Over claiming of Overtimes

The following correspondences relates to waiting list initiatives. These were paid at enhanced rates of £100 per hour.

These were undertaken out of hours in order to reduce patients' waits for examinations.

4 Hours was claimed on each occasion. Booking was for less than 3.

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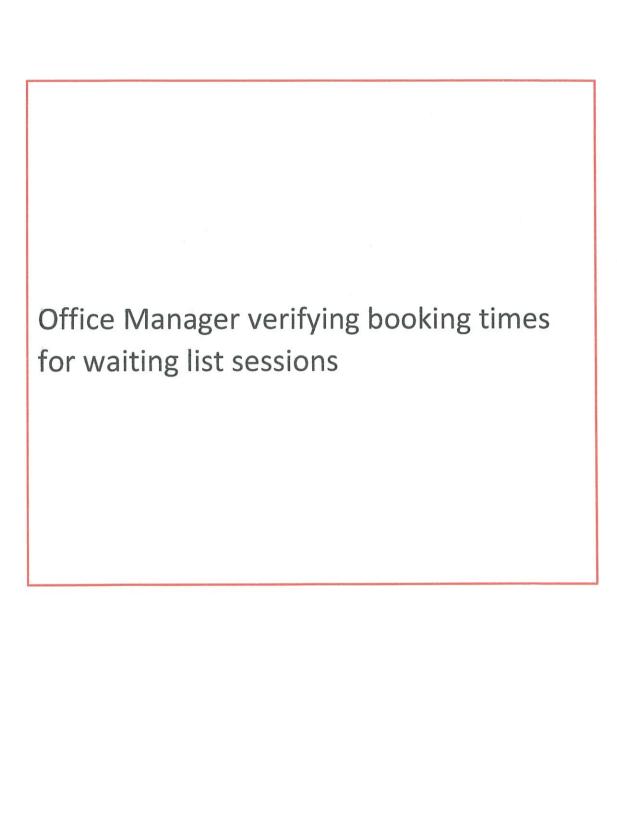
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From: Sent: To: Subject: Hearne, Samantha 05 October 2009 14:08 Chowdhury, Sharmila Ct Evening List

To Sharmila

CT evening list they start at 5pm and the last patient is booked for 7.40pm.

Sam

Fax: 020 8674 2975

From: Chowdhury, Sharmila Sent: 22 September 2009 14:42 To: Harchowal, Jatinder; Curati, Walter

Subject: additiona sessions

Dear Jat and Walter,

It has been brought to my attention that although a session constitutes 4 hours, all additional; waiting lists and waiting list sessions have been booked for 3 hours. Please advise.

Many thanks

Sharmila Chowdhury Imaging Services Manager Radiology department Ealing Hospital NHS Trust UB1 3HW

Tel: 020 8967 5792

From: Curati, Walter

Sent: 23 September 2009 08:24

To: Harchowal, Jatinder; Chowdhury, Sharmila

Subject: Additional sessions

Dear Jatinder and Sharmila,

We had been advised - at the time the Trust had decided that additional Consultants' sessions were the preferred option - instead of employing one more Consultant for our Department - that an evening session including "unsociable hours" had to last 3½ hours. I had agreed with my colleagues that these evening sessions would be paid at NHS Consultant rate - £250.

Waiting lists initiatives were organised "above my head" and these "waiting lists sessions" were/are paid by the Trust £400/session. I had no say in this!

My point of view is:

- 1. The Departmental evening sessions with unsociable hours last 3½ hours and are remunerated at NHS Consultant rate £250.
- 2. The Trust's organised waiting list initiatives are following the Trust's rate £400. I wish to add that at such a rate they should last 4 (four) hours!

Having said this, I will follow and implement - if this is in my remit - the instructions given to me by the Trust.

Kind regards,

Walter

P.S.: I will request HR advice - Seema (Ahmed) - this morning as she was not available yesterday afternoon after my meeting with Sharmila.

----Original Message---From: Harchowal, Jatinder
Sent: 22 September 2009 17:52
To: Chowdhury, Sharmila; Curati, Walter
Subject: RE: additiona sessions

Thank you Sharmila Interesting.... How long has this been going on? Jat

Jatinder Harchowal
Chief Pharmacist / Assistant Director of Operations - Clinical Support Services
Ealing Hospital NHS Trust
Uxbridge Road
Southall
UB1 3HW
Tel: 020 8967 5301
Mobile: 07980 746558

From:

Chowdhury, Sharmila

Sent:

30 September 2009 10:24

To:

Curati, Walter

Co:

Stanton, Paul; Roberts, Terry; Ahmed, Seema; Cahill, David

Subject:

waiting list sessions

Importance: High

Dear Walter,

It has been brought to my attention that consultants have not been informed with regards to waiting list sessions being 4 hours at £400 per session.

My staff are being pressured by consultants to continue bookings in the evenings which are between 5pm and 7:40pm as the last booking. Even with time allowed for reporting the last case this means that radiologists are working 3 hours instead of 4 hours for which they are claiming.

You had agreed to inform all consultants. However, consultants which includes your deputy seem to be oblivious to this and staff are being placed under undue pressure.

I would be grateful if you could speak to the radiologists.

With kind regards

Sharmila

Sharmila Chowdhury Imaging Services Manager Radiology department Ealing Hospital NHS Trust UB1 3HW

Tel: 020 8967 5792

The state of the s

From:

Chowdhury, Sharmila

Sent:

30 September 2009 10:33

To:

Roberts, Terry; Graves, Philippa

Co:

Stanton, Paul

Subject: FW: Additional sessions

Dear Terry,

Radiologists have clearly not been informed as to what constitutes waiting list session. I am currently being held responsible for this decision. Please advise.

Thanks

Sharmila

Sharmila Chowdhury Imaging Services Manager Radiology department Ealing Hospital NHS Trust UB1 3HW

Tel: 020 8967 5792

From: Curati, Walter

Sent: 23 September 2009 08:24

To: Harchowal, Jatinder; Chowdhury, Sharmila

Subject: Additional sessions

Dear Jatinder and Sharmila,

We had been advised - at the time the Trust had decided that additional Consultants' sessions were the preferred option - instead of employing one more Consultant for our Department - that an evening session including "unsociable hours" had to last 3½ hours. I had agreed with my colleagues that these evening sessions would be paid at NHS Consultant rate - £250.

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My point of view is:

- 1. The Departmental evening sessions with unsociable hours last 3½ hours and are remunerated at NHS Consultant rate £250.
- 2. The Trust's organised waiting list initiatives are following the Trust's rate £400. I wish to add that at such a rate they should last 4 (four) hours!

Having said this, I will follow and implement - if this is in my remit - the instructions given to me by the Trust.

Kind regards,

From: Rafique, Akkib

Sent: 01 October 2009 11:50

To: Chowdhury, Sharmila

Cc: Cahill, David; Curati, Walter; Lynn, William; Hearne, Samantha; Nair, Prithi; Goraya, Kathy;

Edelsten, Andrew; Gopal, Renita; Consultants - Radiology

Shamila

On behalf of the Radiology consultant body:

We do not appreciate you dictating to us our working hours with regards to Waiting List Initiatives. You are not our Line Manager.

We provide these waiting list initiatives out of our own goodwill – we are not contracted to do any of these but do so for the best interests of the Trust and its patient's. It is up to us as a body to decide how many lists we do and the hours we work. The lists are performed in antisocial hours and again remuneration has previously been agreed with Walter and the ADO for radiology. We work hard enough as it is during normal working hours without being forced to work another 4 hours in the evenings.

On that subject, we feel it is extremely unprofessional for you to be informing other staff members of our pay rates – this is none of their concern. How would you feel if your extra hours reporting rates were advertised to the department?

Why do you feel the need to delegate responsibility for adding extra patients to waiting list initiatives to administration staff without any consultation with the Consultant body? Can you not discuss the matter with us directly; after all, it is us who are affected by your unilateral decision to increase our workload.

Also, we have not been paid for waiting list work for the past 3-4 months. This is in part due to the ridiculous beaurocracy in place and the need to obtain 4 different signatures to authorise payments. There is strong feeling within the Consultant body to stop all waiting list work until we have been remunerated for work already done.

in short, we are very unhappy with your interference in the waiting list initiative workload without any discussion whatsoever. It is up to Walter, our direct manager, to decide with us the amount of extra work we do over and above our contracted hours and our remuneration.

I think these issues need to be clarified openly and we shall endeavour to organise a meeting with the relevant parties as soon as possible.

Dr A Rafique Consultant Radiologist Ealing Hospital

From:

Chowdhury, Sharmila

Sent:

01 October 2009 13:29

To:

Rafique, Akkib

Cc:

Cahill, David; Curati, Walter; Lynn, William; Hearne, Samantha; Nair, Prithi; Goraya, Kathy; Edelsten, Andrew; Gopal, Renita; Consultants - Radiology; Graves, Philippa; Roberts, Terry

Subject:

RE:

Importance: High

Dear Akib.

I understand and sympathise with your concerns. I will forward Walter's e-mail on to you. Walter was supposed to have discussed this with you and all the radiologists. This obviously has not happened. He is now on leave until next Tuesday.

Walter had discussed the matter with human resources beginning of last week and had confirmed that waiting list sessions for this Trust is for 4 hours at a set payment. Bookings in radiology for waiting list sessions in radiology however have been for 2hours and 40 mins. Even if we allow 20 mins for reporting the last case, it falls short of an hour. However, a waiting list session for 4 hours are still being claimed.

Waiting list sessions paid by the Trust is for all consultants who work within Ealing trust which includes orthopedic and surgery who also undertake additional waiting list sessions.

For additional sessions for which there is a lesser payment, the hours for these are 3.5 and not 4.

As there are 2 separate systems of payment for work undertaken outside hours, I think this should be reviewed and standardised to avoid confusion. I cannot however, make this decision. This decision can only be made at a much higher level.

I had not discussed this with you as I was assured that you were going to be informed, and as you say I am not your line manager. I can only carry out what has been instructed and have been advised.

As for not receiving payments for work done. I do not authorise these. As stated before, these are signed off by Walter and ADO for CSS. If there are issues relating to payments I suggest you discuss this with Walter, your line manager who will be best placed to help you.

I think it will be best if we organize a meeting with all concerned on Walter's return next week. I think in the meantime we will continue with our standard practice of booking of 5pm - 7:40pm instead of 5pm - 8:20pm to cover waiting list session for 4 hours.

With kind regards

Sharmila

Sharmila Chowdhury Imaging Services Manager Radiology department Ealing Hospital NHS Trust UB1 3HW

Tel: 020 8967 5792

From: Rafique, Akkib

Sent: 01 October 2009 11:50 To: Chowdhury, Sharmila

Double Claiming of times

- Already rostered and paid to be at work but claimed overtime for the same period
- Routine overtime sessions were paid at £250
 per session, i.e. 4 hours. Again claimed twice for
 the same hours as requested £500

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S.C. Call (Sunday) Intervention & MRI Anton widon.

From:

Chowdhury, Sharmila

Sent:

19 October 2009 13:35

To:

Cahill, David

Cc:

Badowska, Barbara

Subject: RE: Waiting List Radiology

Dear David

We no longer are given copies of these. These are signed off by Walter/Akib and given to the ADO to sign. Given history of these I wouldn't be happy signing these off as nearly for all instances:

1. Hours claimed are not hours worked

2. Additional sessions - who has authorized these? Again, hours claimed are not hours worked.

3. Frequently claims are doubled. i.e. claiming for sessions when already in department and sometimes claiming twice for the same hours

If you want me to through them with you I can. I am happy to meet whenever you are available. I don't have copies of the paperwork.

I am however, happy to authorize for radiographers waiting list sessions.

With kind regards

Sharmila

Sharmila Chowdhury Imaging Services Manager Radiology department Ealing Hospital NHS Trust UB1 3HW

Tel: 020 8967 5792

From: Taylor, Denise

Sent: 19 October 2009 13:25 To: Chowdhury, Sharmila

Cc: Badowska, Barbara; Cahill, David Subject: Waiting List Radiology

Importance: High

Hi Sharmila

Re Waiting list

Please could it be checked and returned to David A.S.A.P as we will need it to be returned to payroll today with all relevant signatures on.

Thanks

Denise Taylor Ealing Hospital NHS Trust Payroll Dept