

Information Note for General Practitioners

What is the General Chiropractic Council?

The General Chiropractic Council (GCC) regulates chiropractors in a similar way to how the General Medical Council regulates general medical practitioners and the Nursing and Midwifery Council regulates nurses and midwives.

Someone is not allowed to call themselves a chiropractor unless they are on the Register of Chiropractors.

To ensure that all applicants are both physically and mentally fit, the GCC requires a report from the applicant's GP stating if the applicant is physical and mental fit or has any health problems and if so, how these are being managed.

Can I provide a report?

To be able to provide a report you must:-

- be registered with the General Medical Council, or equivalent overseas regulatory body
- not be related to the applicant by birth or marriage and either
- have prepared your report based on reviewing the last four years worth of the applicant's patient records; or
- if you do not have at least the last four years of the patients records, you must carry out a physical examination of the applicant.

What must I include in the report?

Your report must contain the following information:-

- the applicants full name
- the applicants date of birth
- the date the medical records used in preparing the report began, or that they cover the last four years
- whether the applicant has any physical or mental health issues and, if so, how these are being managed
- if the applicant has had any physical or mental problems in the past that may recur
- any other past medical history that you feel is significant or appropriate for us to know about
- the date the report was written
- your signature. Medical reports signed by someone other than a registered medical practitioner will be rejected.

What must be included in the physical examination?

In cases where you do not have access to an applicant's medical records, the report should be based on an examination. The GCC rules do not detail any specific tests that must be performed, but we rely on you, as a registered medical practitioner, to perform any tests you feel are appropriate to determine that the applicant is both physically and mentally fit.

What form should the report take?

We would ask that you complete the questions to confirm the applicants health status online.

To do so the applicant will need a business email address for you, such as your NHS email or the surgery email.

An automated message will be sent to that email address from noreply@gcc-uk.org, with details of how you can complete the report.

What information do you need?

- When you sign in you will see your patients name and date of birth so that you can be sure who we are enquiring about.
- We will ask you to confirm whether your report is written based on 4 years of medical records or an examination
- We will ask you if the patient is of good physical and mental health, and ask you to provide some details if not so that we can understand how it may impact on their future practice and how it is managed.
- We also ask whether you are aware of any physical or mental health problems that the patient has had in the past that may recur and if any past or current health issues may impact on their fitness to practise.

Do I have to physically examine the applicant?

You only have to carry out a physical examination of the applicant if you do not have the last four years worth of the applicant's medical records.

Who pays for the report?

Any costs involved in providing a report are the responsibility of the applicant.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

If you have any questions please contact a member of our Registrations team on 020 7713 5155 x5501, or email us at registrations@gcc-uk.org