

Thornbury Hospital

Introduction

Consultants are critical to each Circle Health Group hospital. 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 hospitals and consultants who have Practising Privileges or treat private patients or refer them for tests at private facilities (“**Referring Clinicians**”).

In accordance with the CMA Order, hospital operators are prohibited from offering any incentive scheme or arrangement, whether legally enforceable or not, or incentive, which is intended to induce or may be reasonably regarded as inducing Referring Clinicians to refer 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 this hospital.

Higher Value Services

We charge our Referring Clinicians £20 per hour for using consulting rooms at our hospital and £20 (plus VAT) per hour for using our medical 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 webpage [here](#).

General Corporate Hospitality

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

In addition to the arrangements detailed on our corporate webpage, we invite members of our hospital Medical Advisory Committee to an annual dinner. The hospital Executive Director, their PA and the hospital Directors of Operations and Clinical Services are also invited to attend the dinner. The dinner costs approximately £1,000.

Financial Interests

Dr Ayman Eissa, Consultant in Pain Medicine, owns a Radiofrequency Regulator which he uses at the hospital for pain management. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Mr Dominic Dodd, Consultant Vascular Surgeon, owns a Radiofrequency Regulator which he uses to treat varicose veins at the hospital. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Dr Ganesh Rao, Consultant Clinical Neurophysiologist, owns Ultrapro EMG/NCS/EP system for use in nerve conduction studies. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Mr Peter Byrom, Referring Clinician Audiologist, owns an Audiometer, Tympanometer, Video Otoscope, Ear Scanner, Air Caloric, Evoked Potentials, Head Impulse Glasses, Irrigator, Suction Unit, and Microscope which Mr Byrom uses at the hospital. Mr Byrom pays a fee of £30 per hour for the use of this equipment (which includes the use of a consultation room) at the hospital.

Services Arrangements

Mr Richard Slater, Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon, acts as the hospital's clinical lead for JAG (Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy), for which he is paid £250 a month for his services.

Dr Matthew Wiles, Anaesthetist, conducts pre-op anaesthetic reviews of patients for which he is paid £600 per week for 26 alternate weeks of the year for his services.

Dr Duncan Miller, Anaesthetist, conducts pre-op anaesthetic reviews of patients for which he is paid £600 per week for 26 alternate weeks of the year for his services.

Dr Matthias Radatz, Consultant Neurosurgeon, has an indirect shareholding of approximately 15% in UKOMS (Medical) Limited, which has a central contract to provide infection prevention and control services to 33 Circle hospitals (including Thornbury) for £241,200 (ex. VAT) per year.

Clinical Chair

Mr Mark Flowers, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, is the Clinical Chair of the hospital. Mr Mark Flowers attends the Clinical Governance Committee meetings and Senior Management Team meetings at the hospital. Mr Mark Flowers is paid £13,000 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.

Questions

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

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