

MEDICAL FORM ATTACHED FOR COMPLETION

Dear Doctor,

Your patient has applied to travel on a pilgrimage with ACROSS this year, as part of a group of 24 people, of whom 10 will be unable and 14 helpers, including at least one registered nurse and if the group requires one, a doctor. It is a ten-day pilgrimage which includes travel to and from the UK.

Our vehicle is a large ambulance that is purpose built to take the seriously ill and disabled to Lourdes in France. The vehicle has 7 beds & 18 seats and medical equipment includes a defibrillator, oxygen, suction, nebuliser and basic first aid provisions. We travel non-stop to Lourdes and those who need to can travel the entire journey on a bed. Our vehicle also has a fully equipped kitchen and accessible toilet. Hot and cold meals and drinks are provided en-route.

One of the medical team on the group will contact your patient prior to departure and if necessary, with their consent, contact you to obtain further information.

In Lourdes your patient will stay with the group in a hotel that has a number of adapted rooms with disabled shower facilities and hospital beds. Medical equipment available includes hoists, shower chairs, wheelchairs, suction, nebuliser and defibrillator. A minimum of one registered nurse will accompany the group and be available 24/7. Your patient will share a room with a group helper or nurse and the group as a whole will take care of their specific needs.

ACROSS is equipped to give priority to;

- Those who are terminally ill
- Those who are confined to bed
- Those who are unable to use conventional means of transport
- Those who are confined to a wheelchair
- Those who are semi-ambulant requiring a wheelchair at times

We can also accommodate the elderly or lonely and our services are used as respite for family members. A relative, friend or carer can also apply to travel with your patient if they wish

Thank you in anticipation for completing this medical questionnaire, in addition it would be beneficial to the medical team accompanying your patient to have a print out of the current treatment, conditions and medications if possible.

If you have any queries regarding your patient's specific needs or requirements please contact our pilgrimage coordinator who will provide supplementary information and if you wish, can arrange for one of our Medical Committee to call you.

Additionally, ACROSS is always in need of doctors to travel with us. If you feel that you would be able to give your time to help those who cannot travel by any other means to Lourdes, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours faithfully,



Helen Young
Medical Committee Chairman