

# Your questions answered

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

The NHS 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 covers some of the cost of treatment, for example dental fees. In other cases it is because the service is not covered by the NHS, such as medical reports for insurance companies.

## Surely, the doctor is being paid anyway?

Not all GP's are employed by the NHS, some 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 covers these costs for NHS work, but for non-NHS work, the fee has to cover the doctors costs.

## What is covered by the NHS and what is not?

The Government's contract with GP's covers medical services to NHS patients. In recent years more organisations have been involving doctors in a range of non-medical work. Sometimes the only reason that GP's are asked is because they are in a position of trust in the community or because an insurance company or employer wants to be sure that information provided is true and accurate.

Examples of non-NHS services for which GP's can charge their NHS patients are:

- Accident / Sickness insurance Certificates
- Certain Travel Vaccinations
- Private Medical Insurance Reports
- Some DVLA reports

Examples of non-NHS services for which GP's can charge other institutions:

- Life assurance and income protection reports for insurance companies
- Some reports for the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the DVLA
- Medical reports for local authorities in connection with adopting and fostering

## Is it true that the BMA sets fees for non-NHS work?

The BMA suggests fees for non-NHS work which is not covered under GP's NHS contract. However, these fees are guidelines only, not recommendations, and a doctor is not obliged to charge the suggested rate.

## What will I be charged?

The BMA recommends that GP's tell patients in advance if and how much they will be charged. It is up to the individual doctor to decide how much to charge but the BMA produces a list of suggested fees.

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

Time spent completing forms and preparing reports takes the GP away from the medical care of patients. Most GP's have a very heavy workload and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time. Non-NHS work is done in the GP's own time.

## I only need a 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. In order to complete even the simplest of forms therefore, the doctor might have to check the patients entire medical record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor with the GMC or even Police.

## What can I do to help?

Not all documents need a signature from a doctor, for example Passport/Driving Licence applications can be signed by another person in a position of trust, e.g. a Pharmacist.

## What do I need to do now?

You will need to complete a "private requests for GP services" form which is either available on the website or from Reception and either send it to [bobicb-ox.churchstreet.admin@nhs.net](mailto:bobicb-ox.churchstreet.admin@nhs.net) or hand it back into Reception.

## What will we do on receipt of the form?

Your request will be processed and if there are any queries you will be contacted for clarification.

Please be patient as the average completion time is 28 working days; you will be contacted when your paperwork is ready for collection and payment is due.

Urgent requests cannot always be accommodated and may cost more.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

Practice Email address:

[Bobicb-ox.churchstreetpractice@nhs.net](mailto:Bobicb-ox.churchstreetpractice@nhs.net)

Practice Web site:

[www.wantagechurchstreet.co.uk](http://www.wantagechurchstreet.co.uk)

### Telephone Numbers

**Appointments** 01235 770245

**Prescriptions advice** 01235 770245

**General Enquiries and Results** 01235 770245

Please telephone after 10.30 a.m.

**Out of Hours – Emergencies and Advice** 111

(An easy number to remember when you need help or advice on any medical problem)

## Fee List

Description	Usual fee
<b>Clinician Forms and reports Without Examination</b>	
Fitness report	£41.50
Fitness report for school or university	£21.00
Fitness to drive	£41.50
Fitness to fly / travel	£41.50
Private sick note	£21.00
Private referral letter	£41.50
Gender recognition work	£80.00
Housing Needs statement	£21.00
Firearms licensing	£41.50
OFSTED Childminder health form	£91.00
Report for insurance claim	£104.00
Supplementary reports	£27.00
Validation of private medical insurance (PMI) form	£41.50
Events, fees and holiday insurance forms	£41.50
Accident or sickness forms for insurance	£41.50
Lasting Power of Attorney/Court of Protection	£125.00
Court exemption	£50.00
Any other report on a pro forma	£89.50
Any other written report	£133.00
<b>Clinician forms and reports With Examination</b>	
Mental health assessment fees	Negotiable
Group 2 medical For HGV, PSV, LGV and Taxi licences	£125.00
ENG 1 Seafarer medical exam	£80.00
Adoption/Fostering medical	£130.00
Examination and Report for insurance claim	£198.00 min
Examination and report on a pro forma	£183.00 min
Examination and other written report	£227.00 min
<b>Other forms and reports not requiring clinician signature or supporting statement</b>	
Copy of letter from specialist or consultant	Up to £20.00
Copy of test results for use by another health provider	Up to £20.00
Brief summary of records	Up to £20.00
Statement of fact letter	£15.00

## Do I have to pay for Travel Immunisations?

Many immunisations for travel are not covered by the NHS and will be charged for.

The current practice charges for non-NHS travel vaccinations are as follows:

Travel vaccinations		
Polio, Hep A, typhoid , Cholera	£0.00	Free on NHS
Hepatitis B	£150.00	For three doses
Japanese encephalitis	£196.00	For two doses
Tick-borne encephalitis	£130-£195	For 2/3 doses
Meningitis	£50.00	Single dose
Rabies	£186.00	For three doses
Yellow fever	£65.00	Single dose
Malaria	£35 - £109	dependent on type of tablets and consultation

You will be asked to pay for vaccinations in advance of them being administered.

If you are travelling abroad more information can be found on our website.

You will need to book an appointment with a nurse at least one month in advance of travelling and bring the travel risk questionnaire (available on the website) to your appointment. Upon booking you will be asked the following:

- where you are going,
- when you are going

If you are travelling in less than a month you may be signposted to an alternative travel clinic.

**We accept payment by cash/debit and credit card.**



# Fees and Charges Leaflet

## Information for Patients

**Not all services at our Practice are available under the NHS. When patients request non-NHS items or services a private fee is payable. This leaflet lists those fees, some of which are payable in advance.**

### DOCTORS

Dr Elizabeth Mackenzie  
 Dr Matthew Gaw  
 Dr Vineet Joshi  
 Dr Elaine Barber  
 Dr Manish Patel  
 Dr Kate Bramall  
 Dr Nicky Jacobsen

Dr Elizabeth Morris  
 Dr Helen Dee  
 Dr Cathy Scott  
 Dr Sarah Gannon  
 Dr Linda Nicolette

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**Please take a leaflet**