

Private Requests and Services

Private Provider Blood Tests, Investigation and Monitoring

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Contents

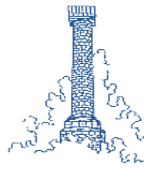
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1. Introduction

General practice services provided under the NHS are funded to deliver essential medical care and treatment to registered patients. However, there are occasions when patients, third parties, employers, insurers, solicitors, or other organisations request services, reports, forms, letters, certificates, or medical examinations fall outside the scope of NHS-funded services. These are known as private (non-NHS) services and may attract a fee.

This policy outlines the approach taken by Jessop Medical Practice in relation to private requests and services. It aims to ensure that requests are managed fairly, consistently, transparently, and in accordance with relevant NHS guidance, General Medical Council (GMC) standards, and contractual obligations. The policy also provides clarity for patients and staff regarding which services are covered by the NHS and which services are considered private work.

The Practice recognises that patients may require documentation or medical information for a variety of purposes, including insurance applications, employment matters, fitness assessments, legal proceedings, education, travel, housing, adoption and fostering processes, and other non-clinical requirements. Whilst the Practice will endeavour to assist where appropriate, GPs and other clinicians are not contractually obliged to undertake private work and reserve the right to decline requests where they are unable to provide the information requested or where the request falls outside their professional responsibilities.



Where private work is undertaken, charges will apply in accordance with the Practice's approved schedule of fees. Fees reflect the time, expertise, administration, and professional responsibility involved in completing the work. Payment may be required in advance, and timescales for completion will depend on clinical priorities and workload.

2. Private Provider Blood Tests, Investigation and Monitoring

This policy covers requests from private providers, including but not limited to; ADHD, psychiatry, hormone replacement therapy (HRT), menopause, testosterone, fertility, dermatology, cosmetic, online healthcare and weight-loss services, for blood tests, ECGs, observations or ongoing monitoring.

Private healthcare providers may request investigations or monitoring to support treatment they have initiated. However, such requests can fall outside the scope of NHS primary medical services. In line with British Medical Association (BMA) guidance, GPs should only arrange investigations where they are clinically necessary for the management of NHS GP care and where the GP accepts responsibility for the patient's ongoing care.

Practice Position

The clinician or organisation initiating private treatment is responsible for arranging, funding, reviewing and acting upon any investigations or monitoring required to support that treatment, unless a recognised NHS pathway, shared care agreement, or local commissioning arrangement is in place.

The practice will not routinely undertake blood tests, ECGs, observations or monitoring requested solely to support privately provided treatment.

If a private healthcare provider has requested blood tests, ECGs or other monitoring as part of your treatment, these investigations should normally be arranged, reviewed and acted upon by the provider managing your care. The practice will only arrange tests where they are clinically required for your NHS GP care or where an agreed NHS pathway or shared care arrangement is in place.

Sharing Existing NHS Information

Where appropriate and with the patient's consent, patients may share copies of existing NHS test results, medical records or clinical information with their private provider. The practice is not responsible for obtaining, interpreting or discussing these results on behalf of private providers.

Requests for Additional Information or Reports

Private providers requiring further clinical information should submit a formal written request. Where appropriate, the practice may provide reports or supporting information, and charges may apply in accordance with the practice's private fees policy.