

Non – NHS Fees Explained

Why are fees charged?

The contract the practice has covers medical services to NHS patients. In recent years more and more organisations have been requesting Doctors to complete a wide range of non-NHS work and certification. This is often done to cover costs and apportion responsibility should an unexpected event occur.

This work is not funded by the government, so GP's have to charge a fee to cover their time and other administrative expenses.

Surely the doctor is being paid any way?

It is important to understand that many GP's are not employed by the NHS. They are self-employed and they have to cover costs of everything from the limited NHS Funds provided – staff wages, buildings, heating, lighting etc – in the same way any small business has to.

Do GP's have to do non-NHS work for their patients?

GP's do not have to carry out non-NHS work in the same way any business or contractor does not have to carry out work that you ask for. Many GP's will however attempt to assist their patients with this work where it is in their area of knowledge, understanding and expertise.

What is covered by the NHS and what is not?

The Government's contract with GPs covers medical services to NHS patients, including the provision of ongoing medical treatment. In recent years, however, 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 ensure that information provided to them is true and accurate.

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

- accident/sickness certificates for insurance purposes.
- reports for health clubs to certify that patients are fit to exercise.
- pre-employment medicals, as requested by employers.

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

- life assurance and income protection 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.

I'm doing a sport event, charity event or extreme activity and I need a fit to undertake certificate?

This is a very contentious area and recently there have been cases for litigation and blame against Doctors. Many event organisers are now requiring applicants to have a Doctor certificate to say they are fit to undertake an event to safeguard their own insurance policies and personal liability.

It is extremely difficult for a GP to certify you are "Fit to" undertake without a thorough medical examination and carrying out extensive tests. They will also be required to read your complete records to ensure there is no medical history that could implicate or cause reason for you to not be "fit". The average patient record is 40 -100 pages of reading. Some of these will be on computer but for many, elements will be still on paper records which will need to be read. The average patient record takes 15 – 30 minutes to be read! Also, at the end of the doctor reading your record the opinion may be that you are perhaps not fit to undertake in their opinion. Please be aware that there will still be a fee for this and if further investigations or work involved this will increase cost.

Please be aware that even though you may be doing an event for charity the charity still charges you an administrative fee for undertaking the event. Therefore we will also still need to charge you for any documentation required. We also personally support many charities.

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

Time spent completing forms and preparing reports takes the GP away from the medical care of patients which will always have top priority. GP have an ever increasing workload of forms/letters/reports and certificates which must be prioritised against offering appointments and other urgent administrations like referrals and results. We aim to complete non-NHS work within two weeks of receipts but this is in no way guaranteed and may be closer to 3 weeks at times. Copy records may take up to 4 weeks to complete.

I only need the GP's signature – what's the problem?

When a GP signs a certificate, letter or report it is a condition of legality and of remaining on the medical register (which allows them to practice as a doctor), that they only sign what they know to be factually true. In order to complete even the simplest of forms, the doctor needs to read the entire medical record. They also need to have medical indemnity insurance which for a Full time GP is approximately £10,000 - £12,000 per annum and is paid by them.

What can I do to help?

Not all documents need a signature by a doctor, for example passport applications. You can ask another person in a position of trust to sign such documents free of charge.

If you have several forms requiring completion, present them all at once and ask your GP if he or she is prepared to complete them at the same time to speed up the process.

Do not expect your GP to process forms overnight: urgent requests may mean that a doctor has to make special arrangements to process the form quickly, and this will cost more.

Wolston Surgery

VAT Registration Number 879 1176 82

| Service | Net Tariff | VAT | Total |
|---|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Insurance | | | |
| Insurance claim form Inc holiday cancellation (Simple) | £18.00 | | £18.00 |
| Insurance claim form Inc holiday cancellation (Complex) | £30.00 | | £30.00 |
| Repatriation/Medical treatment abroad claim | £60.00 | | £60.00 |
| Medical Certificates | | | |
| Certificate of freedom of infection | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| Certificate of Existence | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| Driving | | | |
| Short driving medical report e.g. elderly driver [re for fitness to hold a licence] (with examination) | £50.00 | £10.00 | £60.00 |
| Short driving medical report e.g. elderly driver [re for fitness to hold a licence] (without examination) | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| Driving medical report e.g. HGV,LGV, PCV, Taxi (with examination) | £100.00 | £20.00 | £120.00 |
| Driving medical report e.g.HGV, LGV, PCV, Taxi (without examination) | £50.00 | £10.00 | £60.00 |
| Employment | | | |
| Pre-employment medical report (with exam) to inform a decision to recruit. | £130.00 | £26.00 | £156.00 |
| As above but without exam. | £80.00 | £16.00 | £96.00 |
| Employment medical report (with exam) to provide medical cert of incapacity to do particular activity | £130.00 | | £130.00 |
| Report without exam but with detailed opinion. | £100.00 | | £100.00 |
| Report without exam | £80.00 | | £80.00 |
| Travel/Sport/Study | | | |
| Rabies for course | £170.00 | | £170.00 |
| Hep B Single Vaccine Travel | £50.00 | | £50.00 |
| Men AWCY | £80.00 | | £80.00 |
| Japanese Encephalitis for course | £190.00 | | £190.00 |
| Tick-born Encephalitis for course | £180.00 | | £180.00 |
| Fitness to travel with exam | £100.00 | £20.00 | £120.00 |
| As above but without exam e.g pre existing medical condition/pregnancy | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| Medical report for college/sport/leisure (with exam) | £100.00 | £20.00 | £120.00 |

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| As above but without exam. | £70.00 | £14.00 | £84.00 |
| As above simple factual certificate | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| Letter detailing prescription medication | £12.50 | £2.50 | £15.00 |
| Travel vaccinations certificate | £15.00 | | £15.00 |

Adoption/Fostering

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| Adoption Prospective Parent (Fostering paid by Agency) | £80.00 | £16.00 | £96.00 |
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Legal

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| Witness power of attorney | £45.00 | £9.00 | £54.00 |
| Mental capacity assessment (power of attorney report) (with exam) | £80.00 | £16.00 | £96.00 |
| As above but without exam. | £60.00 | £12.00 | £72.00 |
| Court of protection CP3 (with exam) | £100.00 | £20.00 | £120.00 |
| Court of protection CP3 (without exam) | £60.00 | £12.00 | £72.00 |

Miscellaneous

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|---|--------|--------|---------|
| To whom it may concern' letter (Fit to....) | £30.00 | £6.00 | £36.00 |
| To whom it may concern' letter (Not Fit to....) | £18.00 | | £18.00 |
| Private sick note | £18.00 | | £18.00 |
| Housing needs | £25.00 | £5.00 | £30.00 |
| Ofsted Health Declaration | £87.50 | £17.50 | £105.00 |
| Jury Service Letter | £0.00 | | £0.00 |

Fees correct as of 24.05.2018. Prices may change at any time, so please contact us to confirm.