



**Tamworth Health Centre, Upper Gungate, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B79 7EA**

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### **To Whom It May Concern**

The following letter is generic and is provided to all patients who have specified their employer has requested a letter with regards to COVID-19. It is available for download via The Hollies Medical Practice website and Facebook. We have no control over which patients choose to use this letter.

As a health service, all NON-NHS work has been restricted to only essential requests. Unfortunately high levels of employers are requesting letters or sick notes with regards to COVID-19 during this time of crisis we cannot and will not be providing letters on a patient by patient basis.

GPs cannot and are not the gatekeeper of the statutory sick pay system and can only provide certificates for the purpose of illness, not in relation to government advice regarding self-isolation. Employers are responsible for putting in place arrangements for home/remote working where this is possible. Where it is not, the employee may self-certify and return to work following the relevant absence which their employer may authorise as per government advice.

Anyone self-isolating can complete a self-isolation sick note available on the 111.nhs.uk website (<https://111.nhs.uk/isolation-note>). If your employee has not yet completed this note please ask them to do so.

"By law, medical evidence is not required for the first 7 days of sickness (i.e. employees can self-certify). After 7 days, it is for the employer to determine what evidence they require, if any, from the employee. To make it easier for people to provide evidence to their employer that they need to stay at home, we are developing an alternative form for evidence to the fit note."

We hope this covers any queries you may have.

Yours Sincerely,

**The Doctors of the Hollies Medical Practice**

**Dr Bowen, Dr Popple, Dr Parkes, Dr Davies, Dr King, Dr Koshy,  
Dr Olojede, Dr Choudhary, Dr Jay**



**Providing NHS services**