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Non NHS Fees and Charges (May 2024)

The Government's contract with GPs covers medical services to NHS patients however in recent years more and more organisations have been involving doctors in a wide 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, employer or public body wants to ensure that the information provided to them is true and accurate.

The following Questions and Answers are taken from advice by the British Medical Association (BMA) to help patients understand the fees charged by GP's.

1. Do GPs have to do non-NHS work for their patients?

With certain limited exceptions such as a GP confirming that a patient is not fit for jury service GPs DO NOT have to carry out non-NHS, work. Many GPs however will always attempt to assist their patients and carry out this work.

2. 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. GPs have an ever increasing workload of forms which must be prioritised against offering appointments.

3. I only need the GPs signature — what's the problem?

When a GP signs a certificate, completes a report or writes a letter it is a condition of remaining on the Medical Register (which allows them to practice as a doctor) that they only sign what they know to be true. In order to complete even the simplest of forms the doctor may have to check a patient's entire medical record.

Carelessness or inaccuracy can have serious consequences for the doctor with the General Medical Council (the doctor's regulatory body) or even the Police.

4. Who sets the fees and why do different doctors charge different fees?

The BMA suggest fees that may be charged in certain circumstances. However, these are intended for guidance only. Doctors are not obliged to charge the rates suggested by the BMA and the fee levels will generally reflect the amount of work and time involved.

5. Why do GP's charge for the completion of cremation forms?

A deceased person cannot be cremated until the cause of death is definitely known and properly recorded. Before cremation takes place two certificates must be signed, one by the GP and one by another doctor. The completion of these forms is not part of a doctor's NHS duties and the fees are usually charged to the funeral director who generally passes on the cost to the family. PLEASE NOTE CREMATION FORMS ARE BEING REPLACED BY A NEW PROCESS FROM 9 SEPTEMBER 2024.

These fees are agreed with the National Association of Funeral Directors, the National Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors and Co-operative Funeral Care.

Medical Certificates of Cause of Death are a separate form and are completed free of charge.

6. What notice is needed for completion of reports and letters?

To allow the practice to plan the GP's time 4 weeks' notice is required although many are completed within this time. Where a patient has an urgent request this should be explained to the receptionist who will note the request however it is not always possible for other more clinically urgent work to be delayed.

Non-NHS Fees & Charges

Certificate/Letters/Forms	Fees
Foster Carer / Adoption Application Report	£65.00
Foster Carer / Adoption Medical Examination	£85.00
Private Sickness Certificate (DWP Med3 Certificates are only for social services purposes and for periods of illness more than 7 days)	£20.00
Driving Licence (at GP discretion)	£45.00
Holiday Cancellation: Extract from records Full Medical Examination & Report	£45.00 £80.00
Fitness to Travel Certificate	£45.00
Pregnant Women – Fitness to Fly	£45.00
Fitness to carry out sporting activities e.g. Exercise, swim, marathons etc (at GP discretion)	£45.00
Certificate of Incapacity/on-going illness	£30.00
Simple letter: Statement of Fact eg patient has asthma. Signed by Admin. Statement of Fact signed by GP	£20.00 £40.00
Ofsted Report (to become a child minder)	£88.00
Short report on a Proforma	£50.00
Private Insurance Claim: Extract from records Full Medical Examination & Report	£45.00 £80.00
Photocopy of Notes	£0.40 per side/sheet
Subject Access (UK GDPR) First copy Subsequent copy	NO FEE £30.00 plus £0.40 per sheet OR £60.00 for electronic version.
Solicitors (Not UK GDPR)	Fees
Proforma with no examination	£90.00

Proforma with examination	£135.00
Written detailed report, providing opinion, with no examination	£135.00
Written detailed report, providing opinion, with examination	£200.00
Medical Examinations (pre-employment, fitness to drive, School/Universities Entrance)	Fees
Proforma with no examination	£90.00
Proforma with examination	£135.00
Written detailed report, providing opinion, with no examination	£135.00
Written detailed report, providing opinion, with examination	£200.00
Letters – non-referral, not otherwise funded	Fees
By Admin	£40.00
By GP (depends on time involvement)	£85.00-£150.00
Other Fees	Who Pays
Adoption & Fostering (requested by LA)	Local Authority
Adoption & Fostering: Child-minder Health Form (requested by LA)	Local Authority
Insurance Reports/Medical Examination	Insurance Company
Supplementary Insurance Reports	Insurance Company
Report to DVLA with examination	DVLA
Report to DVLA with No examination	DVLA

Reports, letters etc that are not provided by Oakmeadow Surgery	Fees
Shotgun licence	N/A
HGV, PSV and Taxi driver medical	N/A
Mental Capacity assessment under MCA	N/A
Power of Attorney	N/A