

## **IMSS – INSTITUTO MEXICANO DEL SEGURO SOCIAL**

- THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF SOCIAL SECURITY IS TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO GOOD HEALTH, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, THE PROTECTION OF THE MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE AND THE NECESSARY SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL WELL BEING, AS WELL AS THE ASSIGNMENT OF A PENSION THAT COMPLIES TO THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS THAT SHOULD BE GUARANTEED BY THE STATE.

This is article 2 from IMSS. It is a rough translation from Spanish, but that is their main statement. As foreigners we do not qualify for Social Services, but we do qualify for the health portion.

How do you qualify? Easy. To sign up you must have an FM2, FM3, or Immigrado status, and proof of residency. IMSS will require you to bring the above, along with 4 pictures of yourself (infantile size), and fill out the questionnaire they have. Some applicants will be subject to blood and urine testing. These applicants are randomly selected.

The Cost? Every individual pays a set rate. If you are under 60, the yearly cost is \$2003 pesos, and if you are over 60, the cost is \$3015 pesos. (Subject to change in January or February)

What does it cover? Your first year in the system only covers minor illness, such as colds etc, nothing involving surgery. Year number 2 covers everything except broken bones. 3<sup>rd</sup> year covers everything. In these 3 years, all your medication is covered as well as long as you get it at IMSS. You are not covered if you get it at any other pharmacy. The only thing that is not covered at anytime is pre-existing conditions.

How good is it? It is excellent. We have heard of a number of cases in which they received excellent care. The facilities might not what you've come to expect in the US or Canada, but the doctors and staff are top notch, many of the Doctors having been trained in the US and Canada.

### **Ajjic Legal and Immigration Services**

Carretera Oriente 58-G, Ajijic, Jalisco CP 45920

Tel/Fax 01-376-766-4777 or 01-376-766-4888

[info@AjijicLaw.com](mailto:info@AjijicLaw.com)