Health Professionals for Global Health (HPfGH) have been asked to participate in a government review of the 2017 Amendment to “The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations”.

**What is this?**

The government has amended the above regulations as follows:

* It is now a **legal requirement** to withhold treatment from chargeable overseas visitors until the estimated full cost of the service has been paid, unless doing so would prevent or delay immediately necessary or urgent services.
* The 2017 amendment has also removed the exemption for relevant services provided outside a hospital or by its staff. As a result, some services provided in the community are now chargeable to overseas visitors who are not exempt from charge including: Community midwifery services, Community mental health services, Drug and alcohol treatment services, District nursing services, Outreach services.

**What are we doing to respond?**

We are collating any examples of evidence of harm to patients or impact on public health following these changes. We are looking for examples of patients who have had treatment denied or delayed under these new regulations and have therefore come to harm. It is also important to include patients who have been deterred or delayed presentation to services which are *not* chargeable (e.g. community sexual health, HIV care) since this change.

We believe that the Department of Health will be obliged to take any evidence of harm into consideration, however small, and therefore we are keen to send in as much as we can.

**How can you help?**

Please send us your evidence! This form provides a simple format for you as a front-line health professional to provide this evidence. The case(s) you submit can be from your own personal experience, from those of a colleague, or ones you have been made aware of during your clinical practice.

As per all case reviews it is best practice to gain consent from the patient involved where possible. If you can, please complete and ask your patient to sign the attached BMJ consent form, also available online here: <http://casereports.bmj.com/instructions-for-authors/consentform.pdf>. If you are not able to obtain consent, please share your case with us anyway as it is important that we submit as much evidence as we can. We will ensure that all data are anonymised and that every effort is made to maintain confidentiality.

Unfortunately we have only been given until the end of the month to respond. **Please send completed forms to** [**HPforGH@gmail.com**](mailto:HPforGH@gmail.com) **by Wednesday 24th January 2018.** If you wish to discuss any part of this with us, please email us at [HPforGH@gmail.com](mailto:HPforGH@gmail.com) and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Thank you for your help!

On behalf of Health Professionals for Global Health

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| --- |
| **NHS TRUST WHERE INCIDENT OCCURRED** |
|  |
| **SETTING** e.g. *GP, ward, A&E, other community service* |
|  |
| **DATE OF INCIDENT** |
|  |
| **PATIENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED** *e.g. Paediatric, antenatal, adult medical etc* |
|  |
| **DETAILS OF INCIDENT** |
|  |
| **IMPACT ON PATIENT** |
|  |
| **IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH** |
|  |
| **IMPACT ON MYSELF** |
|  |
| **ANY OTHER COMMENTS** |
|  |



