

The Priory Hospital

Introduction

Consultants are critical to each Circle Health Group hospital. 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 £25 per hour for using consulting rooms at our hospital and £7.90 per half hour (plus VAT) for using our medical secretarial services, except in relation to NHS patients.

We charge Referring Clinicians for hospital space used by their own private medical secretaries. The fee is £125/month (per person) for use of 20 hours’ office space per week and £250/month (per person) for use of more than 20 hours’ office space per week. Telephone charges are included within this fee and postage is charged separately.

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, further details regarding these arrangements are provided on our [corporate webpages](#).

Our hospital, together with the Edgbaston hospital, also invited certain specialties of Referring Clinician (anaesthetists, surgeons and oncologists), together with certain members of the senior

management team, to attend an engagement event at an international cricket match at Edgbaston in 2023. The total cost was approximately £9,000 plus VAT.

Financial Interests

Dr Peter Good, Consultant Neurophysiologist (specialising in Ophthalmics) owns various ophthalmology equipment (electro diagnostic machine, Heidelberg OCT with printer, HRT and IOL master). The hospital pays a flat monthly fee of £250 for use of this equipment.

Mr Kesavapillai Subramonian, Urologist, owns a urology laser through Birmingham Urology Ltd. The hospital pays £500 per month for use of this laser.

Circle Health Group has a referral agreement with Docspert Health Limited (“Docspert”) under which CHG pays a commission to Docspert for each international patient referral. Professor Hisham Mehanna, a Consultant with practicing privileges at our Priory and Meriden hospitals, has a 20% shareholding in Docspert. Professor Mehanna does not treat patients referred under the referral arrangement.

Dr Mytheen, Consultant Electro-Physiologist owns equipment for nerve conduction studies. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Dr Howard Marshall (Consultant Cardiologist), Dr Manish Kalla, Dr Joseph de Bono and Dr Mauro Lencioni (all Consultant Cardiologists and Electrophysiologists) jointly own an echocardiographic machine. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Services Arrangements

Professor Rishi Singhal, Consultant Bariatric & Upper GI Surgeon, is a director of ‘Weight To Go Limited’. Our hospital provides Weight To Go Limited, via its trading name ‘Healthier Weight’, with hospital services for the delivery of Bariatric Services to Weight To Go Limited’s patients.

Clinical Chair

Mr Shahzada Ahmed is the Clinical Chair of the hospital. Mr Shahzada Ahmed’s role includes chairing hospital Clinical Governance Committee meetings and attending the hospital’s Senior Management Team meetings. Mr Shahzada Ahmed is paid £24,000 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.

This role and fee are shared with Edgbaston hospital.

Questions

Should you have any further questions in this area, please contact us by email at company.secretary@circlehealthgroup.co.uk.

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