

What is covered by the NHS and what is not?

The National Health Service provides most health care to most people free of charge, but there are exceptions.

The Government's contract with GP's covers medical services to NHS patients including the provision of ongoing medical treatment but it does not cover a range of non-medical work such as producing medical reports for insurance companies and employers.

Sometimes the reason that Doctors are asked is because of their position of trust and the insurance company wants to ensure the information provided to them is true and accurate.

Non NHS Services



Dr Vaghela and Dr Gill

Loughborough University,
Ashby Road,
Loughborough,
Leicestershire,
LE11 3TU

Do GP's have to complete non-NHS work for their patients?

With certain exceptions, GP's do not have to carry out non-NHS work on behalf of their patients.

Whilst GP's will always attempt to assist their patients with the completion of forms, they are not required to do such non-NHS work.

Does the BMA set fees for non-NHS work?

The British Medical Association suggests fees for non-NHS work to help GP's set their own professional fees.

These fees are guidelines, not recommendations, and a doctor is not obliged to charge the rates suggested.

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 form, the doctor might have to check the patient's entire medical record.

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

Most GP's have an already very heavy workload and paperwork. Time spent completing medical reports is usually carried out in their own time to avoid taking the GP away from the medical care of their patients.

The length of time it takes to complete the form also depends on the amount of information that the GP has been requested to provide.

The University Medical Centre receives a high volume of request for medical reports all throughout the year. However, there are certain times such as the summer term when this increases even further. During these busier periods, you will be notified if your form may take longer than usual to complete.

What reports/certificates can't the doctors complete?

Sometimes there are non-NHS work that the doctors will not be able to carry out including as follows:

- ◆ GP's do not provide countersignatures for passport applications
- ◆ GP's do not provide certificates for firearm applications.

What kind of non-NHS services can our doctors provide?

The University Medical Centre can provide a number of non-NHS work including the following:

- ◆ Medical reports and examinations as requested by insurance companies and employers, etc.
- ◆ Disabled Student Allowance forms
- ◆ Private travel vaccinations/prescriptions
- ◆ Mitigating Circumstances form for the University

Please note, there are different fees set for different services.

For a full list of our current private services fees, please visit our website www.lborounimedicalcentre.co.uk

How to make a request for completion of non-NHS work

All requests must be made in writing to our private medicals team specifying exactly what work is required including any forms that are required to be completed.

Payment is required in advance of work undertaken.

Refunds are not available if work has already started and we expect most requests to be completed within 30 days.