



### **Information for Patients planning Private Medical Treatment.**

Given the current pressures on the NHS, it is understandable that patients will choose to be seen privately if they have the resources to do so. Many of these consultations will generate a request for tests or prescriptions to be issued on the NHS.

**Requests from private clinics for the GP surgery to take over prescribing, will not be accepted by Queen Square Medical Practice.**

**This Policy applies to all new requests.**

#### **1. Investigations:**

- NHS GPs cannot perform tests requested by private consultants.
- Private investigations should be managed by the private consultant, as NHS providers are not responsible for interpreting or acting on results from private requests.
- NHS and private care cannot be combined within the same treatment episode.

#### **2. Medication:**

- Private prescriptions cannot be transferred to NHS prescriptions.
- Once discharged or with proper communication from the private consultant, GPs may take over prescribing repeat medication if appropriate and available on the NHS formulary.
- GPs are not obligated to prescribe private medications outside their scope or the NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB (Integrated Care Board) formulary.

#### **3. Shared Care Agreements:**

- QSMP will no longer be entering into any new shared care agreements with private providers for medication.
- For those patients we are currently prescribing for as previously agreed, if the required follow-up and monitoring aren't met, QSMP will stop prescribing and refer back to the private consultant.

#### **4. Costs:**

- Patients should discuss potential costs for investigations and medications with their private consultant before starting treatment.

#### **5. Referral Back to the NHS:**

- You can return to the NHS at any time, but further secondary care will be subject to NHS waiting lists.

#### **6. Right to Choose**

- If you choose to go to a private provider under Right to Choose we will be unable to prescribe for you.

For detailed guidance, visit the QSMP website.