

RE Request for medical/sick note or similar documentation

To Whom it May Concern,

This is in response to a request relayed to me via a patient; more specifically, the request was essentially that of asking the patient for a medical/sick note or similar documentation.

Please accept this letter as confirmation that it is my unequivocal professional opinion that your organization should assume that an individual describing an illness to you, is indeed suffering from symptoms of a medical/health nature.

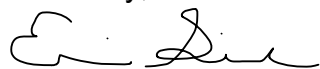
Of course, this is generally applicable even outside of a pandemic; during a pandemic, it is even more overtly inappropriate to deviate from this common-sense approach with the consequences compounding as patients, employee, students. are placed in the unfair position of seeking inappropriate use of scarce health resources during an unprecedented global health crisis.

Even more concerning, this dynamic will inevitably result in some non-negligible number of preventable infections as patients feel compelled to deviate from usual rest and isolation protocols as they respond to the pressures from the medical note requirements.

I appreciate that many of these kind of sick note requests are made routinely without much second thought; accordingly, please know that there is a friendly tone coupled to the directness of the above message. Nevertheless, this message requires widespread heeding as we collectively navigate these challenging times.

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,



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