SEFICA'S

Specialist in Top-Up & Full French Medical Insurance

Your French insurance needs taken care of in English...





www.soficas.fr - Tél: 05 56 51 91 60

Contents:



 Get to know Soficas 	p2
 How to obtain health cover 	p3 – p8
 With S1/E forms from UK 	
• EHIC	р3
■ S1/E106	p4
■ S1/E109	p5
■ S1/E121	p6
 Without S1/E forms 	
- CPAM	p7
• RSI	p7
- CMU	p8
Private insurance	p8
What is Full Cover (Private)?	P9 - p10
Non Assujettis Sociaux (NA)	
How does the system work?	p11 – p12
 Examples of reimbursement 	
 At the doctors 	p13
 At the chemist 	p13
 At the hospital 	p14
What is Top-Up cover?	P15 – p16
 How to get reimbursed? 	p17 – p18
SOFICAS website	p19 – p20
• Where is SOFICAS?	p21
 Personal notes 	p22

SOFICAS Health Insurance in France



An independent broker since 1988

Our job is to solicit the largest insurance groups to bring you the best financial and technical solutions regarding your individual health insurance needs in France. We cover the whole of the French territory and we specialize in Health Insurance, Top-Up and Full Private cover, for the English speaking population living in France, or on the point of doing so. For over 15 years, SOFICAS has specialized in health insurance for English speaking people and has obtained important means to bring you a high quality service.

Established in 1945, the French public health programme, called the 'Securité Sociale', has undergone many transformations, and continues to change depending on European economics and National Health matters.

Keeping up with these changes made to an already complicated system and understanding how differences could affect each individual is the main reason why people use and recommend SOFICAS.

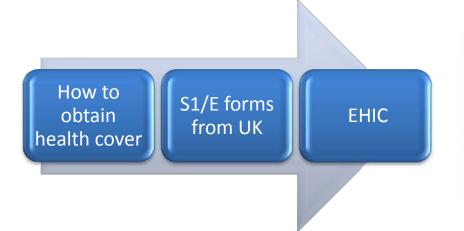
SOFICAS will guide you through the tedious task of getting into the French Health System, but that's not all! SOFICAS can accompany you thereafter with your French Health, Top-Up or Full Private Health Insurance needs in English.

Top-Up has become a way of life for the French. Health services have become increasingly expensive and Government reimbursements have decreased considerably over the years. However, many have family or friends that have unfortunately experienced the excellent French health services and they will tell you,

"Thank goodness we had a Top-Up!"

During this financially demanding period, people are hesitant to give up their Top-Up insurance to save money but prefer to re-examine their existing policies. Ironically, when SOFICAS is contacted to make comparison, people realise that they have often been underinsured and / or overpriced.

It is not unheard-of, to get a higher level of cover through SOFICAS and to pay lesser premiums.





• EHIC: European Health Insurance Card.



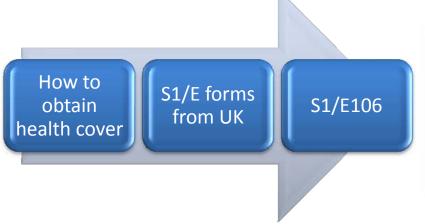
If you are resident in the UK and travelling abroad, the EHIC will provide sufficient cover for EMERGENCY services.

This will not replace Travel Insurance and sometimes can be Topped-UP if the reimbursements come from the French CPAM office if you are in France for longer periods of time.



If you are still in possesion of your **EHIC** (E111) and you are entitled to use it, you should be given a "**Feuille de Soins**" after your first medical act in France.

This **BROWN** form is to be taken to you local "**CPAM**" office (Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie). The French "**Sécurité Sociale**" will issue you with a limited French Social Security number "**N° INSEE temporaire**" starting with a "**5" for men** and a "**6" for women**. The validity of your rights in France vary depending on your CPAM office. Normaly your EHIC is valid for the duration of your short stay in France. However, some CPAM offices will alocate rights for 1 year and some even for the validity of the EHIC card itself. CPAM will refuse reimbursements and remove CPAM rights via the EHIC if they feel that the EHIC has been wrongly used or no longer valid.





• S1/E106: Working adroad:



- Employed, self-employed or have a student status in the UK obliging you to move to France.
- LIMITED S1/E106 from the NHS.
 This document is RENEWABLE until your S1-E106 rights EXPIRE, generally when your contract is terminated.
- S1/E106: Early retirement or looking for work:
 - No longer resident in the UK.
 - Under state of origins retirement age.
 - Up to date with NI Contributions in last few years.

If you have a valid **S1-E106**, this is to be taken to your local "**CPAM**" office, (Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie).

It is advisable to make and keep copies. Once all other required papers have been given to "CPAM" (full birth certificate, marriage certificate, proof of residence, ID etc...) this will give you a provisional French Social Security number "N° INSEE provisoire" starting with a "7" for men and an "8" for women. For some S1-E106 holders you will receive an "Attestation à

conserver" with your full Social Security number "n° INSEE permanent" starting with a "1" for men and a "2" for women and eventually the "Carte Vitale".



S1/E109



• S1/E109: Family abroad:



- A family member still works in the UK but **SPOUSE**, **PARTNER** and/or **CHILDREN** live in France and need health cover abroad.
- The S1/E109 is **only valid** for the « **dependents**» of the person making NI contributions.
- The EHIC will cover the other person when they are VISITING France.

For Mrs.Smith

& children

living in France



If you have a valid S1-E109, this is to be taken to your local "CPAM" office, (Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie).

It is advisable to make and keep copies. Once all other required papers have been given to "CPAM" (full birth certificate, marriage certificate, proof of residence, ID etc...) this will give you a provisional French Social Security number "N° INSEE provisoire" starting with a "7" for men and an "8" for women. For some S1-E109 holders you will receive an "Attestation à conserver" with your full Social Security number "n° INSEE permanent" starting with a "1" for men and a "2" for women and eventually the "Carte Vitale".

How to obtain health cover

S1/E121



S1/E121: State retirement



- State of origines retirement age.
- No longer have any professional activity.
- Dependent on Spouse or Partner S1.

• S1/E121: Long Term Incapacity

- Benifits can be transfered to France.

ALD: Affection Longue Durée

ONLY 100% of medical acts regarding existing conditions are covered by the **ALD**.

Any *Dépassements d'Honoraire* charged by specialists can be reimbursed by your Top-Up.

Refer to S1-E106 for how to register your S1-E121

If you are sharing an S1-E121 "Ayant Droit" with your spouse or partner, your rights for French Social Security reimbursement will be the same number for both S1-E121 holders. However, to save reprinting another "Carte Vitale" when the dependant reaches retirement age in their own right, the "CPAM" have decided to issue the dependant with their own "Carte Vitale" and their own "N° INSEE permanent" printed on it. This has proven not to be such a wise move on their behalf as the information on the micro chip is the information regarding the S1-E121 holder. Always remember to give the S1-E121 holder "n° INSEE" when the "Carte Vitale" is not swipped otherwise the wrong card number will be used and "CPAM" will refuse reimbursements as this number does not have any rights.



Without S1/E forms

CPAM



Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie.

The French equivalent to the NHS.

French Social Security for salaried workers.

If you are employed in France, your employer must contribute to your health cover.

People still in possession of international rights must register with their local CPAM office.

English help line - 0811 363 646

How to obtain health cover

Without S1/E forms

RSI



Regime Social des Independants.

French Social Security for self-employed workers.

NB. RSI will not reimburse medical treatment.

Reimbursements come from a third-party called régime obligatoire (R.O.) that you choose upon registration of your activity.



Without S1/E forms

CMU



Couverture Maladie Universelle.

French Social Security for people without valid

"E" forms who are no longer active and often
have limited or no resources. The CMU will grant
access to the CPAM provided that you have
lived in France for more than five years or possibly
less in case of unplanned eventualities.

English helpline - 0811 363 646

How to obtain health cover

Without S1/E forms

Private Cover



If your rights have run out or you do not comply with any of the other categories and you have been refused access to the French system, you are OBLIGED to replace your regime obligatoire (R.O.) with a private insurance called "N.A.".

Non Assijettis Sociaux.

What is Full Cover?



- 1. If you were not in the French system on the 23rd November 2007.
- 2. Your S1/E106 or S1/E109 has run out and is not renewable.
- 3. You have not yet reached your state of origins retirement age and have no other long-term benefit from the UK S1/E121.
- 4. You are INACTIVE! Not working, nor do you have a student status.
- 5. You have not yet officially lived in France for 5 years.

You will lose or be refused access to French state health cover.



Even if your Carte Vitale is valid and still works, your rights will have expired.



Without minimum obligatory cover your Top-Up will not work and must be cancelled.



YOU HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO REPLACE MINIMUM HEALTH CARE TO MAINTAIN FRENCH RESIDENCY

- Cover has to REPLACE the CPAM
- NO financial LIMITS. CPAM has an UNLIMITED % reimbursement basis.
- NO CATEGORIES of illness or treatment.
- NO RESTRICTIONS or EXCLUSIONS For existing or possible health problems.
- « SITUATION IRREGULIERE » Will result in future loss of French Social advantages.

What is Full Cover?



100%



75%

70%

100%

100%







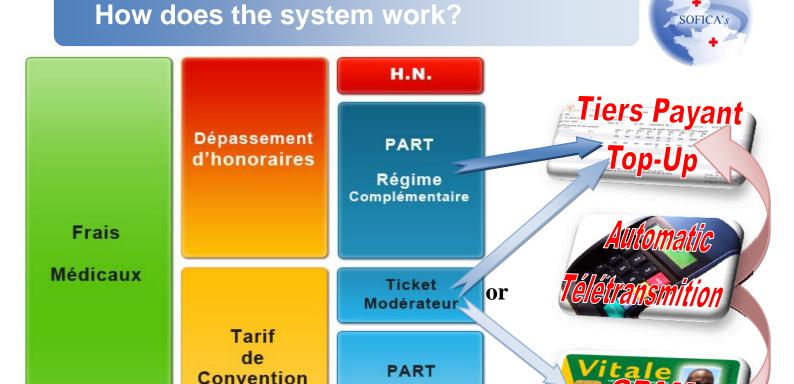


Full « NON ASSUJETTIS

General obligatory cover

53 year old couple Total = 341,86 €m 4 102,32 €y

Exampl: APRIL 1^{er} €Non Assujetis 2013
Subject to the acceptance of your medical questionnaire.
Contact SOFICAS in case of medical uncertainties.



Régime > Obligatoire

Carte Vital

Frais Médicaux:

Total amount charged for your medical act.

This can be a Fixed rate or an amount announced by a specialist.

Tarif de Convention:

Base rate given to a medical act recognizable by a code that indicates its nature and tariff called "Nomenclature" fixed by the "CCAM" (Classification Commune des Actes Médicaux). The "Tarif de Convention" fixes the 100% base rate that all medical professionals use but it does NOT limit their fees charged.

Top-Ups relate to the base rate and NOT to actual expenses.

Part Régime Obligaroire:

The Percentage of the "Tarif de Convention" that is covered by your "Régime Obligatoire". Usually these reimbursements come from "CPAM" or "RSI" if you are self employed. Reimbursements range from 35% to 100% but are commonly referred to as 70% of the "Tarif de Convention". Once fully into the French system you will receive a "Carte Vitale" for payment to medical professionals equipped with the "System Noemi".

How does the system work?



Ticket modérateur :

The difference between your "Régime Obligatoire" reimbursements and the "Tarif de Convention". This amount, normally reimbursed by a Top-Up will be reimbursed by your "Régime Obligatoire" in case of long-term illness, handicap or maternity. The "100%" or "TM" referred to on "Tiers Payant" slips will guarantee payment of the "Ticket Moderateur" to any professional using this facility without you having to advance any money.

Dépassement d'honoraires :

Amount charged by a Doctor for time spent treating a patient. A Doctor in "Secteur 1" will NOT charge over the "Tarif de Convention" and you will be totally reimbursed even on the lowest levels of Top-UP. A Doctor in "Secteur 2" can charge over the "Tarif de Convention" and you will only be reimbursed if you have a higher level of "Top-Up". You could be faced with "Dépassement d'honoraires" for a simple 15 minute Specialist visit or for 4 hours of Major Surgery. Rates charged must be communicated in advance; get in contact with the hospital administration if not.

Part Régime Complémentaire :

"Part Mutuelle". This is the amount paid on your behalf by a Top-Up. "Dépassement d'honoraires" can be reimbursed by a Top-Up. Top-Ups starts at 100% and can go up to 600% or more depending on your needs and especially what area you live in. SOFICA's sugests middle cover, around 200% for hospitalization permitting you to use Doctors charging twice the "Tarif de Convention" but lower for the rest as some base rates are very low.

Hors Nomenclature:

These are medical acts that are NOT included on the "CCAM" list thus they do not have a base rate. These medical acts are often in addition to ongoing treatment. The "CCAM" tend to exclude preventative medicines, "Médecines douces" that have not been accepted by the "Académie des Sciences" (YET).

Examples of reimbursement



At the doctors



C = 23 €

70 %

Consultation



- 1 € per visit max 50€ per year

30 %



Your G.P consultations will have to be paid for but the reimbursements from CPAM and your Top-Up are automatic.

At the chemist



- 0,50 € per box max 50€/y

Vignettes Blanches Vignettes Bleues

Vignettes Oranges

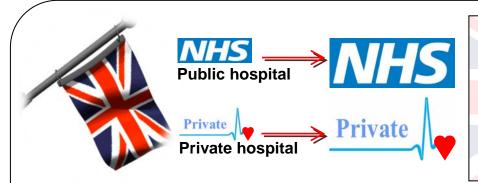
65 % 30 % 15 % 35 % 70 % 85 %



No need to advance any money, your "Carte Vitale" and your "Tiers Payant" from your Top-Up will take care of it.

Examples of reimbursement

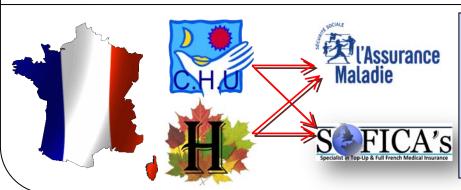




In the UK.

If your medical treatment is in a PUBLIC service then the NHS will cover your expenses.

If you chose to use a PRIVATE hospital, you must have adequate PRIVATE insurance.



In FRANCE.

Not all medical acts can be dealt with by a PUBLIC CHU but referred to a PRIVATE CLINIQUE. Reimbursements will be shared between your R.O. and your Top-Up.

A simplified example of two identical medical acts, the first in a PUBLIC CHU (Centre Hospitalier Universitaire) and the other in a PRIVATE CLINIQUE.







-30% -<mark>30</mark>0

-70% -700 €

-100% -1000 €

-30% -300 €

-70% -700 €



ABCD123
Code "Nomenclature"

1 000 €

"Tarif de convention" for your medical act



What is Top-Up?



Top-Up, Régime Complémentaire or Mutuelle.

Most medical treatments are only partially covered by the régime obligatoire and some not at all. It is French way of life to take out an additional insurance that works hand-in-glove with the French regime obligatoires to reduce or eliminate such shortfalls.

Different levels of cover, adapted to different needs and especially for different budgets. It is important to understand that French Top-Ups are designed to cover expensive unplanned medical bills incurred during treatment and not just to get a new set of dentures. Unlike any other insurance, it is not because one person makes a claim that their premiums will increase. Effectively in comparison, you could say that people in good health pay for people in need of treatment. The Top-Up system is based on "solidarity" like the CPAM. To stop your premiums shooting through the roof should you fall seriously ill, the costs will spread out annually to all clients, thus making Top-Up insurance accessible to everyone. Those that are unable to afford Top-Up are granted help from the government called ACS to contribute towards a Top-Up proving how important it is to take out such insurance.

Top-Ups starts at 100% of the base de convention and can go up to 600% or more depending on your needs and especially what area you live in.

SOFICAS recommends middle of the range cover, around 200% for hospitalization permitting you to use Doctors charging twice the "Tarif de Convention" but lower for other medical treatment as some base rates are very low.

See "How does it work" on p11 to understand the % system.

What is Top-Up?



SAFICA	TICA'S — COVER OPTIONS —					
Specialist in Top-Up & Full French Medical	Insurance	SUBSCRIPTION				
HOSPITALISATION (including mate	ernity)	1	WITHOUT Health	n Questionnaire 3	4	
Surgical and medical hospitalisation, a	5400000* S.B.	100 %	100%	200%	200%	
Surgical and medical hospitalisation, non- approved qualified clinic or public hospital private sector		100%	100 %	200 %	200%	
Specialised stays (limited to 60 days [1])		100%	100%	200 %	200%	
Various procedures, Medical and Surgical Fees		100%	100%	200 %	200%	
Hospital per diem allowance		Actual cost	Actual cost	Actual cost	Actual cost	
Private room	Approved establishment	None	Actual cost	Actual cost	Actual cost	
	Non-approved establishment	None	35 €/day	45 €/day	55 €/day	
Companion bed (limited to 60 days [1])		None	12 €/day	15 €/day	20 €/day	
Maternity - Birth- Adoption		None	None	100€	150€	
Transport by ambulance		100%	100%	100 %	100%	
Home hospitalisation		100%	125%	150 %	175%	
DENTAL						
Dental Procedures, Treatment and Surgery		100%	100%	150 %	200%	
Dental prostheses		100%	100%	150 %	200%	
Orthodontics		100%	100%	150%	200%	
EYE CARE						
Medical eye care: Lens and contacts-Frames Complement including refused contacts and operation for myopia		100 % None	125 % + 80 € [1]	150 % + 115 € (1)	200% + 145€ (1)	
Additional bonus as of the 3rd year		None	80 € (2)	115€ (2)	145€ (2)	
EXCLUDING HOSPITALISATION						
Consultations - Visits		100%	100%	125 %	150%	
Chemist		100%	100%	100%	100%	
Vaccinations		Capped at 100 % (1)	Capped at 100 % (1)	Capped at 100 % (1)	Capped at 100 % (1	
Minor surgery -Medical technical procedures		100%	100%	200%	200%	
Laboratory - Radiology		100%	100%	125%	150%	
Medical assistant - Rehabilitation		100%	100%	125%	150%	
Orthopaedics, Orthotics, Prosthetics other than dental		100%	125%	150%	175%	
OTHER BENEFITS						
Medication not reimbursed by the mandatory health care scheme, prescribed by a doctor (contraception, anti-tobacco treatments, homoeopathy)		None	50% of actual cost capped at 25€ (1)	50% of actual cost capped at 30€ (1)	50% of actual cost capped at 40 € (1)	
Spa therapy (accepted by the mandatory health care scheme)		100 %	100% + 50€ (1)	100 % + 100 € (1)	100% + 150€ (1)	
Unexpected care abroad (see-Article 9)		100%	100%	100%	100%	
Assistance cover		Included	Included	Included	Included	
Exemption or reimbursement of the pro-	emium	Guarantee	Guarantee	Guarantee	Guarantee	

How to get reimbursed?



When you have a medical act in France, you are usually asked for your "CARTE VITALE" (from CPAM or RSI) and the slip of paper called "Tiers payant complémentaire/Mutuelle" (from your Top-Up). Usually no money is asked for. The bill will be sent to "CPAM" (Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie or other if self employed) and your TOP-UP.

When only your Carte Vitale is asked for this is usually because there is the possibility of using the "Télétransmission" (automatic payment / reimbursement system). You will have to pay either the total amount (eg: GP, Dentist) or just the "Ticket Modérateur" difference between the CPAM allowance and the "Tarif de convention" 100% base rate = what the state says your medical act is worth.

CPAM will proceed with their partial reimbursement and send the bill (normally) to your top-up by Télétransmission. They will in turn reimburse the difference depending on your chosen level of cover.

<u>In some cases you will have to pay for excess charges</u> that the "**Médecin Spécialiste**" has over the state convention rate. These are called in French "**Dépassements d'honoraires**".

These charges can be claimed from your Top-up by sending the acquitted bill.



See "How does it work" on p11 to understand the % system.

How to get reimbursed?



feuille de soins - médecin

If the CPAM does not reimburse a medical act then the ASSURE Top-up will not either, unless otherwise stated by annual flat rate.

(eg: Private room, glasses, spa, flu injection, etc.)

When your "Carte Vitale" is not used, papers called "FEUILLES DE SOINS" are given to you. The information on these papers is identical to the information given by your "Carte Vitale". These forms have to be filled in and sent to the CPAM office dealing with your reimbursements.

! Please make sure you fill in your Social Security number (also called numéro d'immatriculation) and sign the paperwork at the bottom. and de la ligne

If for whatever reason the Top-up takes time reimbursing their part. On reception of the CPAM statement itemising your last reimbursements, send these to your Top-up. This replaces the Télétransmission should CPAM not have sent the information in the first place. As soon as your Top-up has the correct information they too can reimburse their part.

Passuré(e) n'a pas N.B.: If you send your paperwork directly to your insurance company or use the SOFICAS website then the reimbursements 'acte ou les actes will be a lot quicker than if you send them to your broker.

yant effectue

Please, do not forget to indicate your contract number.

Blicles L. 114-13 du Code de la sécurité sociale et 441-1 du Code

FMR01-05

de signer

SOFICAS WEBSITE





SOFICAS WEBSITE



In the blue area at the top of the page you will find access to information regarding the French health system and how it works, key words and phrases, downloadable items and most of all, "CONTACT US". In this page there is the facility to send documents directly to us via the website for faster reimbursements.

Each time SOFICAS organises seminars or is present at an exhibition. The information will be here. You are all welcome to assist any event, often FREE of charge with SOFICAS invitations. You may prefer to organise something more personal with groups, clubs or even between friends. Our dedicated experts will be delighted to explain how the French system works with a video projection and why not enjoy some "amuse gueules" and fine wines during "Q&A" time.

This area is reserved for information regarding the insurance companies that SOFICAS works with and also the "régime obligatoire" contact details. You are free to contact your insurance company directly but it is preferable to phone SOFICAS in English or use our "CONTACT US" web page.

Take time to read about our partners. SOFICAS recommends companies that have themselves been recommended by existing clients. You will find all sorts of information designed to help integrate France smoothly. If you are already in France perhaps our partners can save you that little extra precious time or money.

Probably the most important button on the World Wide Web...
"HEALTH INSURANCE QUOTE"

Once you have pressed this button, you can relax and let SOFICAS guide you to piece of mind.

When living in a foreign country you must keep up to date with what's happening, David Yeates, editor at www.french-property.com perfectly portrays French life and its potential problems with a professional and impartial point of view.

Remember to « BOOKMARK » the SOFICAS website for easy and regular access and up to date FREE conversion rate watch and currency converter thanks to our partner.

Where is SOFICAS?



SOFICAS has over 6000 clients in all four corners of France. Clients have become acquainted to SOFICAS excellent services by phone, email, SOFICAS website and seminars all around France.

SOFICAS has offices & agents covering the most popular areas of France

SOFICAS HEAD OFFICE

4 rue Françis Martin 33000 – BORDEAUX

Tél en Français: 05.56.51.16.22 Tel in English: 05.56.51.91.60

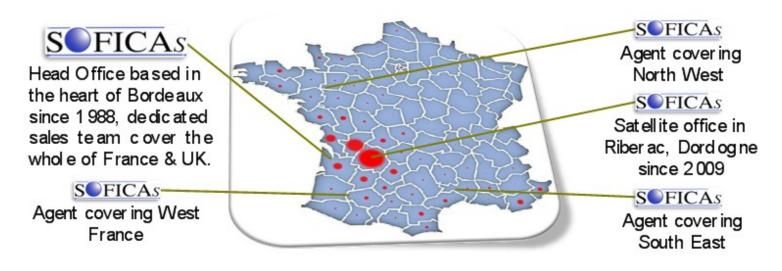
SOFICAS SATELLITE OFFICE

1 rue Arnault Daniel 24600 – RIBERAC

Tel: 05.56.51.91.60

SOFICAS AGENTS

With the increasing demand for the SOFICAS personal touch, we have agents based around France for home visits.



Personal notes



CPAM or RSI address: Social Security number: Social Security number: Organism d'afiliation: Top-Up/Full cover: Company name: Option chosen:
Adherent number :

S FICA's

Specialists in Top-Up & Full Medical Insurance in France

SOFICAS took care of our health issues

when we moved to France!

NEW WEBSITE
claims are faster,
follow-ups even
simpler and the
French system will
seem as easy as

SOFICAS will advise you with your administrative needs











BCC

