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SEB/hg
25th November, 2008

**STATEMENT REGARDING COMPLETION OF FORMS FOR
DEPARTMENT OF WORK AND PENSIONS (DWP)**

Dear Patient,

The team at the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital fully understand the importance of accurate information on forms required for assessment by the DWP. The high volume of requests which we received from the DWP was discussed with them. The DWP clarified the minimum information required from our doctors and confirmed that if additional detail is required this would be requested. Because of the high volume of forms, a number of forms have been completed from clinical records by doctors in our team who may not have been directly involved in the care of the patient or, indeed, had not seen them recently.

We would like to reassure patients that the information conveyed to the DWP is entirely accurate and in line with the DWP's advice on the information required, for example, laboratory results, the history of recent medication and/or any hospital treatments or serious illnesses.

We are very happy for any patient who has had a form completed to have sight of this form. Requests for this should be made in writing to John Pickett, Assistant General Manager: john.pickett@chelwest.nhs.uk.

If any patient feels that there is a need for additional information regarding their current condition to be made available on the form, then they should contact their regular Clinic doctor who will be happy to write a supplementary letter to the DWP Special Rules Panel in order to ensure that they have full access to all of the current medical information provided by the patient.

We apologise if any patients have been upset or worried by the process of this assessment. We had to meet exacting timelines for the very high volume of requests from the DWP, and we shall continue to do our utmost to ensure that patients receive the correct benefits and have their cases properly and fairly considered by the DWP.

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