

SAMPLE LETTER – Line Count Calculation

We charge on the industry standard system of cost/line

A line is 65 keystrokes – 65 characters (including spaces).

The sample letter below illustrates how we calculate lines.

The highlighted section represents the keystrokes in the letter.

15th July 2016 ← 14 keystrokes

Dr xxxxxxxxxxxx ← 22 keystrokes

PO Box xxxxx ← 20 keystrokes

SOMEWHERE NSW XXXX ← 27 keystrokes

FAX: XXXX XXXX ← 22 keystrokes

Dear Dr Xxxxxxx, ← 16 keystrokes

RE: XXXXX XXXXXX DOB: xx/xx/xxxx ← 64 keystrokes

REFERRAL PROBLEMS: ← 18 keystrokes

1. Type 2 diabetes mellitus (diagnosed in 2009) complicated by microalbuminuria. ← 79 keystrokes

2. Vitamin D insufficiency. ← 27 keystrokes

Xxxxx has had some recent problems with nausea and vomiting requiring parenteral Maxolon. ← 89 keystrokes

She is also suffering from gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and currently awaiting a ← 85 keystrokes

gastroscopy. As a result of her above symptoms, she has ceased the majority of her ← 83 keystrokes

medications including the metformin, the statin and the fibrate over the last month. Her ← 95 keystrokes

self-monitored blood glucose levels, however, remain reasonable ranging from 4 to 8 mmol/L. ← 91 keystrokes

She has lost 2 kg in weight with the weight of 90 kg today. Her blood pressure was normal at ← 95 keystrokes

117/77 mmHg. ← 13 keystrokes

Her blood tests revealed a reasonable HbA1c of 6.4%. However, this must be interpreted with ← 92 keystrokes

caution, as she has a low MCV and has increased RDW with the haemoglobin of 119 g/L in ← 86 keystrokes

keeping with her thalassaemia. Her cholesterol not surprisingly has deteriorated to ← 85 keystrokes

5.7 mmol/L (LDL 3.6, HDL 1.2) with a triglyceride level of 1.9 mmol/L. Her renal function is ← 92 keystrokes

normal, but her liver function tests are abnormal with AST and ALT levels of 44 and 56 U/L ← 90 keystrokes

respectively and her GTT level of 49 U/L. ← 41 keystrokes

Thank you once again for referring Xxxxx. ← 41 keystrokes

TOTAL: 1,207 keystrokes

In total there are 1, 207 keystrokes.

By dividing this by 65 – the number of keystrokes in a line – we are able to generate a line count.

$$1,207 \div 65 = 18.57 \text{ or } 19 \text{ lines}$$

Therefore, this letter has 19 lines.