

GUIDE TO GP CARE WITHOUT FEES

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FINE GAEL

COVENENY TD

Ambitious for Cork, delivering in Government

SEPTEMBER 2015

FREE GP CARE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6 IS HERE

WE'RE TAKING THE FIRST STEPS. GP CARE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6.

With the new GP visit card for under 6s you can bring your children to the GP for free consultations and wellness checks.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED UNDER THE GP VISIT CARD UNDER 6S

GPs will provide general consultations, diagnosis and treatment as well as periodic health assessments focused on health and wellbeing and preventing disease. These checks will be carried out when your child is 2 and 5. It also includes enhanced care for children diagnosed with asthma.

WHAT IS AN ASTHMA CHECK?

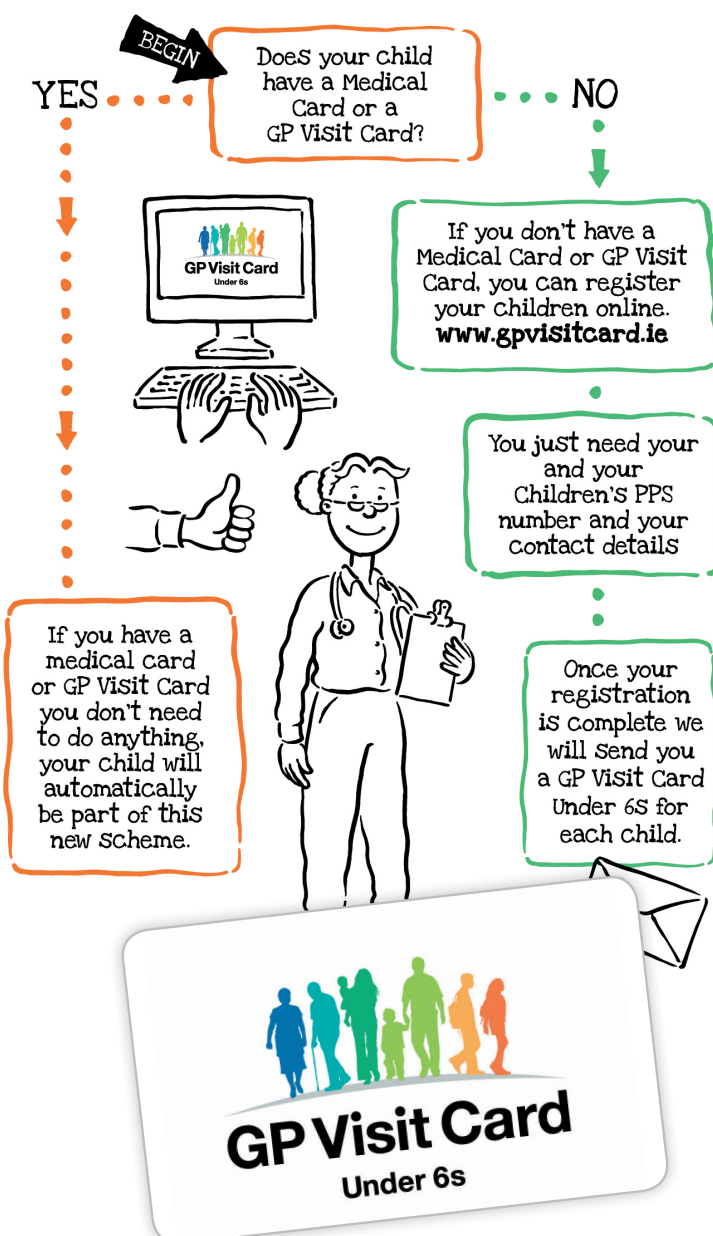
Each asthma check details the severity of your child or children's asthma and involves a review of medications including making sure your child is using inhalers correctly. Your GP will advise you on how to improve your child's asthma care, including advice on smoke free environment, flu vaccination to prevent influenza and education on what to do if your child's condition is getting worse.

A written plan, tailored to your child, will be given to you to help you manage your child's asthma. Asthma checks have been shown to improve control of asthma in children and reduce hospital attendance.

For more see www.gpvisitcard.ie or call LoCall 1890 252 919.

Rates charged for 1890 (LoCall) numbers may vary across different service providers and calls made using mobiles may be more expensive.

HOW DO I GET MY GP VISIT CARD UNDER 6S?



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FREE GP CARE FOR 70'S PLUS

EVERYONE AGED 70 AND OVER IS ELIGIBLE FOR A GP VISIT CARD, REGARDLESS OF INCOME.

This means you can visit your GP and not have to pay for the visit. Over 36,000 people aged 70 or older currently pay to attend a GP as they are not covered by a medical card or a GP Visit Card.

To get a GP Visit Card aged 70 or over, fill in the application form at your GP, Pharmacy, or download it from www.gpvisitcard.ie. The GP Visit Card is funded by the Government and administered by the HSE.



GOVERNMENT MAKING PROGRESS IN HEALTH

- First budget increase in health in 7 years and 1,000 more staff
- More consultants, GPs and midwives than ever before
- GP care without fees for everyone under 6 and 70 or over as first step to universal health care
- End to double-digit increase in health insurance premiums
- Maximum 4 week waiting time for the Fair Deal nursing home support scheme
- Expansion of screening - Breastcheck, Bowelscreen, Cervicalscreen, diabetic retinopathy and newborn hearing
- Action on smoking, alcohol and obesity
- Air Ambulance
- Reduced medicine prices
- New modern primary care centres and hospital facilities being built
- Improving life expectancy, better cancer survival rates and reduced stroke deaths
- 30,000 extra discretionary medical cards since July 2014

KEEPING CORK ON THE AGENDA AT CABINET & LOCAL LEVEL



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