Andrea Sutcliffe

Chief Executive

Nursing and Midwifery Council   
23 Portland Place   
London   
W1B 1PZ

[Date] 2019

Dear Ms Sutcliffe

**Charging for services and the health surcharge**

I am writing to seek guidance from the NMC on charging for overseas patients.

I am concerned that in my role, I will be asked to assess the charging status of patients and would therefore be grateful for your guidance on this matter. I am also concerned that as a clinician, I may be asked to determine whether a patient’s treatment is ‘immediately necessary’, this could compromise my duty of care as outlined in your Code of Conduct:

Prioritise people: You put the interests of people using or needing nursing or midwifery services first. You make their care and safety your main concern and make sure that their dignity is preserved and their needs are recognised, assessed and responded to. You make sure that those receiving care are treated with respect, that their rights are upheld and that any discriminatory attitudes and behaviours towards those receiving care are challenged.

There is no mention in this of the patient’s ability to pay.

I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours sincerely,

[name]