

Patient requests for Letters re pre-hospital admission isolating

Dear Employer,

Request for medical certification for absence from work related to the COVID-19 pandemic for patients/employees due to be admitted to hospital.

Your employee has been following current Government and Public Health England advice related to the Covid-19 pandemic because they, or a member of their household, is due to be admitted to hospital.

NHS Directions for elective admissions to hospital (including day surgery), state that: 'patients are required to isolate for 14 days prior to admission along with members of their household.'

A full copy of the Direction can be found at

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/05/Operating-framework-for-urgent-and-planned-services-within-hospitals.pdf>

If further medical assessment is required to assess ability to work during this time this needs to be arranged through an occupational health service. This is not provided by NHS general practice. Patients can request a medical summary of their qualifying conditions if required.

Employers have been encouraged to endorse the Government and NHS directions which have been issued during the Pandemic and, in general, are able to use discretion around the requirement for evidence if an employee is absent from work due to a genuine medical reason. We respectfully ask you to exercise this discretion to help support NHS general practice concentrate on providing clinical care for our population at this time and relieve the need to fulfil non urgent administrative tasks. Many thanks for your forbearance during this challenging time.

Lead Partner: DR N A TONG

Name of Practice: BLUNDELLSANDS SURGERY

Please note the patient has not been clinically assessed but has self-identified as being due to be admitted to hospital and has printed this template letter from our practice website. Due to the current pandemic and pressure on general practice, we are – as required under COVID-19 emergency operating procedures -prioritising the urgent medical needs of our patients and will not be providing a medical certificate for the required period of absence.