

Consultant 204

4 February 2013

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a Consultant [redacted] Surgeon and have undertaken private practice for over [redacted] years since my appointment in [redacted]. I am a sub specialist [redacted].

I am increasingly being told by patients that they have been prevented from seeing me, by BUPA and AXA-PPP, even though they may be long standing patients of mine or new patients with [redacted] conditions.

It would seem that BUPA and AXA-PPP are trying to control and manage the market. They have a number of junior consultants who are less experienced and often not sub specialised in the field relevant to the patient's condition. The GP is best placed to refer to the appropriate surgeon not the insurers.

I charge within the accepted band for these insurers and I cannot understand why I am often blacklisted, which appears to be a purely random process.

BUPA have also unilaterally reduced the return for certain "common" [redacted] procedures without any form of discussion. This was an attempt to infuriate us as Consultants and there was no reason for this as these procedures were not overpriced.