

Entitlement to NHS treatment for Overseas Visitors

The practice recognises that patients who are visitors to the UK may be charged for NHS services. This is dictated by the Government Legislation and will depend on the visitor's country of origin, nationality, reason for being in the UK and the nature of the condition being treated. The term **Overseas Visitor** is defined as a person who does not have permanent UK residency.

**The fee chargeable by the practice is*

- Initial consultation £60
- Return appointment £30
- Home visit £80
- All tests carried out have a separate fee, the practice will be sent an invoice from the accounts department, and therefore the tests must be paid for in advance of services being provided.
- Prescription charges will apply at £10.00 per prescription (not item). Prescriptions should clearly state that the patient is a non-UK resident.
- Drug charges will apply at the time of dispensing each item prescribed.

The practice **will** provide services to any person requiring emergency or immediate necessary treatment to save life or prevent a condition becoming life threatening to anyone, irrespective of their eligibility for free treatment or ability to pay. Any course of hospital treatment already underway at the time asylum/refugee/humanitarian protection was refused will remain free of charge until the process has reached completion.

All treatment that is considered exempt from charge for everyone will be provided by the practice free of charge. This includes treatment for an accident or emergency treatment of certain specified communicable diseases (although the prescription charges may apply, unless the patient is exempt) and compulsory mental health treatment, family planning, STD. services that relate to HIV/AIDS, only the initial tests and counselling is free. People who are not eligible for free treatment are required to pay full costs, including drugs, of any HIV treatment beyond the initial tests and counselling. Flu vaccinations will be given to those at the at risk categories.

The practice recognises that prior to referring a patient for secondary care, it must establish if a person is entitled to treatment without charge. All patients regardless of their status or nationality are subject to the same basic screening process.

** Fee as at June 2007 – this may change.*