

Launceston Medical Centre

Why GPs charge for non-NHS work – Patient Information – November 2024

Patients can request a private report via the online form [Administration > Reports/Private Reports](#)

The Government's contract with GPs covers medical services to NHS patients, including the provision of ongoing treatment.

In recent years, more and more organisations have been involving GPs in a whole range of non-medical work.

Below are examples of non-NHS services for which GPs can charge their own NHS patients or other institutions:

- Accident or sickness certificates for insurance purposes
- School fee and holiday insurance certificates
- Reports for health clubs to certify that patients are fit to exercise
- Private letters
- Driving medicals
- Letters to airlines verifying medication can be carried on board
- Blood tests/injections for work purposes
- Vaccinations for travel
- Copies of medical records (initial copy free)
- Ofsted form for work
- Life assurance and income protection reports for insurance companies
- Reports for Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) including PIP forms
- Medical reports for local authorities in connection with adoption and fostering
- Medical reports for the armed services
- Debt Forms (Money Advice Centre)
- Disabled Student Finance Form

There are some NHS Services that GPs cannot charge for:

- Bankruptcy
- Coroners' post-mortem
- Council tax exemptions
- Death certificates
- Stillbirth certificates
- Notification of infectious diseases
- Professional evidence in court
- To establish unfitness for jury service

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list and there are other non-NHS services that may incur a fee.

GPs are not obliged to complete non-NHS work for their patients but do so as a service to patients and charges to cover the expense in doing so. We employ a clinician to complete this type of work out of normal working hours.

The BMA do not set the fees that GPs should charge but do suggest levels for guidance only.

Non-NHS services are subject to VAT.

Do not expect your GP to process your request immediately. -Urgent requests may mean that a GP has to make special arrangements to process the form quickly and could incur an additional cost.

Due to the high demand and time required to complete forms and prepare reports, this inevitably takes the GP away from the medical care of their patients. This in turn dictates the time it will take for the paperwork to be ready for collection/to be sent off. Most GPs have a very heavy workload and an increasing amount of paperwork and regularly find themselves taking work home at night and over the weekends. All this considered, you may be required to wait up to 4 weeks until your form/report is completed.

Sometimes you may require 'just a signature'. This is not as straightforward as it sounds. When a GP signs a certificate or report it is a condition of remaining of the Medical Register that they only sign what they know to be true. So a simple form may involve recalling paper records from storage and viewing the remaining computerised record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the GP with the GMC (General Medical Council – the GP's regulatory body) or even the Police.

You will be advised in advance of the fee you will be charged, and an advanced payment will be required to avoid non-collection of completed forms. There is a list of fees detailed below.

Please remember that patients are able to request complete copies of their notes for free. Where information relating to a medical condition or medication is required this may be an alternative.

Exclusions:

We do not complete:

- Letters to Examination Boards for extra time/support during exams
- Letters to School/College to support wearing of certain footwear or to be excluded from lessons
- Letters to support PIP applications
- Bus pass/Blue Badge applications – this is at the GP discretion in some circumstances.
- Countersigning passport applications/proof of ID
- Letters to support "fast-tracking" at Theme parks (to avoid queuing due to mobility issues)
- Medicals for Boxing, Motor sport, Deep Sea diving, Seafarers, Skydiving
- Reports to support gun licences. Please use shootcert or medcert

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FEES FOR PRIVATE (NON-NHS) SERVICES FROM November 2024

	Price
HGV, PSV medicals (COMPLETED EYE TEST REQUIRED)	£150.00 (£125.00+VAT)
Hackney Carriage (TAXI) medical	£150.00 (£125.00+VAT)
Insurance medical Reports (including IGPR)	£114.00 (£95.00+VAT)
Holiday Cancellation	£54.00 (£45.00+VAT)
Ofsted form for work purposes	£54.00 (£45.00+VAT)
Debt Forms (Money Claim Centre)	£54.00 (£45.00+VAT)
Disabled Student Finance Form	£54.00 (£45.00+VAT)
Council Grant Form (including ECO 4)	£54.00 (£45.00+VAT)
Pilot's licence medical (COMPLETED EYE TEST REQUIRED)	£288.00 (£240.00+VAT)
Army Medical	£84.00 (£70.00+VAT)
Additional fee if physical examination required	£60.00 (£50.00+VAT)
Private sick certificate	£42.00 (£35.00+VAT)
Private letter (See exceptions below)	£30.00
Copy of medical records (or part thereof)	Free
Adoption or fostering medical – paper report only	£108.00 (£90.00+VAT)
Including physical examination	£180.00 (£150.00+VAT)
Hepatitis B – for travel	£36.00
Meningitis ACWY – for travel	£30.00
Hepatitis B – work related 3 x injections	£110.00
Hepatitis booster – work related (5 yearly)	£36.00
Blood test	£36.00
Blood group test	£36.00