

Consultant 100

28 January 2014

Dear Mr Witcomb

Re: Competition Commission Ruling on HCA Hospitals 2013

I would like to express my objection to the ruling by the Competition Commission regarding the HCA Hospital Group and London Bridge Hospital.

I have been a Consultant ENT & Head & Neck Surgeon since [X] and specialise in complex head and neck oncology surgery. This is a complex, intensive and high risk surgical field which demands a high level of quality care during and after treatments. The type of surgery that I undertake involves long operative procedures and post-operative recovery in the intensive care unit. The surgery also involves working in the shared airway with the anaesthetist and this demands a high level of nursing and clinical expertise that can only be provided in the London Bridge Hospital.

The London Bridge Hospital has developed an international reputation for complex oncological care including surgery and offers an exemplar level of service that is not replicated in other private Hospitals in London hence I only work in this institution.

[X]

The continued high level investment and development of clinical services that HCA has supported in the London Bridge Hospital could not be matched by other private providers.

It is my firm belief that the competition commission decision is flawed and will ultimately adversely affect patient care in the long-term.

I have no personal or financial gain in this matter and my only concern is the wellbeing of my patients and I am concerned that this may be compromised if the decision is upheld.

If you have any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.