

Consultant 225

28 March 2013

Dear Sirs,

I have recently left Private Medical Practice. My particular problem has been with BUPA. I have not agreed to work as one of their consultants and, probably because I have been in practice for many years, have not been told like some of my junior colleagues that I will be delisted if I charge more than the BUPA recommended fee for some of the specialised services I supply such as posterior lamellar corneal transplant surgery. However the impression giving to many BUPA patients coming to see me is that I may overcharge, and and that there is something not quite right because I am not one of their consultants. BUPA are now big enough to dictate terms to many doctors as well as patients whether this constitutes a competition issue I don't know. In addition they withdraw cover for conditions that are chronic - this could not happen if the NHS was not there to pick up the pieces.