

PRIVATE CHARGES

NOT ALL SERVICES AT THE PRACTICE ARE AVAILABLE UNDER THE NHS

WHERE PATIENTS REQUEST **NON-NHS ITEMS OR SERVICES A PRIVATE FEE WILL BE PAYABLE**

WHY WE CHARGE FEES

What is covered by the NHS?

The Government's contract with GPs covers medical services to NHS patients, including the provision of ongoing medical treatment.

What is not covered by the NHS?

GPs do not have to carry out non-NHS work on behalf of their patients. Whilst GPs will always attempt to assist their patients with the completion of forms, for example for insurance purposes, they are not required to do such non-NHS work.

Surely the doctor is being paid anyway.

It is important to understand that the contract that we have with the NHS is to provide care for the unwell.

I only need the doctor's signature - what is the problem?

When a doctor signs a certificate or completes a report, it is a condition of remaining on the Medical Register that they only sign what they know to be true.

To complete even the simplest of forms, therefore, the doctor might have to check the patient's entire medical record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor with the General Medical Council (the doctors' regulatory body) or even the Police.

Examples of non-NHS services for which GPs can charge other institutions:

- Life assurance and other reports for insurance companies
- Reports for the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in connection with disability living allowance and attendance allowance
- Medical reports for local authorities in connection with adoption and fostering
- Accident or sickness certificates for insurance purposes
- School fee and holiday insurance certificates
- Fitness to fly or join a gym etc.

Why does it sometimes take my GP a long time to complete my form?

Time spent completing forms and preparing reports takes the GP away from the medical care of his or her patients.

Most GPs have a very heavy workload and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time, so GPs find they must take some paperwork home at night and weekends.

You should allow up to 20 working days for the GP to process your request.

- Requests for services in less than 20 working days will attract a surcharge.

We have reviewed our charges and we have decided to adopt the minimum recommended charges as suggested to all doctors by the British Medical Association

This is not a money-making exercise – we would rather that we did not have to do this. We have enough work already.

Please see overleaf for a list of example charges:

LETTERS AND CERTIFICATES	CHARGE
Private prescription	£30
Private sick note	£30
TWIMC letter	£30
Certificate or statement of fact	£30
Accident or sickness insurance certificate - short certificate of incapacity (no examination) for patient to claim under accident or sickness insurance	£30
Validation of private medical insurance (PMI) claim form, to support a claim in connection with private medical insurance/ completion of a pre-treatment form	£30
Student or school forms	£30
Travel insurance forms or letter or fitness to travel	£30
Holiday cancellation due to ill health	£30
Travel insurance forms	£30
Vaccination certificate	£30
Freedom from infection certificate, e.g., for school, travel or employment	£30
Firearms application	£35
REPORTS – NO EXAMINATION	
Report on pro-forma	£130
Report written	£130
<i>Written report without examination, providing a detailed opinion and statement on the condition of the patient: This could include</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> accident or sickness insurance to support a claim for payment of benefit under accident or sickness insurance policy 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> employment report 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fitness for education to attend university, college, teacher and nurses training and, for dentists 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pharmaceutical trials report on suitability of patient to take part 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> private medical insurance: report on prospective subscriber to a private medical insurance (PMI) scheme (eg BUPA, PPP, WPA, etc). 	
iGPR reports	£130
Further information	£30
MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS	
Full examination & report	£135
Insurance report	£105
Adoption medical	£100