Dear <Patient name>

**Hamilton Medical Group – Letter/Statement on ADHD medications recommended by Private Health Organizations**

Thank you for getting in touch regarding the prescription of Medicines for ADHD which has been diagnosed by a private medical organisation. You will be aware that ADHD is a specialist diagnosis and any treatment for this should be initiated and supervised by a Specialist Team. In NHS Grampian there are clear guidelines on this for NHS patients which are set out below

ADHD diagnosis should follow standards set by NICE Guidelines and the Royal College of Psychiatry (Scotland) ADHD Guidelines

1. **GP Responsibilities**: General Practitioners (GPs) must ensure that the diagnosis, pre-treatment, and long-term medication monitoring align with national or local guidelines

2. **Shared Care Agreements**: These agreements between the patient, GP, and specialist service are crucial for managing ADHD treatment. They outline responsibilities for prescribing and monitoring

3. **Review of Private Diagnoses**: NHS teams may need to review private diagnoses to ensure they meet clinical standards. This can sometimes lead to additional assessments

4.**Prescribing Limitations**: GPs are not obligated to prescribe medications based on private diagnoses if they have concerns about the assessment's quality or the absence of proper monitoring arrangements

Further, current guidance from NHS Grampian states

NHS Grampian currently does not support the initiation or continuation of ADHD treatment for new adult patients who have been diagnosed privately. This policy is due to ongoing supply issues with ADHD medications and the need to prioritize resources for existing NHS patients.

This position will be reviewed by February 1, 2025

The situation is further complicated by many private medical providers requesting that NHS GP’s take on a “shared care agreement” detailing request that we monitor and prescribe this on the NHS whilst charging patient’s fees for their “Specialist” supervision. This is not in keeping with BMA guidance which states that the NHS should not subsidise Private care.

Hamilton Medical Group is therefore not in a position to take on prescribing of ADHD medications unless they ae under the direct supervision of our local NHS Specialists and cannot enter into any shared care agreement to undertake this non-contractual work. Medicines being recommended by private agencies will therefore need to be prescribed and monitored by that private provider.

Yours sincerely,

Hamilton Medical Group