

# Stickney Surgery

## PRIVATE SERVICES AND FEES

Many certificates, examinations and reports are not covered by the NHS and require a fee to be paid to the practice. We will usually ask you to pay for the service in advance - you are paying for the doctor's time, which will have been wasted if you don't attend an examination appointment or collect a completed form. Stickney Surgery is registered for VAT and all prices include VAT at the standard rate unless otherwise stated. If the certificate, report or examination you require is not listed below, please ask at Reception. The doctors are likely to decline any request to complete 'Fitness To...' paperwork which requires specialist assessment. Examples include forms requesting an opinion on fitness to dive, to drive if diagnosed with dementia, and to parachute.

<b>MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS</b>	<b>FEE</b>
HGV/LGV/PSU/PCV/Coach/Taxi/Bus	£155
Pre-Employment Examination and Report	£155
Power of Attorney Health/Welfare	£162
<b>MEDICAL REPORTS (no examination required)</b>	
Life Insurance Report	£104
Medical/Occupational/Solicitor Report	£144
Employers Report and opinion without examination	£144
Firearms Reports for Lincolnshire Police	£66
Firearms Report (further information required)	£30
Power of Attorney (signature only)	£72
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Private Prescription (medication charged in addition + VAT)	£16.50
Simple Letter/Certificate	£36
Council Tax Exemption Form	£36
Complex Letter/Certificate <i>(2 or more pages requiring examination of medical records)</i>	£72
Private Sick Note (VAT exempt)	£72
Complex Private Sick Note (VAT exempt)	£72 - £144
<b>REPORTS</b>	
Ofsted Form for Child Minders	£72
Private Healthcare Claim Form (VAT exempt)	£72 - £144
School Fees Insurance Claim Form	£72 - £144
<b>FOSTERING AND ADOPTION</b>	
<i>Adoption fees are usually paid by the prospecting parent, sometimes by the adoption/fostering agency or authority. This needs to be established prior to the appointment</i>	
AH1 - Medical Examination	Fee set externally
AH2 - Update Review from GP records	Fee set externally
<b>MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS (30 MIN APPOINTMENT)</b>	
Holiday Cancellation Examination and Report	£144
Employers Examination and Report	£144
Court of Protection Examination and Report	£144
Mental Capacity Certificate with Examination <i>(solicitor/guardian pays)</i>	£144
Mental Capacity Certificate without Examination <i>(solicitor/guardian pays)</i>	£66.50
Vaccinations <i>(course of injections)</i>	Cost of vaccine + 25% + £11 per injection
Sprayers Blood Test	£181.37
<b>MEDICAL RECORDS</b>	
Photocopies of letters are charged at 35p per sheet	

### *Why do GP's charge fees?*

The National Health Service 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 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 records for 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 GP's 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 any small business. The NHS pays the doctor for specific NHS work, but for non NHS the fee has to cover the doctor's cost.

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

The government's contract with the GP's 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 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 patients*

Certain Travel Vaccinations  
Private medical insurance reports  
Holiday cancellation forms  
Referral for private care forms  
Letters requested by or on behalf of, the patient  
In certain instances fitness to work forms

### *Examples of non-NHS services for which GP's 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 take the GP away from the medical care of his/her patients. Most GP's have a very heavy workload - the majority of GP's work up to 60 hours a 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 a doctor's signature - what's 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 needs 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.