

Consultant 202

4 February 2013

Dear Sirs

I'm sure you are aware of the moves BUPA has been taking to restrict choice for patients. They have introduced a number of 'approved lists of consultants' they will 'approve' only if the said consultants agree to a markedly reduced fee from that normally applied. I question what right do the insurers have to 'approve' consultants who are all fully trained with a CCT in their specialty and very experienced NHS consultants. This is purely to reduce their fees and has nothing to do with improving patient care. Is it legal for BUPA to do this? A large no of my patients struggle to get BUPA to fund the full amount of costs of private care even when they have a full package of private care (or so they thought).

The level of disillusionment amongst consultant cardiologists is huge - in [✂] we are trying to organise ourselves but the level of power of BUPA is very high.