

Access to NHS for mission partners visiting England Registering with a GP

GP Contract Regulations state that NHS England **must** remove a patient from a practice's list if the patient intends to be away from the UK for a period of at least three months, **but** there is no obligation on practices to inform NHS England if a patient is absent from the UK. So there is some discretion on the GP practice. However, the removal is to ensure the practice does not receive payments for patients to whom they are not responsible for providing primary medical services, so there is some rationale behind it.

The most recent guidance for GP practices *Patient Registration, Standard Operating Principles for Primary Medical Care (General Practice)* November 2015 is freely available [online](#), and can be referred to if mission partners find that their GP practice has removed them from its list and they are finding it difficult to re-register. Please note point 3 especially.

If a patient has difficulty finding a GP practice who will accept them onto the list, they can contact [NHS England](#) who can assign the patient to a practice.

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