

GP Direct Surgery

**3-7 Welbeck Road, Harrow, HA2 0RQ and at
32a Eastcote Lane, South Harrow, HA2 8BS
43 Butler Avenue, West Harrow, HA1 4EJ**

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Medical certificate for sickness

Your employee who is a patient at this practice has told us that he/she requires a medical certificate (Med 3/Med 5 form) for a period of absence from work of less than seven days.

In its guide to doctors, the Department of Social Security (DSS) states that we are not required to issue statements of incapacity to work for periods lasting seven days (including Sundays) or less, nor for the first seven days of longer spells. At this practice, we observe the DSS guidelines. To do otherwise would place an unnecessary burden on our appointments system from those who merely want unnecessary certificates for self limiting illness. This would be to the detriment of those with a real need to see a doctor.

For any periods of sickness lasting less than seven days, **for which some certification is required**, we can issue a private certificate. However, as this certification is not required under law of statutory sick pay purposes, we do not think it is fair to ask our patients to pay. Should you require such a certificate, we advise that our current fee for this service is £12.00.

We trust this clarifies the situation for you.

GP Direct Management