

## **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 on-going 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 which GP's can charge their NHS patients:**

- Accident/sickness insurance certificates and reports
- Certain travel/holiday vaccinations
- Private medical insurance reports
- Reports for 'fitness to start a diet regime or join a gym'
- Housing letters
- Medical reports for employers
- Medicals for HGV/Taxi/PSV
- Holiday Cancellation Forms

### **Examples of Non-NHS services which GP's can charge other institutions:**

- Medical reports for an insurance company
- Some reports for the DSS/Benefits Agency
- Examinations of local authority/Ofsted Reports

## **What will I be Charged?**

The BMA recommends that GPs tell patients in advance if they will be charged, what the fee will be. It is up to individual doctors to decide how much they will charge, but the BMA produces lists of suggested fees which many doctors use.

Surgeries often have lists of fees displayed at the reception area based on these suggested fees.

## **ISLAND MEDICAL CENTRE**

### **FEEES FOR NON NHS WORK**

## **Isn't the NHS supposed to be free?**

The National Health Service (NHS) provides most health care to most people. There are exceptions; when the service is not covered by the NHS; examples of non-NHS services for which GPs can charge their NHS patients are: accident/sickness insurance certificates, certain travel vaccinations and private medical reports. Additionally GP's can also charge other institutions for non-NHS services, these can include: medical reports for an insurance company, some reports for DSS/Benefits Agency and examinations of company employees.

It is important to understand that GPs are not employed by the NHS, they are self-employed and operate as any other small business. You will be charged a fee which will reflect both the doctor's time to carry out the service and the stationary and consumables.

This leaflet tells you what you will be charged for the most common non-NHS services. If a service is not included on this list you will be charged appropriately, this will however be mention to you in the first instance.

### **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.

### **I only need the doctor's signature – what is the problem?**

When a doctors signs a certificate or report, it is a condition of the Medical Register that they only sign what they know to be true. In order to complete even the simplest of forms the doctor might have to read the patients entire medical record.

## **ISLAND MEDICAL CENTRE**

### **Vaccine Prices**

Hepatitis B: £40.00  
*Please note: 3 vaccines are recommended to complete the course*

Meningitis ACWY Certificate: £20.00

### **Access to Medical Records**

Access to Medical Records under Data Protection Act £10.00 (viewing)

Copies of Medical Records under Data Protection Act

Records held electronically £10.00

Records held electronically & other medias £10.00-£50.00

### **Other Fee's**

Private Sick Certificate	£28.00
Private Medical Insurance claim Form	£10.00-£58.50
Private Prescription	£10.00
Holiday Cancellation Forms	£28.00
Support Letters – <i>Schools, University, Employment</i>	£16.50
Medical Examinations – <i>Private Employment, HGV, Taxi and DVLA</i>	£80.00

*Please see on the next page notes regarding LGV/HGV Medicals*

**Please Note HGV/LGV Medicals:**

**LGV/(HGV) Medicals - Vision**

The vision regulations have changed for professional drivers who wear spectacles (not contact lenses) when driving. You now have to bring along to the medical assessment an opticians prescription which is dated within 4 months of the date of the medical. If you do not have one you can see an optician after the medical, who will complete the first page of the D4 form.

The visual acuity criteria, which are measured during the medical assessment, have also changed. The better eye must have slightly improved vision (6/7.5) than before but the worst eye can now have much poorer vision (6/60) than before the changes.

**Do not expect your GP to process forms overnight**

**Normally, we will try to complete all requests within 40 working days.**

**If you require a medical you may have to wait up to two weeks for an appointment.**