



BULGARIA MEDICAL TRAVEL PARTNER LTD

Complaints Policy and Procedure

Bulgaria Medical Travel Partner Ltd is committed to providing a high quality service to everyone we deal with. In order to do this we need you to give us any comments about our service, and to tell us when we get things wrong. We want to help you resolve your complaint as quickly as possible.

We treat as a complaint any expression of dissatisfaction with our service which calls for a response. We listen to your complaints, treat them seriously, and learn from them so that we can continuously improve our service.

Bulgaria Medical Travel Partner Ltd Complaints Policy and ProcedureError!
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What is a complaint?

A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction, whether justified or not.

Our policy covers complaints about:

- a. the standard of service we provide
- b. the behaviour of our staff, and
- c. any action or lack of action by staff affecting an individual or group

Our complaints policy does not cover

- a. comments about our policies or policy decisions
- b. dissatisfaction with our policies or decisions



- c. matters that have already been fully investigated through this complaints procedure, or
- d. anonymous complaints.

Our standards for handling complaints

- We treat all complaints seriously, whether they are made by telephone, by letter or by email.
- You will be treated with courtesy and fairness at all times. We would hope, too, that you will be courteous and fair in your dealings with our staff at all times.
- We will treat your complaint in confidence within the organisation.
- We will deal with your complaint promptly. We will acknowledge receipt of a written complaint within five working days and we will send you a full reply within 20 working days of receipt. If we cannot send a full reply within 20 working days of receipt we will tell you the reason why and let you know when we will be able to reply in full.
- We will publish information in our annual report on the numbers and categories of complaints we receive, and the percentage of complaints upheld.
- We will not treat you less favourably than anyone else because of your:
 - ❑ sex or marital status: this includes family status, responsibility for dependants, and gender (including gender reassignment, whether proposed, commenced or completed)
 - ❑ sexual orientation
 - ❑ colour or race: this includes ethnic or national origin or nationality
 - ❑ disability
 - ❑ religious or political beliefs, or trade union affiliation, or
 - ❑ other unjustifiable factors, for example language difficulties or age.

Third Party Reporting

Complainants may wish to have a third party act on their behalf. A third party is any person or organisation acting on behalf of or making enquiries for the complainant.

Where a third party is helping a complainant with a particular complaint and written authority is held to that effect, if the representative asks to be kept informed of progress on the complaint all possible steps will be taken to ensure that this happens.

Confidentiality

All complaints received will be dealt with confidentially and in accordance with the requirements of the data protection law of 2002.

How to Complain

You can make a complaint to the addresses in section 9 below in a number of ways:



- By telephone
- By email
- In writing or letter

We have a two-stage complaints procedure. At each stage it will help us to resolve your complaint quickly if you can give us as much clear detail as possible, including any documents and correspondence and stating that you are making a complaint in line with our procedure.

The stages of the complaints procedure

Stage 1

This is the first opportunity for the organisation to resolve a complainant's dissatisfaction, and the majority of complaints will be resolved at this stage. In the first instance, we will try to get your complaint resolved by the Director.

Stage 2

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request a review.

At each stage please send your complaint or request for review to the Director using the contact details given in section 9.

Timescales for handling a complaint

Stage 1 - maximum 20 working days

Acknowledgement within 5 working days

Full response within 20 working days

Stage 2 – maximum 20 working days

Acknowledgement within 5 working days

Full response within 20 working days

Extending time limits

We aim to complete all complaints within the timescales above; however, if a complaint is very complex it may occasionally be necessary to extend the time limit. If this is the case we will keep the complainant informed of progress with the investigation, the reasons for the delay, and inform them of the new deadline.

Following any stage of the procedure, a complainant has a maximum of 28 days from the date of the final response to request that their complaint be progressed to the next stage.



Remedies

When we get things wrong we will act to:

- a. accept responsibility
- b. explain what went wrong and why, and
- c. put things right by making any changes required.

The action we take to put matters right (ie redress) in response to a complaint, can include any combination of the remedies set out in the “menu” below. The general principle we follow is that a complainant should, so far as possible, be put in the position he or she would have been in, had things not gone wrong.

The remedy chosen needs to be proportionate and appropriate to the failure in service, and take into account what people are looking for when they complain. An apology is normally appropriate, but other action may also be necessary.

- A sincere and meaningful apology, explaining what happened and or what went wrong) - an apology is not an acceptance of liability.
- Remedial action, which may include reviewing or changing a decision on the service given to an individual complainant
- Provide service desired by complainant (immediately, if appropriate)
- Putting things right (for example change of procedures to prevent future difficulties of a similar kind, either for the complainant or others)
- Training or supervising staff; or any combination of these
- Financial compensation.

Compensation

In the majority of cases, remedies other than financial compensation will satisfy the complainant. Financial compensation is therefore a final option, and will only apply in cases where the loss or suffering is considered to warrant such a payment.

In circumstances where it is decided that our action or lack of action has resulted in maladministration, if the complainant has suffered direct or indirect financial loss, compensation maybe payable.

Where it is decided following investigation of a complaint, that a complainant has suffered an injustice and or hardship resulting in direct or indirect financial loss, due to maladministration, we will determine whether compensation is an appropriate remedy by looking at all the evidence, including how much the complainant can demonstrate they have lost, or what extra costs they have incurred as a result of our maladministration.

The reason for our decision will be recorded by the decision maker and included in our response.



Comments

Quality of service is an important measure of the effectiveness of our organisation. Therefore we believe that learning from complaints is a powerful way of helping to develop the organisation and increase trust among the people who use us. As well as learning from your complaints we are also interested in other ideas you may have on how we might do things better. We would also like you to tell us when we do things well. If you have a comment to make about our decisions, it will be addressed by the team concerned as rapidly as possible.

You can make your comments by telephoning, in writing or you can email us. We will use your comments to help improve our service and the way we do things. However, the two-stage procedure outlined above does not apply to comments.

Recording complaints

We will log all complaints we receive so that we can monitor the types of problems, the best way to sort them out and how long we are taking to deal with them. This also helps us to take a closer look at how we can improve our own service delivery.

We will handle your information in line with data-protection legislation.

Contacting us

All complaints and requests for review under our complaints procedures should be sent to one of the following addresses:

Vesselina Iv. Dimova
Managing Director
Bulgaria Medical Travel Partner Ltd
tel: +359 88 44 53 8 99; +44 20 3778 0379
e-mail: v.dimova@bmtpartner.co.uk

Accessibility

Bulgaria Medical Travel Partner Ltd is committed to equal opportunities and our aim is to make our complaints policy easy to use and accessible to all of our customers. Staff will provide information on the complaints procedure for anyone wishing to make a complaint and provide assistance they may reasonably require e.g. language line translation

Signed

Date: November, the 7th, 2016

Vesselina Iv. Dimova
Managing Director