

Consultant 127

4 October 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been in practice for four years as an [X] surgeon. When I signed up to AXA PPP, I was forced to sign up to their fee schedule despite being on the GMC Specialist Register, and a practising NHS Consultant or else they would not recognise me as a Specialist !!!

Furthermore, the insurers keep pushing the fees they pay to Specialists down so much so it makes it not doable privately from a business point of view for eg audiometry where BUPA pay £25 and it takes 30 mins to do, with all the attendant costs!!

Finally insurers are using the NHS and saying to patients if their op were to be done on the NHS within 6 weeks, then they would not pay for it to be done privately. The patient buys the insurance with the expectation that they get private treatment and the insurer should make it clear that there is a high chance that although the consult would happen, the op may well be done in the NHS.

I do hope you look into these sharp practices as they are simply not fair. It's my tuppence worth as I will be leaving soon - there isn't as much private practice here as when I was a consultant in [X], so I am off back in that direction.

Thank you,