



Doctors Direct

Providing NHS Trusts with quality, cost-effective locum cover.

Working in partnership with NHS Trusts, we provide safe, reliable and quality assured doctors either on a locum, fixed term or substantive basis.

About the service

Doctors Direct is a service provided by NHS Professionals, which is owned by the Department of Health and Social Care in the United Kingdom. NHS Professionals is the leading provider of managed flexible workforce services to the NHS in England. It operates as a not-for-profit organisation and is designed to help NHS Trusts manage their temporary staffing needs efficiently.

Doctors Direct specifically focuses on providing temporary medical staffing solutions to NHS Trusts. It offers a pool of qualified and experienced doctors who can be deployed to cover shifts, cover staff shortages, or provide additional support as needed. Doctors Direct aims to ensure that healthcare organisations have access to the medical expertise they require to maintain

high standards of patient care, even during periods of increased demand or staffing challenges.

Who are Doctors Direct?

As part of NHS Professionals, Doctors Direct are the market leading provider of managed locum services. Doctors Direct benefits from NHS Professionals' rigorous recruitment processes, quality assurance measures, and compliance procedures, which help ensure that the doctors supplied meet professional standards and regulatory requirements. By working with Doctors Direct, NHS Trusts can access a flexible and reliable source of temporary medical staffing, helping them to deliver quality healthcare services, while managing costs and maintaining continuity of care.

Benefits to your Trust

- + **Flexibility:** Doctors Direct offer a pool of doctors who can be deployed at short notice to cover shifts or fill in for longer term staff shortages. This flexibility helps Trusts maintain adequate staffing levels, especially during peak times or unexpected absences.
- + **Cost-effectiveness:** Doctors Direct support Trusts to manage their staffing costs more efficiently. Instead of hiring full-time staff to cover fluctuating demand, trusts can access temporary staff as needed, potentially reducing overall staffing expenses.
- + **Access to specialised expertise:** Doctors Direct clients have access to a diverse pool of doctors with various specialties and skill sets. This allows trusts to quickly find suitable replacements or additional support, even for specialised areas where recruiting permanent staff may be challenging.
- + **Reduced administration:** Doctors Direct handle all administrative tasks such as recruitment, payroll, and compliance, relieving the trust of these responsibilities. This allows staff to focus on patient care and other essential tasks.
- + **Quality assurance:** Doctors Direct has rigorous recruitment processes and quality assurance measures in place to ensure that the doctors we supply meet professional standards and regulatory requirements. This can provide reassurance to trusts about the competence and reliability of the locum doctors they provided.
- + **Continuity of care:** By having access to a pool of temporary doctors through Doctors Direct, trusts can maintain continuity of care for patients, even during staffing challenges or when regular staff members are unavailable.

Overall, partnering with Doctors Direct supports NHS Trusts to address workforce needs more effectively, ensuring that they can continue to deliver high-quality care to patients while managing costs and maintaining flexibility.

“*They worked quickly and collaboratively to ensure a strong pipeline of Bank doctors to replace all our medicine agency bookings. The engagement of these doctors at an early stage was critical to this success. Communications between all parties allowed us to achieve 100% Bank by 1st November 2023. They delivered the plan enthusiastically and with drive and passion to ensure all stages of the process were in place.*”

Angela Wilkinson,
Medical & Dental Rostering Manager,
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust

Please email us for further information:
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Scan the QR code to find out more

