

Consultant 3

6 September 2013

Response to the Competition Commission

I have had three patients in the last couple of months who I have previously successfully treated for a problem in one foot or ankle. They have requested through BUPA that they see me for a problem in the other foot.

They have been told that as i am not in the Premier Consultant Partnership that they are not allowed to see me. The patients have been very angry and upset. If a patient has a good rapport and a successful treatment with one consultant, they do not want to see anyone else. This is clearly a serious disruption to the continuity of care and patient choice.

I started private practice in 2007, subsequently became a BUPA partner and I have always charged within BUPA guidelines

Now it seems that patients are not allowed to come to see me as I am not in a contract. I have not been offered a contract, and as I was told a few months ago when a similar incident occurred, there is not any plan to do so at present as there are 'too many consultants to get around'.