

Member of public 1

24 January 2014

Dear Sirs

Healthcare competition

I read with interest your report and I recognise a number of important issues and recommendations you have proposed. However one of the key problems facing new entrants to the healthcare market is failure for recognition by the private insurers.

This has led to the failure of a number of new hospitals within recent years and allows the big players such as BMI, Spire, Ramsay and HCA to buy up the assets at discounted prices and then re-brand, obtain insurance recognition and commence trading.

May I suggest you include in your reports a presumption that insurance companies will recognise new hospitals and providers within an area with an appeals process to an independent adjudicator.