advance - from the healthcare centre or the maternity clinic, the presence of an interpreter during a meeting with healthcare professionals. The patient may wish for the interpreter to be physically present, or to have distance translation, as well as to have a preference for a specific gender of interpreter. All interpreters and healthcare professionals alike adhere to the principle of confidentiality.

Undocumented Migrants
 Asylum seekers and undocumented children under the age of 18 are entitled to the same health and medical care as all other children residing in Sweden. Adult undocumented migrants have the right to healthcare services that cannot be deferred. These include; maternity care, abortion care, contraceptive counselling, urgent medical care and healthcare for serious illnesses. Healthcare costs are subsidized, and doctors appointments at healthcare centres cost 50 SEK, while emergency healthcare costs up to 400 SEK.

Non-resident individuals in Sweden from the EU and EEA are entitled to health and medical care on the same financial terms applicable to Swedish residents as long as they show their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), Non-EU citizens visiting Sweden for a short period are required to have private medical insurance to cover the cost of the healthcare during their stay in Sweden.

If a patient fails to cancel an appointment or fails to show up on time, the patient may still have to pay the fee.
 and Pap smears for cervical cancer – may cost up to SEK 200.
 5. Gynaecological screening – mammography for early detection of breast cancer and Pap smears for cervical cancer – may cost up to SEK 200.
 4. Appointment with a nurse or physiotherapist costs SEK 50-220.
 3. A visit to an emergency room costs SEK 220-400.
 2. Appointments with specialists cost SEK 150-350.
 1. A doctor appointment to the health centre costs between SEK 100-300.

These are the applicable fees in most counties and municipalities.

Sweden has a cost-sharing arrangement; patients are requested to pay a small fee for each visit to the healthcare centre. The High-cost protection policy imposes a maximum amount that could be paid at the healthcare centre. If visits add up to a cost of between SEK 900 and 1,100, all other medical healthcare services over the course of the year are free of charge.

Cost-Sharing Fee

The healthcare system in Sweden consists of public and private services: County councils manage the public sector and also contract out to the private sector. Patients have the right to choose a primary health service through private or public health centres. Patients who seek healthcare through private centres are covered by the same regulations that apply to public care facilities.

Public and Private Healthcare

The Swedish National Healthcare system is accessible for all citizens, and expats - as long as they have a Swedish personal identity number and reside in Sweden. The welfare system covers most of the health and medical care costs. Child and maternity healthcare services are free of charge, while other services require a payment of a patient-fee (cost-sharing fee).

Health is your Right

After
 empowering women



Photo: Jennifer Huxia/Actionaid | Ewanine, 25, East Pokot, Kenya, pictured with her daughter Mercy

Your health, your rights
 Sexual and Reproductive Health Services for
 Migrant Women in Sweden

AFTER is a Project co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union. For more information, please visit our website: afterwomen.eu or contact us: EUProjects.ita@actionaid.org.



Photo: Vaid Sakhin/ActionAid



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YOUR HEALTH, YOUR RIGHTS

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