

Combe Coastal Practice

Private Fees (Non-NHS work) – Information for patients and third parties

The NHS Primary Care Services contract with GPs covers the provision of medical services to NHS patients.

If you request work that is not provided for under the terms of this contract, for example insurance reports, medicals etc. then this is a chargeable, private service.

Your GP may be happy to undertake such work for you, but you will incur a charge for this work. Non-NHS work is charged in line with British Medical Association Guidelines and our charges are reviewed annually.

Do GPs have to do non-NHS work for their patients?

GPs will do their best to assist their patients with the completion of forms and reports. However, they are not required to do such non-NHS work and we reserve the right to refuse, suspend or extend processing times for private/non-NHS work at any time during busy periods.

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

Our priority is always NHS work. Time spent completing forms and preparing reports takes the GP away from the medical care of his or her patients.

Our GPs have a very heavy workload and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time, so many GPs find they have to complete this work outside of and in addition to their normal hours.

I only need the doctor's signature – it will only take a moment, 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 patient's entire medical record, especially if the patient is unfamiliar to them. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor with the General Medical Council (the doctors' regulatory body) or even the police.

Payment of fees

All fees must be paid for in advance of work being completed and we prefer payment by BACS please.

The BACS details are:

Account name: Combe Coastal Practice
Sort code: 30-94-52
Account No: 19960568