

Health is your Right

In Italy, health is a right recognized and protected for all people regardless of their sex, race, language, religion, political opinions, personal and social conditions. Access to health services is guaranteed for foreigners of non-European countries, no matter if you do not hold Italian citizenship or a valid residence permit. However, there are differences in the right of access the services depending on the status of the foreign person:

Foreign citizens with a regular residence permit and their dependents have equal treatment, equal rights and full equality to access the health care services compared to Italian citizens. To access the services you need to register with the National Health Service (NHS) at the ASL (Local Health Authority) of the district, where a medical card, required to be suitable for services, will be issued. The inscription has the same duration of the residence permit and involves one annual payment. This contribution is necessary only when it were not made any declarations of income and any related taxes in Italy have been paid.

Foreign citizens without residence permit have the right to urgent or essential outpatient and hospital care, namely the medical care that in the short or long term may endanger the life or health of the person. Other services are also guaranteed: protection of pregnancy and maternity, child's health, vaccinations, preventive treatment, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases. The healthcare staff is prohibited to carry out any type of reporting to authorities on the absence of a residence permit: the person's health is for a fact considered to be more important than the violation of immigration law (reporting is only possible when there is a compulsory medical report). The first time you access a healthcare service you are assigned a region STP code (Temporarily Present Foreigner) recognized throughout the national territory. The STP code is valid for 6 months and is renewable. In the case of not sufficient funds the person must sign a self-certification to be able to have a free access to services.

It is expected the **ticket** to be paid for each specialist visit. In the following cases the person is **excused from such payment**: disability, chronic and disabling illness, family income below a certain threshold or certain age limits: in Lombardia children under 14 years old are exempted from paying the ticket regardless of income. **Asylum seekers, or seekers for international protection**, are exempted from paying the ticket until the sixth month after the submission of the application. Then, in the case they of finding work they can register to the National Health Service; in case of unemployment they may instead apply for exemption if they meet the necessary requirements (income below a certain threshold).

Women's Health

Italian law guarantees every woman - Italian or foreign - the right to health care. In particular, all women in Italy are entitled to maternity protection, even if they are not in possession of a residence permit.

Between services for sexual and reproductive health of women, there are **family counselling clinics**: these are public services open to everyone in order to protect and promote physical and mental health of women, couples, adolescents and children.

They offer various types of services, including those related to **contraception, pregnancy, postpartum care, voluntary interruption of pregnancy, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and menopause**. Access to counselling is free and there is no need for a prescription. You do not access to counselling is free and there is no need for a prescription. The services are free, except for some specialist gynecological services. There are clinics in various districts of Milan and 13 of these facilities also offer the language service.

With the increase over the time of numbers of foreigners living in Italy, **services dedicated to the health of immigrant women** have also started to spread. The goal is to facilitate access to services for maternal and child health for women of all backgrounds. In these centers staff is trained to meet the specific needs of migrant women - including those related to traditional practices. The cultural mediators are present within the centers.

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

HEALTH AND LISTENING CENTER FOR FOREIGN WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN:

The centre is managed by the San Paolo hospital, San Carlo Borromeo hospital and by the Crinali Cooperative, the NGO that is providing training, research and is working for cooperation between women. The service offers assistance to immigrant women related to their reproductive health, meaning in the cases of pregnancy, voluntary interruption of pregnancy, sterilization, gynecological problems, as well infants till age of one are provided with needed care. The centre as well have a cultural-linguistic mediators that come from various countries.

San Paolo Hospital
Via Antonio di Rudini, 8 - Milano
Hospital room n. 15, floor 2°, block D
Phone Number: **02/89181040**

Timetables:
Tuesday from 9.00am to 1.00pm
Thursday from 1.30pm to 5.30pm
Friday from 9.00am to 1.00pm

San Carlo Hospital
Via Pio II, 3 - Milano
floor 3° B
Phone Number: **02/40222486**

Timetables:
Monday from 9.00am till 1.00pm
Tuesday from 1.30pm till 5.30pm
Thursday from 9.00am till 1.00pm

SVS-D: FIRST AID IN CASE OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

Since 1996, at the Mangiagalli Clinic, the center against sexual and domestic violence provides health care, legal, medical and psychological assistance and social support for victims of sexual and domestic violence.

Mangiagalli Clinic - Via Commenda, 12 - Milano - **24 hours/per day**, 365 days/per year
Tel. **02/5503 2489** (victims of sexual violence) - Tel. **02/5503 8585** (victims of domestic violence)

FAMILY COUNSELING CLINICS WITH LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL MEDIATION SERVICES:

Arabic language:
Via Conca del Naviglio, 45
tel. 02 85788121
Via Cherasco, 75 - tel. 02 85788235
Via Brivio, 2 - tel. 02 85788233
Via Aldini, 72 - tel. 02 85788236
Via Remo La Valle, 7 - tel. 02 85788530

Chinese language:
Largo De Benedetti, 2 - tel. 02 85788232
Via Castelvetro, 28 - tel. 02 85788237
Via S. Erlombardo, 4 - tel. 02 85788439

Albanian language:
Via Val di Bondo, 11 - tel. 02 85788234

Spanish language:
C.so Italia, 52 - tel. 02 85788119
Via Ricordi, 1 - tel. 02 85788348
Piazza Stovani, 3 - tel. 02 85788532
Via Della Ferrera, 14 - tel. 02 85788534

Tagalog language:
Via Conca del Naviglio, 45
tel. 02 85788121

Other language: upon request

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



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



Photo: Vaid Sakshin/ActionAid



Photo: Amrizzaman/ActionAid



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