Insert Practice details or paste onto practice paper

Dear Dr / Mr

Sickness Certification after Hospital Attendance

I have recently had a consultation with (name/CHI)…………… purely for the purpose of issuing a Med 3 “sick line”.

I would be grateful if you could remind your junior staff of national and NHS Lothian guidance about sickness certification.

On discharge from hospital if a patient is clearly not able to return to work within a week, the doctor who has clinical responsibility for the patient should provide them with a Med 3 to cover the period until they can be expected to return to work or until such time as they can usefully be clinically reviewed by their GP (usually two to four weeks). This will avoid unnecessary appointments with the GPs solely for the purpose of obtaining sickness certification which are disruptive both to patients and practices.

If there are any practical problems with this, such as lack of availability of Med 3 forms on your wards, please contact your Clinical Director and they will endeavour to help sort this out. Should there be any further difficulties please contact the LMC at the email address below.

Thank you for giving this your consideration.

Yours sincerely

………………………………………

On behalf of (practice name)……….

Supported by the Lothian Local Medical Committee Limited

Contact: lmc@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk