



HOUSING ASSOCIATION REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL REPORTS

Guidance for Sheffield GPs

Many Housing Associations request reports from GPs about their patients who are applying for re-housing on medical grounds.

Provision of medical reports for re-housing purposes is not part of a GP's contract of employment or terms and conditions of service and is not part of the NHS. As such, GPs are not obliged to provide such reports and many practices have adopted a policy of not doing so. This should in no way be interpreted as indicating that a GP would or would not support a patient's application.

If a GP agrees to issue a report, as this is not part of the NHS, they are entitled to charge a fee. It is the responsibility of the Housing Association or the patient concerned to meet the GP's fee and, unless this fee is paid, the GP is perfectly entitled to refuse to provide such a report.

DR D A SAVAGE
Secretary