

9. Traveling

Every country and institution may have different regulations regarding immunoglobulin therapy administration. Please follow your local and national guidelines.

Short overland travel

Ensure that the patient has been informed to carry an adequate supply of immunoglobulin and equipment with them. Please ensure that they are aware of the temperature restrictions for the storage of the immunoglobulin products.

Travelling abroad

Ensure that the patient has been informed to carry an adequate supply of immunoglobulin and equipment with them. Please ensure that they are aware of the temperature restrictions for the storage of the immunoglobulin products.

Inform the patient that they will require a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) as well as private travel insurance. The patient will also need a medical certificate stating the necessity of bringing their immunoglobulins and equipment items, and a medical certificate for security and/or customs officials.

It is advisable to provide your patient with an international patient identification card.

Travelling letters or documents are available from different companies and infusion centres.

Travelling by air

The patient must be informed that they should not pack the immunoglobulins in their check-in suitcase, but carry them in their hand luggage; otherwise the immunoglobulins might freeze in the airplane hold and be destroyed. The patient will need a medical certificate stating the necessity of bringing their immunoglobulins and equipment items, and a medical certificate for security and/or customs officials. Please ask patients to contact the airline, and airport security, before the flight to clarify all questions in advance.

Immunoglobulin administration in advance

Immunoglobulin doses can be administered in advance: for example, a patient normally receiving weekly subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIG) and not wishing to travel with the equipment, can receive a double immunoglobulin dose before a 2-week trip. Please ask the prescribing clinician for advice on all the possibilities.

An expert on the web!

The patient can find an Expert Immunologist on the website of Jeffrey Model Foundation (JMF) (<http://www.info4pi.org/>). Some centres supply their patients

European Nursing Guidelines for Immunoglobulin Administration

with immunoglobulins to be infused locally in the other country. Please refer to your local guideline.