

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - cont.

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

With certain limited exceptions, for example a GP confirming that one of their patients is not fit for jury service, GPs do not have to carry out non-NHS work on behalf of their patients. This is an entirely optional service.

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.

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

Time spent completing forms takes GP's away from general day to day medical care of patients. Every day is different and we cannot define specific time for filling in forms. All forms will be completed as soon as is reasonably possible outside of normal appointment hours.

I only need a signature on a form? Surely that's easy?

When a GP signs a form or certificate, it is a condition of remaining on the medical register that they only sign what they know to be true. Therefore, the doctor may have to check the patients entire medical records before signing. Inaccuracy can have serious consequences for GPs.

I thought the NHS was free at the point of use?

The NHS provides the majority of healthcare to most people free of charge. However, there are some exceptions, such as producing medical reports for patients or insurance companies.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

Please give us as much notice as you can of your requirement for a medical examination or report.

Please be precise with your requirements. Informing us that you need a report for an insurance company, when you actually require a full medical exam will lead to disappointment.

Please present at the surgery in plenty of time for your appointment. Failure to attend a medical may attract a charge.

Deposits: We will refund any deposit if we are unable to deal with your request. In the event that you do not attend your appointment, or do not pick up your certificate / letter, the deposit remains non-refundable.



Private Medical Fees

A guide for Patients

This guide has been compiled with information from the BMA (British Medical Association) to help explain why the surgery may charge fees for some items.

Please note: **The fees stated are subject to revision at any time.**

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CHARGEABLE FEES

Driving / Travel

HGV / PSV Medical	£150
Taxi Medical	£150
West Dart Bus Medical	£60
Seafarers ML5	£60
Passport applications countersign	£20
Seat Belt Exemption report from notes	£60
Seat Belt Exemption including medical exam	£130
Fitness to drive report from notes	£60
Fitness to travel incl medical exam	£90
Holiday Cancellation insurance report	£60
Holiday Cancellation Claim Form	£30
Fitness to Travel	£30
Medical/Sport/Diving report (no examination)	£60

Certificates, Forms & Letters

Adoption / Fostering Report	£90
Blue Badge Report	£30
Camp America Form	£30
Childcare Form (Ofsted)	£90
Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority Report	£60
Gender Recognition Report	£80
Housing Letter	£30
Paternity test (blood or DNA)	£60
To whom it may concern letter	£30
Freedom from infection certificate	£10
Shotgun Licence	£50

Access to Records

Request for access to electronic records	£10 -£50
Photocopying / Printing	£0.50 per sheet

Medical Reports & Examinations

Assessment of Medicolegal Capacity	£120
Power of Attorney—Exam & Report	£150
Power of Attorney—Witnessing	£60
Employment Medical	£150
Employment Report Only	£90

Payment is required before our clinicians will carry out the request.

Private Patients

Blood Test	£25 + lab costs
Blood Group	£30
Prescription (per item)	£15
Smear Test	£15 + lab costs
Private Consultation	£60 per 20 mins
Paternity Test	£40.00

Please note: For other services not listed, you will be informed of any costs in advance of your request / appointment. Please allow 48 hours.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Surely the doctor is being paid anyway?

It is important to understand that many GPs are not employed by the NHS. They are self-employed and they have to cover their costs - staff, indemnity, buildings, heating, lighting, etc - in the same way as any small business. The NHS covers these costs for NHS work, but for non-NHS work, the fees charged by GPs contribute towards their costs.

What is covered by the NHS and what is not?

The Government's contract with GPs covers specific 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.

What will I be charged?

The BMA recommend that GPs tell patients in advance if they will be charged, and what the fee will be. It is up to the individual doctors to decide how much they will charge.