

# Who Would Go Out of Country for Cheaper Healthcare Services?

## Medical “Tourism” Appeals to 1 in 5 (18%) Global Citizens

Those from India (35%), Indonesia (32%), Russia (32%), Mexico (31%) and Poland (31%) Most Likely to Say “Definitely Would”

Public Release Date: November 13, 2012



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**New York**— Global citizens appear to be medically mobile, as one in five (18%) indicate they “definitely would” consider traveling to another country to receive medical or dental care if the cost were significantly lower than in their country. The findings shed light on medical tourism, an increasingly popular worldwide phenomenon that is becoming a formalized industry in many countries.

The poll, conducted by global research company Ipsos on behalf of Reuters News, also found that another four in ten (36%) “probably would” while three in ten (30%) “probably would not” and 16% “definitely would not.”

Those from India (35%), Indonesia (32%), Russia (32%), Mexico (31%) and Poland (31%) are most likely to say they “definitely would” go abroad for cheaper medical services. On the other hand, those from Japan (3%), South Korea (5%), Spain (7%), France (8%), Belgium (9%) and Sweden (9%) are least likely.

Demographically, younger adults appear more open to going abroad to seek cheaper medical or dental work done. On the global aggregate level, those under the age of 35 (19%) and those aged 35-49 (19%) are more likely than those aged



50-64 (15%) to say they “definitely would” go. Employed (20%) individuals are more likely than unemployed (15%) to say so, as are men (19%) rather than women (17%).

*These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Global @dvisor poll conducted between August 7th and August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012. The survey instrument is conducted monthly in 24 countries via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America. An international sample of 18,713 adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, were interviewed. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis with the exception of Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Russia and Turkey, where each have a sample 500+. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. The precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval. In this case, a poll of 1,000 is accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and one of 500 is accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points in their respective general populations. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. For more information on credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website at [http://ipsos-na.com/dl/pdf/research/public-affairs/IpsosPA\\_CredibilityIntervals.pdf](http://ipsos-na.com/dl/pdf/research/public-affairs/IpsosPA_CredibilityIntervals.pdf)*



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