

Werndale 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 £25 per hour for using consulting rooms at our hospital, 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 and the Director of Clinical Services are also invited to attend. The dinner costs approximately £35 per person.

The hospital has a sponsorship agreement with the Scarlet Rugby Club which includes access to room hire at the club and invitations to home games, which the hospital makes available to staff and Referring Clinicians on a fair and equal basis.

Financial Interests

Dr Nigel Hinds, a Consultant Neurologist, owns and uses a portable nerve conduction machine. The hospital does not pay for use of this equipment.

Services Arrangements

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

Clinical Chair

Mr Mark Henwood, Consultant General Surgeon, is the Clinical Chair of the hospital. Mr Mark Henwood's role includes chairing hospital Clinical Governance Committee meetings and attending the hospital's Senior Management Team meetings. Mr Mark Henwood 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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