

The Murray Surgery Schedule of Private Fees

To be read in conjunction with the leaflet "Why Do GPs Charge?" overleaf.

Most straightforward forms, letters, certificates will be charged at £50.00 unless there is something specific requiring additional work.

GPs reserve the right to decline any requests if they are not appropriate for us to complete.

All straightforward letters or certificates including the following examples:

BUPA Form

Private Sick Note

Travel Cancellation Form

Vision Print Out of Attendance	£0	Stamped & signed for the practice
Vision Print Out of Medication	£0	
Vision Print Out of Immunisations	£0	

Most reports, medicals (with or without examination), specific legal documents etc will be charged at a rate which is in line with BMA guidance.

Certain legal documents attract specific charges - see below:

Reports include the following examples and can cost £150 - £200 approximately.

Medical Reports - With or Without Physical Exam

Employment Report

Insurance Reports

Guardianship/Adults With Incapacity

LGV/PCV Local Authority Medical ie. Taxi

For Power of Attorney requests, patients should contact a lawyer who can complete these forms

HGV medicals can be done at Private Clinics

The GPs are no longer able to sign photos to confirm likeness for the purposes of passport or driving licence applications

Other services may be available on request and will be charged according to the amount of work/time required. These will be priced on an individual basis.

Why do GPs charge fees?

The National Health Service provides most health care to most people free of charge, but there are exceptions. 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 isn't covered by the NHS, for example, medical reports of insurance companies, claims on private health insurance and other letters and forms which require the doctor to review the patient's medical records.

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. Our fees are calculated based on our GPs Private hourly rate.

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. 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 be sure that information provided is true and accurate.

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

- Certain travel vaccinations
- Private medical insurance reports
- Holiday cancellation forms
- Referral for private care forms
- Letters request by, or on behalf of, the patient
- In certain instances fitness to work forms

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. Most GPs have a very heavy workload – the majority of GPs work up to 60 hours per week and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time. In addition non-NHS work must be undertaken outside of NHS contracted 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 may need to check the patient's entire record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor, with the General Medical Council or even the Police.