Dear Doctor (name)

Re: Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005; Medical Assessment of prospective adopters

Name: D.O.B:

**Address:**

An application has been received from the person named above to be assessed as an adoptive parent and she/he has given your name as her/his General Practitioner.

As you will probably know, the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005 require a medical examination of a prospective adopter, the details of which are sent to the adoption agency’s Medical Adviser prior to progressing to consideration of approval as an adopter.

I would therefore request that you undertake this examination at your earliest convenience.

I fully appreciate that there are currently additional pressures and prioritisation due to the current public health crisis. However, undertaking this medical examination is not only a matter of significant personal importance to your patient, but it is also a matter of public interest. Adoption services across England are maintaining services in a way that is compatible with public health advice, in order to ensure that delays for children waiting for the permanence that adoption affords are minimised. Services are aiming to ensure that as far as is possible children currently waiting are not deprived of the opportunity of being placed as quickly as is possible and denied the opportunity of making the early attachments necessary for their healthy development. Likewise new children with an adoption plan continue to be referred and services are mindful that children waiting remain in foster care which is itself a service where the demand for placements is likely to rise.

I attach a copy of the Adult Health (AH) form. You will see that the applicant has completed Part B and I would be grateful if you could complete Part C and return to *[insert name of agency*], who will pass it to the agency’s Medical Adviser, Dr XXXXXXXXX. If you would like to discuss this applicant with the agency’s Medical Adviser, Dr XXXXX they may be contacted directly at *(insert address, email and phone number*).

There are a number of ways the medical can now be undertaken; either:

* Undertake a face-to-face examination in the usual way and complete the relevant sections of the enclosed Adult Health (AH) form or,
* Undertake a video consultation with the applicant, completing the AH form including using the additional part C (7)\* of the form where relevant.

All prospective adopters are required to make their own arrangements to pay the relevant fee for this examination.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Encs.

1. AH Form; \**please note* *the optional section replaces only section 7 (physical examination) in Part C if a video consultation takes place.*
2. Any additional consents required.