

## ***Italy Health Care System***

The Italian health care system is a decentralized version of the British NHS. Funding is based on a regressive payroll tax. The tax starts at 10.6% of income for the first €20,660 and drops to 4.6% of income between €20,51 and €77,480. The rest of the funding comes from federal and regional general taxation (i.e.: income and value-added taxes). The regions are responsible for health care provision. The Ministry of Health funds these regions according to a formula based on weighted capitation and past spending. Then the regions allocate these funds to Local Health Authorities (LHA).

Private health insurance in Italy is uncommon, but is occasionally offered by employers. It is not possible to opt out of the National Health Insurance system and insurance premiums are not tax deductible.