

Chief Executive
The Hospital NHS Trust.

Dear Sir

How often do we have to remind your staff that when a patient is under the care of the hospital, it is the hospital's responsibility to provide the patient with sickness certification and appropriate medication?

On 26 October 2009 my patient Amelia Hart attended your A&E department with an ankle injury. She came to my surgery today and said that the A&E doctor told her she had an ankle fracture that required no treatment and that she should attend her GP to obtain a certificate for work and that her GP would arrange physiotherapy and prescribed analgesia.

Needless to say, I have had no correspondence about this from the A&E department.

It was the hospital's responsibility to provide sickness certification for this patient and also to provide any necessary treatment. To ask the patient to see me for a sick note and analgesia is an unnecessary journey for the patient and unnecessary work for me.

The NHS will only work if primary care and secondary care cooperate.

I look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely

A Heathstock MB BS (Hons), MRCP.

Cc A&E consultant
Dr G Singh, Chairman LMC.