

# INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR PARENTS/ GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN UNDER 6



**Under a new scheme introduced by the HSE all children under the age of 6 are entitled to a GP Visit Card from 1st July 2015.**

This card will entitle your child to GP services as set out in the contract. Your child may only avail of this service **if you have registered and been accepted by your GP**. Until you register at [www.gpvisitcard.ie](http://www.gpvisitcard.ie) and have received a card from the HSE you will not be entitled to avail of this service. In the event that you have not registered for the scheme and have not been issued with a card, you will be liable for the normal surgery fee.

**If you already have a medical card/DVC card then you need not take any action.**

## Services Covered by the Contract

Your child may avail of normal GP visits.

In addition there will be what are termed Periodic Assessments: One between the age of 2 and 3 and another between the age of 5 and 6. This is a simple height and weight check of your child and if necessary appropriate referral. These checks may occur during a standard consultation.

If you have agreed with the HSE to share the data with the HSE your GP will forward this data, including the smoking status of your household, to the HSE.

If your child suffers from Asthma then your child will receive a 3 month review after a new diagnosis and an annual review thereafter. This covers children diagnosed from the age of 2 onwards.

The new periodic assessments and Asthma Reviews are limited to children under the age of 6 and other children over the age of 6 who have a medical card or DVC card are not entitled to these services.

## Services Not Covered by the Contract

The HSE are not covering all services that may be available at your GP practice. Some additional services may be available from your GP but such services will not be covered by your card and can incur a fee determined by the GP Practice.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of what is **NOT** covered by the Under 6 Scheme:

- Travel Vaccinations
- Paediatric Phlebotomy (Blood Tests)
- Passport/Identity Reports/Letters
- Insurance or Medical Reports
- Sports medicals/reports
- Medico-Legal reports
- Certificates or Letters in support of applications under the Social Welfare Acts
- Creche Reports or school attendance notes/certificates
- Fostering/Adoption or certain TUSLA Reports

## Out of Hours Services

Once registered your child can be seen in the local Out of Hours Service for urgent care.

As with the GP service, if your child has not registered and received a card, the Out of Hours Service will not be free of charge.

## Home Visits

The new Under 6 Scheme recognises that a patient is best attended to in the surgery or other healthcare setting. It is therefore at the discretion of the GP as to whether or not a home visit will be made.

## Practice Details