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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

Ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd Whitchurch Hospital

Park Road, Whitchurch.
Cardiff, CF14 7XB
Phone 029 2069 3191

Heol Parc, Yr Eglwys Newydd
Caerdydd, CF14 7XB
Ffôn 029 2069 3191

Eich cyf/Your ref:
Ein cyf/Our ref: AC-as-07-2795
Welsh Health Telephone Network:
Direct Line/Llinell uniongychol: 02920 745681

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive

2 August 2013

Tom Jackson
Clerk
Public Accounts Committee
Committee Service
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Dear Tom

Public Accounts Committee – The Consultant Contract in Wales

With regards to the further information you have requested on my submission to the Public Accounts Committee, I have discussed the issue with our Private Patients Office and it is clear that patients who have been seen privately and assessed as being appropriate for surgery may be directly listed for NHS treatment without requiring further NHS outpatient consultation. This is the interpretation, difficult though it is to understand, that our staff have taken from the regulations.

There may be examples where the initial private consultation has not completed diagnostic workup, which may be more appropriate for non-surgical specialties such as Medicine, where the patient would be referred for further NHS outpatient consultation to complete that diagnostic workup and plan treatment.

Once again, although this appears to be a means by which patients can avoid their NHS outpatient waiting list, this is the interpretation that we believe is correct from the current regulations. I am more than happy to discuss further, it would be perhaps useful to get interpretation from other Health Boards as to their view and interpretation of and scale of this problem, although numbers are difficult to judge. I hope that this information is helpful, please let me know if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive