
D I R E C T I O N S

The Secretary of State gives the following Directions in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 7(1), 8(1) and 272(7) and (8) of the National Health Services Act 2006¹.

In these Directions—

“HC2 Certificate” means a certificate which is evidence of the bearer’s entitlement to payment in full of travel expenses, full remission of NHS charges and exemption from NHS prescription charges, and which is—

- (a) ordinarily granted to persons who are so entitled, without needing to make a claim, by virtue of regulation 5(1) of the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003; and
- (b) exceptionally granted on a non-statutory basis;

“Medically Evacuated cohort” means the individuals medically evacuated from an area where there is in existence a state of war (including during a period of a cease fire), a revolution or a serious and widespread internal disturbance, and their household members authorised to accompany them; and

“Required Information” means the personal data of the Medically Evacuated cohort, sent, from time to time, by the Secretary of State to NHS Business Services Authority that they both agree is the necessary data for the purposes of the NHS Business Services Authority being in a position to issue HC2 Certificates to that cohort.

Upon the Secretary of State and NHS Business Services Authority agreeing:

- (a) the nature of the data to be included in the provision by the Secretary of State to NHS Business Services Authority of the Required Information;
- (b) that for statistical purposes the HC2 Certificates issued to the Medically Evacuated cohort:
 - i. is to be regarded as issued as part of Low Income Scheme (whether or not that would be the case but for these Directions);
 - ii. is to be specifically marked as falling under a Medical Evacuation scheme;

the Secretary of State directs NHS Business Services Authority to issue HC2 Certificates valid for a duration of 3 months from the date they are issued to the Medically Evacuated cohort upon receipt of the Required Information.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care



Dr Helen Lovell
Deputy Director, Medicines Regulation and Prescribing
Department of Health and Social Care

12 September 2025

¹ 2006 c.41 as amended