

# PENNY LANE SURGERY

## Fees for Non NHS Services

**Forms Take on Average a Minimum of Four Weeks to Complete by the Surgery.  
Payment is required by the practice prior to forms being completed.**

Please Note That This List Is For Information Only And It Is Not Intended To Be Exhaustive Of All Charges That May Be Payable.

Private sick note (solely to confirm attendance at surgery).	<b>£15</b>
Sickness report for absence from college/university/school.	<b>£25-£50</b>
Private medical report e.g. for employers/solicitors/housing association/citizens advice etc.	<b>£50-£80</b>
Vaccination certificate.	<b>Minimum £25</b>
Access to medical records. <i>(please discuss with the practice manager, if you wish to view your medical records)</i>	<b>£10-£50</b>
Fitness to travel certificate.	<b>Minimum £25</b>
Holiday cancellation form.	<b>£25</b>
Freedom from infection certificate.	<b>£25</b>
Road traffic accident (if first assessment after accident) See page 3 for claim for payment.	<b>£21.70p</b>
Private medical insurance forms e.g. BUPA/PPP etc	<b>£25</b>
Benefits Agency forms /supporting medical information.	<b>£30-£50</b>

**Please note that the doctors cannot provide the following services:**

Private medical examinations e.g. HGV, adoption medicals etc.  
*The doctors regret that they do not have sufficient time to offer this service*

- Passport countersignature
- Character reference
- Shotgun licence
- Fitness to attend gym (except under the local exercise for health scheme – please discuss with your doctor).

**NB Fees reviewed annually (rev 16.11.2011)**

## **Penny Lane Surgery charges for non NHS Work**

### **Why do GPs charge fees?**

Your questions answered.....

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

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 is not covered by the NHS, for example medical reports for insurance companies.

### **Surely the doctor is being paid anyway?**

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, building, heating, lighting, etc – in the same way as any small business. The NHS covers these costs for NHS work, but for non - NHS work the fee has to cover the doctor's 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 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 want 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 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 or her patients. Most GPs have a very heavy workload- the majority work up to 70 hours a week-and paperwork takes up an increasing amount of their time.

### **I only need the 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. In order to complete even the simplest of forms, therefore, the doctor might have to check the patient's entire medical record. Carelessness or an inaccurate report can have serious consequences for the doctor with the General Medical Council or even the police.

### **What will I be charged?**

The BMA recommends that GPs tell patients in advance if they will be charged. It is up to the individual doctor to decide how much to charge. Surgeries often have lists of fees on the waiting room wall.

### **What can I do to help?**

Not all documents need signature by a doctor, for example, passport applications or blue badge applications. You can ask another person in a position of trust to sign such documents free of charge.

CLAIM FOR PAYMENT UNDER SECTION 158 OF ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1988

TO

(INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF USER OF VEHICLE)

I, the undersigned being a registered medical practitioner, herewith submit a claim for payment of the following amounts:

A fee of £21.30 per person for medical treatment/surgical treatment/examination £

Rendered or carried out by me as a result of a bodily injury to person(s) caused by or arising out of the use by you of a motor vehicle on the road, I being the first person to render such treatment/carry out such examination.

A fee of 0.41p per mile for ..... miles calculated in accordance with Section 158(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988. £

Total £

Date on which emergency treatment was effected .....

Circumstances in which treatment was effected.....

Registered No of vehicle.....

Signed.....

Surgery address:

Penny Lane Surgery

7 Smithdown Place

Liverpool

L15 7EH

Date.....

Note1: under the Road Traffic Act 1988, settlement of this account is the responsibility of the person who was using the vehicle at the time the accident occurred. The services included in this account are not a charge on the National Health Service. All motor car insurance policies include cover for emergency treatment necessitated by road accidents and, if you decide to claim, this account should be submitted without delay to your insurer. If you decide to pay it yourself, however, please return the account with your remittance. Payment of this account will not constitute any admission of liability for the accident.

Note2: Mileage is payable to the practitioner in the following circumstances: Section 158(2) (b): "A sum, in respect of any distance in excess of tow miles which must cover in order to proceed from the place from which he is summoned to the place where the emergency treatment is carried out by him and to return to the first mentioned place, equal to 0.41pence for every complete mile and additional part of a mile of that distance.

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