

Circle Reading and Consultants

Introduction

Consultants are critical to the care patients receive at Circle Health Group. However, in common with other private healthcare operators and in most instances, Circle Health Group does not employ these consultants. Instead, most consultants working in our hospitals are self-employed practitioners who see and treat patients at our hospitals under the terms of our “Practising Privileges” policy.

In 2014, the Competition and Markets Authority issued an Order (the “**CMA Order**”) regulating the relationships between private hospital groups and consultants who have Practising Privileges or treat private patients or refer them for tests at group facilities (“**Referring Clinicians**”).

In accordance with the CMA Order, hospital operators are prohibited from entering into any incentive schemes that are designed to encourage Referring Clinicians to refer private patients to, or treat private patients at, their facilities. Circle Health Group does not operate any such schemes. The Order also requires hospital operators to disclose information about certain arrangements they have with Referring Clinicians, including: ownership interests held by Referring Clinicians in the hospital operator or in equipment used in the hospital; the provision of certain “high value” services to Referring Clinicians; the availability of “low value” basic amenities for Referring Clinicians; and any remuneration for services provided by Referring Clinicians to the hospital. Set out below is information about the arrangements we have with Referring Clinicians at our hospital.

Higher Value Services

We charge our Referring Clinicians (and other non-employee healthcare professionals such as GPs, dieticians, and podiatrists) for using consulting rooms at our hospital and for medical secretarial services we provide to them. Referring Clinicians are not charged for their use of consulting rooms and/or hospital medical secretarial services in respect of their NHS patients. We also charge for rooms at the hospital used by Referring Clinicians’ own medical secretaries.

At Circle Reading, we charge our Referring Clinicians 18 pence per minute for use of consulting rooms, except in relation to NHS patients. We also charge £25.50 per hour, depending on experience, for secretarial services, except in relation to NHS patients.

Lower Value Services

We provide a number of support services to our Referring Clinicians, for which we do not make a charge. Further details regarding these arrangements are provided on our [corporate webpages](#).

General Corporate Hospitality

At this hospital, we provide general corporate hospitality as detailed on our [corporate webpages](#).

Financial Interests

There are no Referring Clinicians with financial interests in equipment used or services and facilities operated within or at our hospital.

Services Arrangements

There are no service arrangements between Referring Clinicians and our hospital.

Clinical Chair

Ben Cresswell is the Clinical Chair of the hospital. Ben's role includes chairing hospital Clinical Governance Committee meetings and attending the hospital's Senior Management Team meetings. Ben is paid £36,000 per year for these services. In addition, the Clinical Chair will also attend national Clinical Chair meetings, generally in London, for which we reimburse their reasonable travel and attendance expenses.

Further Information

If you have any questions regarding our arrangements with Referring Clinicians, please contact us by email at company.secretary@circlehealthgroup.co.uk.

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