



Health Care Fees

When you receive health care you have to pay for it. The size of the fee payable depends on the sort of health care you receive and whether you receive it at a health centre, *vårdcentralen*, or a hospital. Different fees apply to outpatient appointments and hospital stays for inpatients.

Pay using a bankcard or set up payments by direct debit, so that all your healthcare charges can be debited from your account automatically. You can also pay against an invoice, which is sent to your home address. As of 1 March 2010 you can no longer pay by cash.

There is a limit to the health care costs that you have to pay during a 12-month period. In Östergötland this limit is 900 Swedish kronor. When you have paid 900 kronor you will be entitled to a free card, *frikort*, for the rest of the 12-month period. The day fee payable when you are an inpatient in hospital is not covered by the free card. Costs of health checks, vaccinations, health certificates and pregnancy tests are not covered either.

Free card

To obtain a free card, *frikort*, you must have either saved the receipts from your appointments or have had the fees entered into a high-cost card, *högkostnadskort*. You are responsible for keeping track of whether you have paid enough fees to qualify for a free card.

Part payment

You can choose to pay outpatient fees in instalments. You can divide your fees into 6 or 9-month instalments in order to qualify for a free card (900 Swedish kronor). If you sign an agreement on part payment at your health centre or clinic you will receive a free card directly.

Don't forget your appointment

All health centres in Östergötland charge patients for forgotten appointments. If you had an appointment at a health centre and did not use it, you will receive an invoice by post amounting to 150 kronor. An appointment that is not used always means that another patient would have been able to use that appointment, but is forced to wait longer instead. If you could not use your appointment due to special circumstances these will be taken into account.

Medication

A high-cost limit, *högkostnadsskydd*, is also available for medication. You do not have to pay more than SEK 1,800 per twelve-month period for your prescription medicines. More information is available at pharmacies; Apoteket.

Patient fees in Swedish kronor included in the high-cost card system (general rules)

Appointments with doctors:

At health centres	150
– surcharge for home visits	50



At hospitals	300
– first visit on referral from primary care	150
– preoperative examination, outpatients	300

Advice by telephone/prescription 0

Private doctor with payment from the county council	150/300
– advice by telephone/prescription	0

Children and young people under 20 yrs old 0

Healthcare according to the Swedish
Communicable Diseases Act
(*Smittskyddslagen*) and STDs 0

Fee for physiotherapy and other treatment:

Seeing the district nurse (public health nurse) 100
– for tests instead of doctor's appointment 100

Seeing a physiotherapist and
occupational therapist 100

By chiropractor/naprapath
covered by health care agreements 200

By other care providers 100

Children and young people under 20 yrs old 0

The section on dental care states that some types of dental care fees are included in the high-cost limit system.

Fees excluded from the high-cost card system

Fees for hospital care:

Inpatients in hospital who are more than 20 but less than 65 years old pay 80 Swedish kronor per day.

Inpatients aged 65 or older pay 50 Swedish kronor per day.

If you have received treatment at the hospitals in Eksjö or Västervik and have had to pay a higher fee than if you had received treatment in Östergötland, you are entitled to a refund of the difference. Contact the *sjukresekontoret* for refunds.



Health checks:

Mammography and gynaecological smear test 140

Pregnancy test:

Fee also payable at maternity clinic 100

Vaccinations, certificates, etc:

At cost price.