



Medical Card Application – Emergency Circumstances [MC1(e)]

Please complete in CAPITAL letters and place a tick (✓) where appropriate in the single boxes provided.

This Application form is only to be used in the following circumstances:

- 1. an applicant is terminally ill receiving end of life care**
- 2. an applicant is in need of urgent ongoing care and requires Medical Card eligibility to receive such care**

****A letter from the Consultant/GP must accompany this form****

Residency- To apply for a medical card a person must be ordinarily resident in the state

All applicants must satisfy to the Health Service Executive (HSE) that they are "ordinarily resident" – that means they are living in Ireland for at least one year and/or they intend to live here for at least one year.

To establish that a person is ordinarily resident the HSE may require:

- Proof of property purchase or rental, including evidence that the property is the person's principal residence
- Evidence of funds held in an Irish financial institution.

Declaration and Consent of applicant's advocate (Details of the Social Worker, Doctor, CHO staff member applying on applicants behalf)

I wish to make an application for Medical Card eligibility on behalf of the person named below. I confirm that this application is submitted, with the prior knowledge of the applicant who is unable to make an application for eligibility on their own behalf at this time.

Please Note this Form is not for Public Use

Advocate signature: _____ Date: _____/_____/_____

Advocate name: _____ Professional title e.g. Social worker: _____

Place of work: _____

Contact number: _____ Email Address: _____

Applicant Details

Name of Applicant: _____ Date of birth: _____/_____/_____

Gender: Male Female PPS number: _____

Address: _____

Contact Telephone: _____

Is the applicant ordinarily resident in the state:

Yes No

GP of Choice (must hold a GMS contract)

GP Name: _____ GP GMS Number: _____

Has the GP of choice agreed to accept the applicant to their GMS Patient Panel? Yes No

GP Practice Address: _____

Please send the completed application form and medical report to:

Email: cru.emergency@hse.ie

Phone: 01-8647186

Fax: 01-8647192

Please see the back of this page for more information

Contact details should not be circulated to members of the public



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A dedicated team, within the national Medical Card Unit, is available to support the consideration of applications for Medical Card eligibility, sought in emergency circumstances.

This team liaises with staff based in Community Health Offices, Hospices, Acute Hospitals in relation to Medical Card applications where:

A person who is terminally ill and receiving end of life care

Persons who are certified as terminally ill and receiving end of life care by a General Practitioner or Consultant are not subject to an assessment of financial means. Medical Card eligibility will be granted to such persons for an indefinite duration. Medical Card eligibility is normally granted to such persons within 24 hours of receipt of an application.

A person in need of urgent on going care, and requires Medical Card eligibility to receive such care

A Medical Card application made under an emergency circumstance should only be requested where a **genuine emergency exists**. Medical Card eligibility granted in emergency circumstances will be for a period of six months. A Medical Card is issued on the presumption that the person would fulfill the eligibility criteria as outlined in the Medical Card & GP Visit Card National Assessment Guidelines.

A Medical Card Eligibility Review Form (MC1R) must be completed by the Card holder three months after the commencement of eligibility. A full assessment of eligibility is undertaken to determine the continuance of eligibility beyond the initial six month period.

What is required?

- Completed Medical Card Application – Emergency Circumstances MC1(e) Form
- Comprehensive medical report from General Practitioner or Consultant

(All medical reports will be submitted to medical officer for review)

FAQ's

What medical conditions are covered by emergency medical cards?

None. No medical condition entitles a person to a medical card (with the exception of those set out in the national assessment guidelines). A person cannot receive an emergency medical card because they have been diagnosed with a specific medical condition, e.g. Cancer. Medical cards are issued on the basis of a person's ability to pay for their medical care, i.e. on the basis of means.

There is a person in hospital for some time that can be looked after in the community if they had a medical card, can I use the emergency procedure to get them a medical card?

No. The emergency procedure should only be used to ensure that a person who cannot afford to look after a serious and unexpected medical condition is provided with the means to do so as quickly as possible.

By its very nature in this circumstance the person, his/her family and/or the medical staff have time to take appropriate action to secure a medical card in the normal way prior to release from hospital. The issue of a person in hospital for some time that may require care in the community when released from hospital should be identified early and a standard application made in good time, by the person or their family, to ensure that a decision is made prior to the person's expected release date from hospital.

N.B. Please note that no one is denied emergency, and/or ongoing, medical care by any HSE Hospital based on their ability or otherwise, to pay. If a person is in hospital his/her emergency medical needs are being met and in most cases an emergency card will not be required. A standard application can be made, which will be processed in 15 working days, to deal with the associated ongoing costs when the person leaves the care of the hospital.

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