

# Fraud Alert

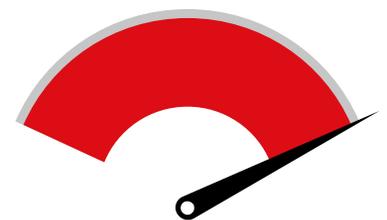
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## BSW General Practice Receives False Invoices

A General Practice in Bath has received fake invoices from companies named Medistore and The Business Supply Chain. The invoice from Medistore was requesting payment for PPE and stethoscopes and the invoice from The Business Supply Chain was requesting payment for printing equipment - toner cartridges and a drum unit.

In the last 18 months, other General Practices in neighbouring counties have received fake invoices from Office Direct UK, the Med Supply Group and Office Central Ltd, all requesting payment for mainly printing equipment, PPE and medical devices that have not been ordered by the General Practice. The fake invoices tend to have values of between £500 and £1000.

The contact phone numbers on the fake invoices do vary, but a recurrent one is 03300431276. Invoices are typically addressed to the Practice Manager as this information is readily available on the Practice website.



### Status: Action Required

This alert provides information and advice to staff about fraud and economic crime, and the risks associated with it.

If your organisation has fallen victim to fraud you should report it to your counter fraud specialist or to the NHS Counter Fraud Authority on 0800 028 4060.



### How to protect your organisation from fraud

- General Practices should check their finance systems. If any invoices have been received or paid in respect of the suppliers named above, please notify your counter fraud specialist.
- All NHS organisations need to be vigilant when receiving invoices. There is an increased risk of fraud during the pandemic as fraudsters take advantage of staff working from home who cannot always check if goods have been received, plus the increase in temporary suppliers. Invoices may be marked as overdue or urgent, putting pressure on staff to process payments swiftly.

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For further discussion and support, including fraud awareness training services, contact:

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