

Consultant 81

6 February 2014

Re competition Commission report

I am a consultant in palliative medicine, with private practice at the HCA [redacted]. I have read the competition commission report and would like to make a few comments as to why I choose to work with HCA.

I am aware that HCA works as a joint venture with the [redacted] NHS Foundation Trust. This arrangement directly benefits NHS patients, since a percentage of profits are re-invested back into NHS services.

I also firmly believe that HCAs approach to patient care is exceptional, in that HCA supports a truly comprehensive and holistic approach to patient care. This is particularly important in the private sector, where patients who are undergoing cancer treatment may not always have access to the full range of support services. At the HCA [redacted], these services include dedicated specialist palliative care support as well a range of other support services (including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, dietetics, complementary therapies, psycho-oncology and counselling). This comprehensive approach to patient care enhances the patient experience, and ensures they have the very best care available, with integrated multidisciplinary services.

Whilst the decision to divest London hospitals may have little effect on my personal private practice in [redacted], the decision still concerns me due to the potential impact it may have on patients receiving high standards of care which HCA provides.