

Stanmore House Surgery

Fees for Patient Specific Non-NHS Services 2017

Why do GPs charge fees? Your questions answered.

Isn't the NHS supposed to be free?

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 is not covered by the NHS, for example, medical reports for insurance companies, claim forms for referral for private care and other letters and forms which require the doctor to review the patient's medical records.

Surely the doctor is being paid anyway?

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. The NHS pays the doctor for specific NHS work, but for non-NHS work the fee has to cover the doctor's 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.

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

- Certain travel vaccinations
- Private medical insurance reports
- Holiday cancellation claim forms
- Referral for private care forms
- Letters requested by, or on behalf of, the patient

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 takes the GP away from the medical care of his/her patients. 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 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 medical record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor, with the General Medical Council or even the Police.

What will I be charged?

The GPs or staff will advise you in advance if there is a charge and how much. For further information see the BMA lists of suggested fees www.bma.org.uk/support-at-work/pay-fees-allowances/fees/fee-finder

Please 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 may cost more

Due to the costs of these services we will normally ask for payment via cash, cheque or bank transfer at the time of booking the service or if this is not possible at the time of collection.

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Certificates, Forms and Letters **Price**

Driving Licence Photo Verification	£25.00
Firearms	£30.00
Fitness to exercise	£20.00
Ofsted Forms/Childminder Health Form	£87.50
Passport Form	£25.00
Private Medical Forms BUPA etc	£30.00
Private Sick Notes (any sick note within 7 days)	£20.00
School fees insurance claim forms	£30.00
Signature	£20.00
To Whom it may concern letter	£20.00

Copies of Records **Price**

Copies of all Records	£50.00
Copying and sending notes	£10.00
Cost per copy	£0.50

Medical Examinations **Price**

Adoption/Foster Medical Examination	£78.25
DNA Mouth Swab (Price for 1 or 2 swabs)	£27.50 /£38.50
HGV,Taxi/LGV/PSV/Elderley driver Medical Examination	£100.00

Medical Reports **Price**

Court of Protection/Lasting Power of Attorney (1)	£100.00
Lasting Power of Attorney, Health & Finance	£130.00
Form AH2 update report on Parent/Carer	£24.36
Full Medical Examination	£169.00
Independent Medical Examination (Full)	£169.00
Medical Report for Solicitors	£110.00
Report without medical	£100.00

Reports for Insurance Companies **Price**

GP Report	£104.00
GP Report with Examination	£169.00
Insurance Questionnaires	£30.00

Traveling Abroad **Price**

Attendance at Airport	£25.00
Travel Cancellation Form	£30.00
Travel Fitness to Travel	£30.00
Vaccination Certificate	£15.00

Private Consultations **Price**

Overseas visitors not eligible for NHS treatment	£35.00
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