

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY C.S. ALVES OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 15th JANUARY 2019**

Question

Will the Minister state, for each of the last 5 years, on how many occasions individuals have used the reciprocal health agreements that her department has in place with different countries (not including the U.K.)?

Answer

Reciprocal health agreements generally entitle visitors from a participating country to access care on the same basis as people locally resident. The agreements usually allow for treatment to be given in response to an emergency only. Each country may apply their own process for verifying entitlements and may or may not keep records of cases where fees have been waived because a reciprocal agreement has been applied.

As such, there is no claims process and no transactions between countries which allow a record of frequencies to be created.

Likewise, there is no requirement for reciprocal countries to report the use of a reciprocal agreement and therefore no records are available in respect of other countries.

Residents are encouraged to ensure they have the relevant travel insurance in place when travelling abroad.