



03-03-2023

Resolution proposal for the USF CONGRES of May 2023

Title: Access to health services and medical cost coverage of the employees working for the EU Institutions and bodies

The medical costs of employees working for the EU Institutions and bodies are reimbursed within various schemes and through various methods. The employees hired under the Staff Regulations benefit from the Joint Sickness and Insurance Scheme (JSIS) while other EU Bodies have their own way of guaranteeing medical cost reimbursements, is it through a private and/or public schemes. Interventions of reimbursement at primary or secondary level vary too depending on the employer. As an example, colleagues under the JSIS based in the Netherlands benefit from the national scheme in primary contrarily to other JSIS beneficiaries.

Employees working for the EU Institutions under the JSIS do not benefit in effect from the 85% reimbursement foreseen by the related implementing rules, the effective reimbursement is significantly lower as a consequence of the improper update of the ceilings and/or recognition of new medical benefits.

The recognition of the primary cost reimbursement scheme comes with its own set of complexity and issues. As an example in most EU countries and cases, the JSIS is not considered equivalent to a public scheme.

Last but not least the nationality, residence at the time of hiring and actual residence of the EU Institutions and Bodies employees creates another level of complexity and obvious bias of access and cost to the national system service. The issue of the 'Tesera Sanitaria' for colleagues based in Italy is an example of this.

Consequently the employees of the EU Institutions and Bodies face difficulties and unequal treatment in both access to health service and medical cost coverage. The legal and regulatory complexity is a fact also expanded by as many interpretations as one can imagine.

USF therefore calls for :

- **That the EU Institutions and Bodies employees benefit from (at least) the same health services and same health cost reimbursement level as any other residents/nationals that reside in the same Country/Region**
- **Considering that EU Institutions and Bodies employees are for the most expatriates, that they continue to benefit from the Health Services choice (no calling into question of the freedom of care)**
- **That the National /Regional Authorities of the EU Member States recognize the JSIS as equivalent to any other Member State public health scheme**
- **That the level of reimbursement of the EU Institutions employees benefiting from the JSIS effectively reaches the 85% foreseen in the corresponding implementing rules.**