



ČESKÁ SPRÁVA  
SOCIÁLNÍHO ZABEZPEČENÍ

# Digitalization of Sickness Insurance Benefits

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4 October 2024



# Sickness Insurance Benefits in the Czech Republic

- **Benefits provided due to sickness/accident, or pregnancy and maternity**
- **In most cases, the physician provides the justification for their allocation**
- **They include:**
  - Sickness benefit
  - Maternity benefit
  - Attendance allowance
  - Long-term attendance allowance
  - Paternity benefit
  - Compensatory benefit in pregnancy and maternity

# Benefits in numbers 2021 - 2023

	as of 31/12/2021	as of 31/12/2022	as of 31/12/2023
<b>Total cases of sickness insurance benefits</b>	4 851 759	4 306 564	3 802 118
<b>Sickness benefit</b>	3 266 183	2 906 637	2 600 360
<b>Attendance allowance</b>	936 811	786 625	651 877
<b>Maternity benefits</b>	585 849	544 742	487 331
<b>Compensatory benefit in pregnancy and maternity</b>	894	1 089	1 021
<b>Paternity benefit</b>	48 097	49 477	43 193
<b>Long-term attendance allowance</b>	13 925	17 994	18 336

Due to the low number of cases, it is not yet economical to digitalize the Compensatory benefit in pregnancy and maternity.

# Sickness Benefit – Digitalized in 2020

- **ISSA Good Practice Award 2022 (e-Sick Leave and its use during the COVID-19 pandemic)**
- **A comprehensive electronic system used in the Czech Republic to handle the following:**
  - Confirmation of the employee's incapacity for work or quarantine at the physician's office,
  - Subsequent automated transmission of information about a sick employee to his/her employer,
  - Automated data entry into the CSSA systems where sickness benefits are processed (later upgraded to include automatic benefit payment),
  - All without the need for the circulation of paper documents, which the individuals concerned would have to pass on to each other.
- **From the beginning, the plan was to fully digitize all types of sickness insurance benefits, starting with those with the highest volume of cases.**

# Other Sicknes Insurance Benefits – 1st January 2025

- **The digitalization processes are in line with the e-Sick Leave**
- **The processes between the physician, CSSA, and the employer will be fully digitized.**
  - The physician sends electronic notification and receives data about a specific patient from CSSA,
  - The employee notifies the employer of the insurance event (work absence), enclosing the decision number (identifier) given by the physician,
  - The employer has several options for accessing their employees' information, including having it entered automatically directly into their payroll and HR software,
  - The employer sends over the data in the employee's benefits claim to the CSSA electronically,
  - Information from the physician and the employer is combined in the CSSA system, which pays out the sickness benefits.
- **The method of transmission of the decision or notification from the physician to the insured: text message, e-mail, or printed form upon request.**

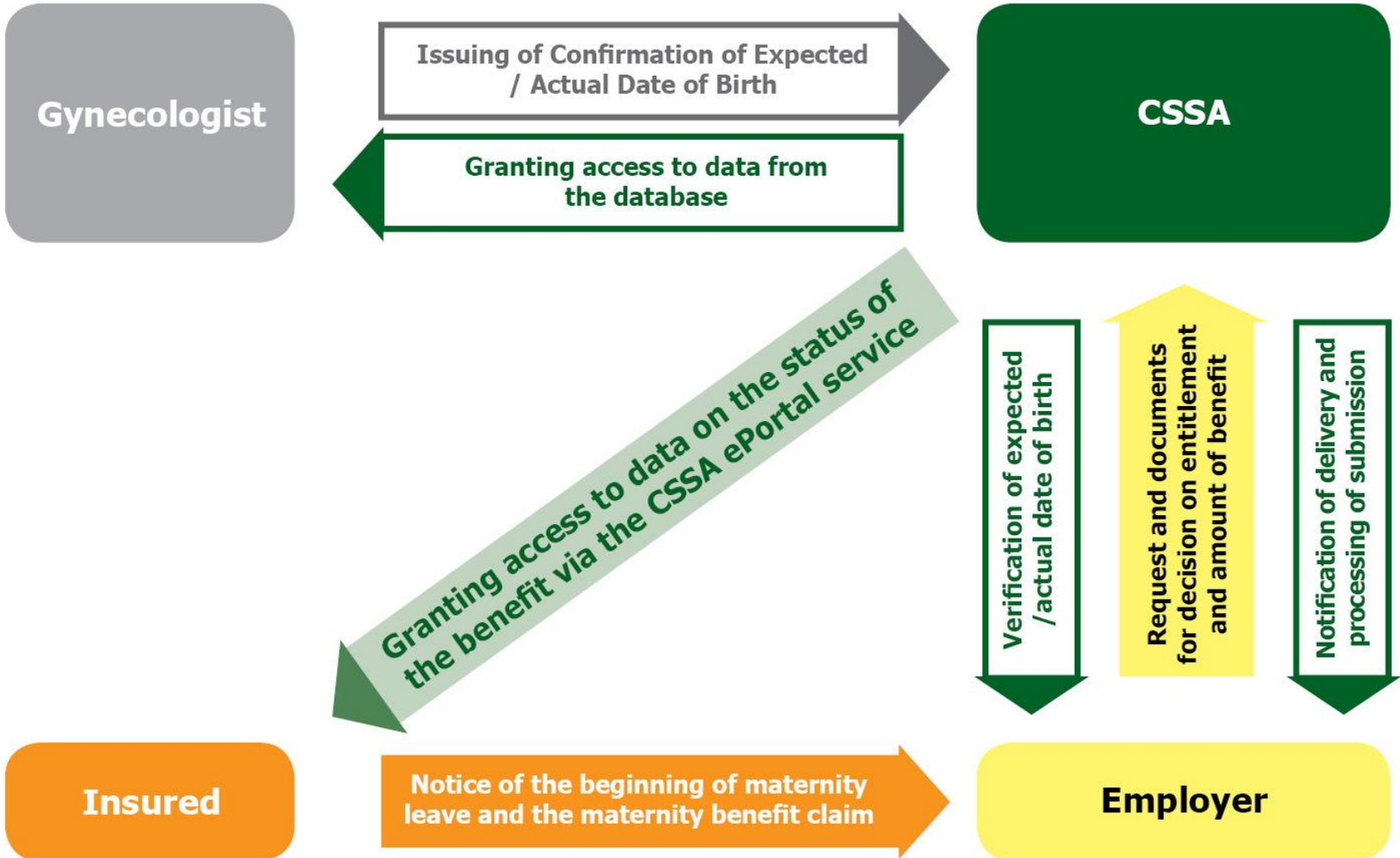
# Other Sickness Insurance Benefits – 1st January 2025

- **In contrast to the e-Sick Leave:**
  - Substantially lower numbers of cases
  - However, each benefit has its own specifics
  - Carer's benefits are provided in situations where a person other than the person being cared for is claiming the benefit
- **Therefore, the employee is still obligated to notify his/her employer of the insurance event (work absence), but the form is not specified (for example, several larger employers are planning to create a mobile app)**

# Maternity Benefits

- **Are related to the period of maternity leave, and are allocated to women usually from the beginning of the sixth week before the expected date of birth, for a period of 28 weeks (37 weeks for women who give birth to two or more children).**
- **The gynecologist will issue an Electronic Confirmation of the Expected / Actual Date of Birth, where he or she will indicate the expected due date, or actual date of birth (if premature).**
- **For a single pregnancy, the physician will issue the confirmation once, regardless of the number of the woman's insured employment contracts.**
- **An electronic form number will be generated when a claim is issued - similarly to e-Sick Leave.**
  - The attending physician will send the Confirmation of the Expected Date of Birth to the CSSA.
  - CSSA will send the insured the identifier of the Confirmation in the form of a text message or e-mail (in line with the contact information provided), or the physician will provide the Confirmation to the insured person in written form; the confirmation is always available for the insured on the CSSA ePortal as well.
- **The employee notifies the employer of his/her work absence using the identifier of the Confirmation.**

# Maternity Benefits - Process Map

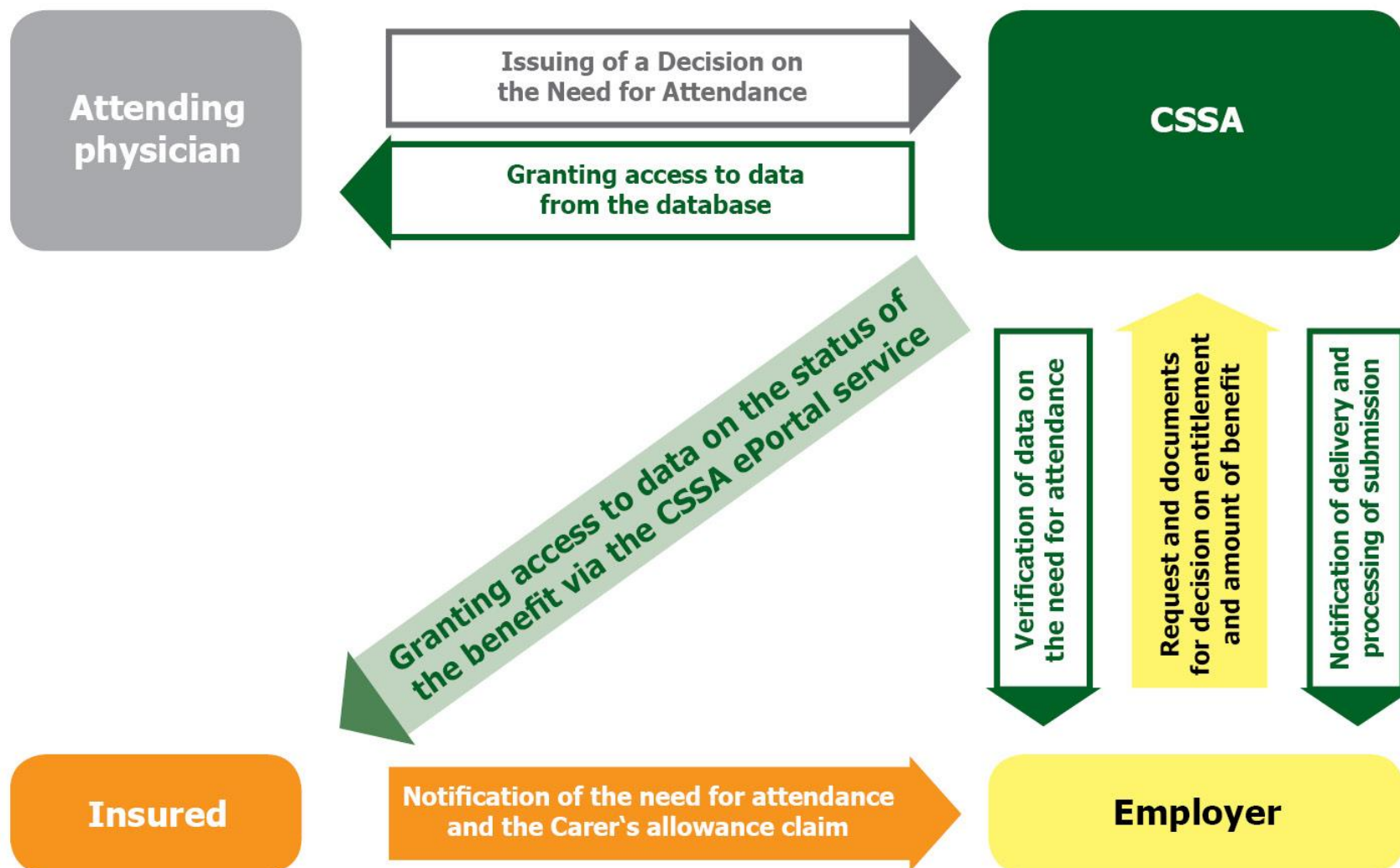




# Attendance Allowance

- **For employees who cannot work due to their caring for a sick family member, or caring for a healthy child under the age of 10 because:**
  - the person who normally cares for the child has fallen ill,
  - the child has been ordered into quarantine,
  - the facility (school) the child attends has been closed – this does not fall under the physician's concern.
- **The physician will electronically issue a Decision on the Need for Attendance**
  - In the case of the need for attendance, the decision will be issued once, regardless of the number of insured activities, or of an alternation in the care provided,
  - When issued, an electronic claim number (identifier) will be generated - similarly to e-Sick Leave.
- **The physician will send the Decision on the Need for Attendance to the CSSA.**
- **CSSA will send the insured the identifier in the form of a text message or e-mail (in line with the contact information provided), or will send the Decision in paper form; the Decision is always available for the insured on the CSSA ePortal as well.**

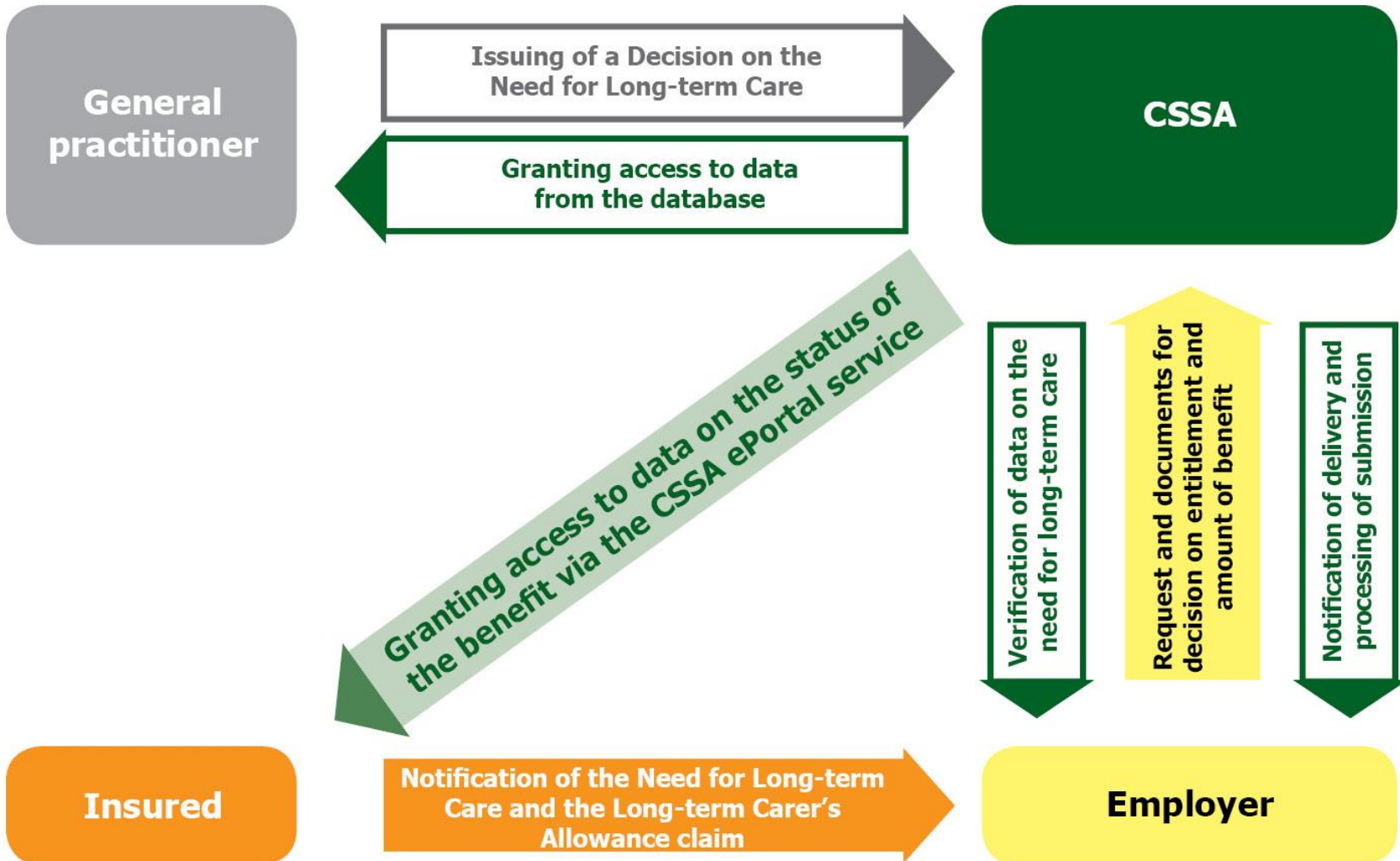
# Attendance Allowance – Process Map



# Long-Term Attendance Allowance

- **Applies to a situation of care of a family member whose attending physician at the inpatient medical facility (usually a hospital) has decided that his or her medical condition requires full-time at-home day care following discharge or that their condition is incurable.**
- **The attending physician will electronically issue a Decision on the Need for Long-term Care in cases of:**
  - hospitalisation for at least four consecutive calendar days + a presumed need for long-term care for at least 30 calendar days after being discharged from hospital,
  - an incurable condition that requires long-term at-home care and palliative care.
- **An electronic form number will be generated when this is issued - similarly to e-Sick Leave.**
- **The attending physician will send the Decision on the Need for Long-term Care to the CSSA.**
- **CSSA will send the insured the identifier in the form of a text message or e-mail (in line with the contact information provided), or the physician will provide the Decision to the insured in written form; the Decision is always available for the insured on the CSSA ePortal as well.**

# Long-Term Attendance Allowance – Process Map



# Paternity Benefit

- **The following are entitled to this benefit:**
  - An insured person caring for a child of which he is the father,
  - An insured person caring for a child whom he/she has taken into care replacing parental care based on the decision of a competent authority, if the child has not reached seven years of age on the day of being taken into care (male or female insured person).
- **The insured notifies the employer of the start of paternity leave and claims the paternity benefit.**
- **The employer submits a notification of the claim and the documents for the decision on the entitlement and the amount of the benefit to the DSSA (District Social Security Administration).**
- **Physician's confirmation is rarely necessary for the purposes of the paternity benefit.**
- **Confirmation is only required in the case of a child's hospitalisation for health reasons on the part of the child or the child's mother, occurring within six weeks of the date of birth.**

# Summary – Examples of Use

## General practitioner

### ▪ Attendance allowance

- The patient's medical condition requires the attendance of another person
- The person who normally cares for a child has fallen ill and is therefore unable to care for the child

### ▪ Long-term attendance allowance

- Incurable condition – rules on the start and end, confirms its duration
- Hospitalisation – takes over a case from the hospital, confirms duration, decides on its termination

## General practitioner for children and adolescents (paediatrician)

### ▪ Attendance allowance

- The child's medical condition requires the attendance of another person
- Quarantine of a child under 10 years of age

### ▪ Long-term Attendance allowance

- Incurable condition - rules on the start and end, confirms its duration
- Hospitalisation – takes over a case from the hospital, confirms duration, decides on its termination

# Summary – Examples of Use

## Gynecologist

- Maternity benefits - confirmation of the date of birth
- Carer's allowance and Long-term Carer's allowance – only exceptionally (similar cases as for the General practitioner)

## Hospital (provider of inpatient care)

- **Attendance allowance**
  - Confirms hospitalisation of the person being cared for
  - Decides on the need for care in the event of hospitalisation of the person who normally cares for the child under 10 years of age
- **Long-term attendance allowance**
  - Decides on long-term care due to hospitalisation (at least four days)
  - Confirms the hospitalisation of the person being cared for
- **Paternity benefit**
  - Confirms a child's hospitalisation
- **Maternity benefits - confirmation of the date of a premature birth**



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# Thank you for your attention.

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