

## Private Fees and Charges



### Why do GP's charge fees? Your questions answered

The National Health Service provides most health care to most people free of charge, but there are exceptions. Prescription charges have existed since 1951, and there are a number of other services for which fees are charged. Sometimes the charge is made to cover some of the cost of treatment, for example dental fees. In other cases it is because the service isn't covered by the NHS, for example, medical reports for insurance companies, claims on private health insurance and other letters and forms which require the doctor to review the patient's medical records.

It is important to understand that GPs are not employed by the NHS, they are self employed, and they have to cover their costs - staff, buildings, heating, lighting etc - in the same way as any small business has to.

The NHS pays the doctor for specific NHS work, but for non NHS work fees are charged to cover the cost of the clinical staff time, and other relation practice costs.

### What is covered by the NHS and what is not?

The government's contract with GPs covers medical services to NHS patients. In recent years, more and more organisations have been involving doctors in a whole range of non-medical work. Sometimes the only reason that GPs are asked is because they are in a position of trust in the community, or because an insurance company or employer wants to be sure that information provided is a true and accurate record.

#### Examples of non-NHS services for which GPs can charge their patients:

- Certain travel vaccinations
- Private medical insurance reports
- Holiday cancellation forms
- Referral for private care forms
- Letters requested by or on behalf of, the patient
- In certain instances fitness to work forms

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

- Medical reports for an insurance company
- Some reports for the DSS/Benefits agency
- Examinations of local authority employees

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

Time spent completing forms and preparing reports is done outside of GP surgeries to ensure no disruptions to his/her patients. In addition non-NHS work must be undertaken outside of NHS contracted time.

## **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. Therefore in order to complete even the simplest of forms, the doctor needs to check the patient's entire record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor, with the General Medical Council or even the Police.

## Scartho Medical Centre Patient Fees For Services Not Provided Under the NHS

*The services shown below are not provided under the National Health Service contract and the following fees will be charged. If you have any questions relating to these fees, please address them to the Practice Manager before requesting the service.*

<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>PRICE</b>
Access to Medical Records	£0.35 per sheet plus £15.00 for administration and postage fees or £50.00 (maximum charge)
Private Sick Note	£10.00
Private Insurance Claim Forms	£30.00
To Whom it May Concern Letter (private letter)	£10.00
Mental Capacity certificate with Examination	£120.00
Additional fee if home visit is required	£80.00
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	
Employment, Pre-Employment Medical and Report	£165.00
Employment, Pre-Employment Report (No Examination)	£99.00
Army Medical Report (No Examination) & full set of medical records	£115.00
<b>INSURANCE</b>	
Medical Insurance Report or extract from Medical Records (requesting information regarding a specific ailment)	£49.50
CICA	£39.00
Medical Assessment Reports (Fee fixed by Insurance Company)	£102.00
Medical Assessment Report and Medical	£165.00
Life Assurance Proposal (full GP report and targeted report)	£94.30
Mortgage Claim Form	£30.00
Council Tax Discount	£10.00
<b>DRIVING</b>	
Medical and Report (eg: HGV, Taxi, PSV)	£95.00
<b>SPORT</b>	
Fitness for gym	£10.00
Sports Detailed Report	£30.00
Sports Medical	£95.00
<b>TRAVEL</b>	
Fitness to Travel	£10.00
Cancellation of Holiday Claim Form	£30.00
<b>FOSTERING MEDICALS</b>	
AH Form	£76.00
AH 2	£25.00

<b>SERVICES WE DO NOT PROVIDE</b>	
Passport Forms Citizenship Forms Asbestos Medical Shotgun Licence Medical	