



### Merton Lodge 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. All fees must be paid in advance, Merton Lodge 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 practice does not offer the following services: Fitness to Fly, Yellow Fever Vaccine, Blue Badge, PIP Claim Forms.**

Service	Fee chargeable including VAT
<b>Medical Examinations</b>	
HGV/LGV/PSU/PCV/Coach/Taxi/Bus medical with full medical examination	£155
Pre-Employment examination and report	£155
Sports medical with full medical examination (including skydive, bungee jump etc)	£160
Racing driver medical with full medical examination	£160
Mental capacity assessment with full medical examination	£165
<b>Reports</b>	
Firearms Report	£66
Private Healthcare Claim Form (BUPA/Provident Association etc)	£72 - £144
Miscellaneous report without examination	£144
<b>Certificates</b>	
Holiday Cancellation	£80
Gliding Certificate	£80
<b>Other non NHS services</b>	
Power of attorney with examination	£165
Power of attorney without examination	£100
Private prescription for travel (malaria prophylaxis)	£16.50
Private blood test	£35 + lab processing costs
Short letter/Certificate of fact (brief 1 x A4 page)	£36
Short letter/Certificate of fact (detailed 2 x A4 page)	£72
Court attendance letter without examination	£100
Court attendance letter with examination	£150
Travel documentation (to carry medication on a flight etc)	£30
Photocopies of letters	35p per sheet

Private Travel Vaccines	Fee chargeable including VAT
Rabies	Cost of vaccine + 10% + £10 fee per injection.
Japanese B	Cost of vaccine + 10% + £10 fee per injection.
Cholera	Cost of vaccine + 10% + £10 fee per injection.
Hepatitis B – Course of 3 (for travel only – we do not offer occupational/work related vaccines)	Cost of vaccine + 10% + £10 fee per injection.
Men ACWY (for travel only)	Cost of vaccine + 10% + £10 fee per injection.



## **Your Questions Answered**

### **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 governments 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

### **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 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.

### **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.