

## **CERTIFICATES**

**£30.00**

Camp America  
Ofsted Childminder

**£40.00**

Firearm / Shotgun

## **MEDICAL REPORTS**

**£60.00**

Prepared from records without examination

Short typed report

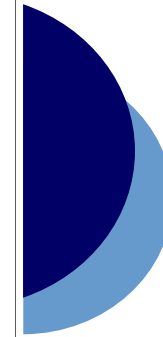
## **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

**£110.00**

HGV  
PSV  
Taxi Driver  
Elderly Driver  
Racing Driver  
Sports  
Pre-Employment

**WE ACCEPT CASH,  
CHEQUES, AND DEBIT  
CARDS**

**April 2024**



**BIRBECK  
MEDICAL GROUP**

## **FEES & CHARGES**

**Not all services at our Practice are  
available under the NHS**

Where patients request non-NHS items  
or services, a private fee is payable.

This leaflet lists those fees, some of  
which are payable in advance.

Please note that this leaflet is for guidance only  
and costs may change without notice.

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# Your Questions Answered

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

The NHS provides most healthcare 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?

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 covers these costs for NHS work, but for non-NHS work and the fee has to cover the doctors 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 organisations have been involving doctors in a 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 NHS patients are:

- Accident / Sickness Insurance Certificates
- Certain Travel Vaccinations
- Private Medical Insurance Reports

Examples of non-NHS services for which GPs can charge other institutions:

- Medical Reports for an Insurance Company
- Some reports for the DSS / Benefits Agency
- Examinations of local authority employees

## 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 a GPs NHS contract. However, these fees are guidelines only, not recommendations, and a doctor is not obliged to charge the suggested rate.

## 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 patients. Most GPs have a very heavy workload and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time. Many GPs find they have to take paperwork home at night and weekends.

## I only need the doctors 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.

## What will I be charged?

The BMA recommends that GPs 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.

## What can I do to help?

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

If you have several documents requiring completion, present them all at once.

Do not expect your GP to process forms overnight. Urgent requests mean that the doctor has to make special arrangements and will cost more.

## PRIVATE PRESCRIPTION / SICK NOTE

£15.00

## LETTERS

£30.00

To Whom it May Concern (short)  
to support claims  
Housing Dept  
School / College  
Insurance Company  
Benefits Agency

## FORMS (short)

£30.00

Private Sick Note  
Incapacity Benefit  
Fit to Travel  
Fit to Do Sports  
Holiday Cancellations  
Sickness / Accident Claim Form  
Passport Signature  
Driving Licence Signature  
Freedom from Infection