

GP sickness absence reimbursement

On 1st April 2017, changes were made to the reimbursement that practices in England can claim for GP sickness absence.

Reimbursement

In summary, non-discretionary reimbursement is available as follows:

- the *lower of* invoiced costs and £1734.18 pw, payable after 2 weeks of absence, for up to 26 weeks
- the *lower of* invoiced costs and £867.09 pw for the second 26 weeks of absence
- covers all doctors regardless of pre-existing medical conditions
- covers all doctors: partners and salaried (subject to salary continuing to be paid), but not locums
- covers core hours only
- is subject to aggregation
- cover has to be provided by a doctor ie the practice can't use an Advanced Nurse Practitioner to cover sessions.

Our locum insurance

- is benefit driven:
 - following a valid claim, the weekly benefit is paid regardless of who covers for the absent GP and regardless of any reimbursement.
- can cover:
 - absences due to jury service, compassionate leave, suspension from practice, revalidation leave (none of which is covered by the new reimbursement)
 - staff: nurses, ANPs, HCAs, practice manager, admin staff (none of whom is covered by the new reimbursement)
- can be arranged on a 'gap fill' basis:
 - to plug the gaps in the CCG funding.



**To discuss the issues raised in this guide
call Lynda Cox on 023 8051 3286.**

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