

CODEBLUE SURVEY AMONG SPECIALISTS ON PATIENTS' HEALTH INSURANCE PROBLEMS IN MALAYSIA: COMPLETE FINDINGS

A full collation of anonymised responses



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CodeBlue conducted and analysed the survey, and led the development, writing, and editing of this report. Our poll was carried out on the basis of public interest.

The views expressed in this report are those of the respondents in the survey and do not necessarily represent the views of CodeBlue.

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Introduction

Prior to this survey among specialists, the main issue in the public sphere about health insurance revolved around premium hikes. Thus, CodeBlue wanted to identify problems once policyholders turned into patients – the minute they tried to access their coverage upon stepping into a hospital.

When the CodeBlue team embarked on this project, we thought that we'd only be able to get 200 respondents at the most, as specialist doctors are typically reticent.

Participation in our nationwide survey from more than 850 specialists practising in private hospitals – with representation across every major specialty in the country – shows the depth of clinicians' frustration and exasperation with health insurance practices in Malaysia.

Our poll wasn't short either; it had 20 questions, including several open-ended ones. But the majority of respondents took the time to elaborate on how insurers interfered with their practice of medicine, threatening patient safety and quality of care in many cases.

The names of insurers and takaful operators (ITOs), third-party administrators (TPAs), and corporate clients cited by several respondents have been redacted in our report. Otherwise, responses remain unedited, without spelling/grammatical corrections or explanations of medical jargon or acronyms.

Never before have interactions between doctor and insurer been made known publicly – until the publication of our survey that was conducted online from September 25 to October 5, 2025.

By and large, anecdotal evidence shows that health insurance tactics of “Deny, Delay, Revoke” are increasingly pervasive in Malaysia and starting to mirror American health care, amid growing pressure on the insurance industry in our country post-Covid. But unlike the United States, Malaysia has little regulation of health insurance and institutional payers of health care like TPAs.

We hope that this 200-page report will be of use to the medical fraternity, insurance industry, and policymakers and legislators to reform health insurance in Malaysia in the best interest of patients.

For short reading, below are four articles in our series on the survey, plus a CodeBlue editorial:

- [Poll: Nearly All Specialists Perceive Insurer Interference With Clinical Decisions](#)
- [‘Deny, Delay, Revoke’: Specialists Reveal Health Insurance Underbelly In Malaysia](#)
- [Insurance Denies Various Drug Claims In Malaysia, Including Expensive Innovators, Cheap Generics](#)
- [‘Is The Patient Pregnant?’ \(Patient’s A Man\): Irrelevant Questions Insurers Ask Doctors](#)
- [CodeBlue’s View: Health Insurance Horrors Demolish Deceptive Fantasy Of Protection](#)

Boo Su-Lyn

Co-founder and editor-in-chief, CodeBlue

Quantitative Findings

- 99% say their patients faced health insurance problems over the past year.
 - Most reported problems over the past year included delayed approvals for guarantee letters (GL) or claims, as well as denials of inpatient care, treatment/procedure, or diagnostic tests.
 - Nearly 6 in 10 say their patients face problems with health insurance coverage for procedures.
- 99% perceive interference from insurers and takaful operators (ITOs) or third-party administrators (TPAs) with their clinical decision-making.***
- Over 50% have 1 to 5 patients facing health insurance coverage problems a month on average over the past year.
 - For the majority, their patients who faced health insurance denials or delays ended up delaying treatment, switching to public hospitals, or were unable to afford treatment.
- Over 50% have encountered ITOs or TPAs denying coverage of various medicines or therapies for their patients, such as innovator drugs.
 - 67% have experienced GLs getting revoked or denied for their patients after admission or treatment.
 - For nearly 80%, appeals to insurers for their patients were only successful sometimes or rarely.
 - Nearly 3 in 4 say ITOs or TPAs always or usually ask them irrelevant questions when clarifying admission or coverage.
 - Over 8 in 10 find that health insurance claims officers barely understand diagnosis or treatment.
 - More than 6 in 10 face pressure from insurance agents seeking coverage for patients.
 - Half spend 2 to 5 hours a week on health insurance paperwork for their patients.
 - Profile of 855 respondents: All major specialties represented (general surgery most common), nearly 3 in 4 are men, over half practise in the Klang Valley, more than half have over 10 years' experience in private practice.

Qualitative Findings

Insurers often deny coverage of inpatient care, insisting on daycare or outpatient treatment instead, including for major or long surgeries that need post-operative monitoring. But coverage is also denied for outpatient procedures like radiotherapy.

“Pre-existing conditions”, most commonly diabetes, are used by insurers to deny coverage, even if these chronic diseases are unrelated to the admission diagnosis (e.g. dengue, pneumonia, or fracture) or are an incidental finding.

Insurers deny coverage of exams or tests that will aid clinical decision-making, but demand unnecessary investigations for diagnoses (e.g. wrist MRI to diagnose carpal tunnel syndrome) or a patient’s lipid profile and blood sugar levels for unrelated conditions at admission (e.g. viral fever or food poisoning).

Insurance delays lead to postponed surgeries, admission, or critical interventions for medical emergencies.

“I just had a case whereby final GL was revoked for the reason that patient is overweight.”

– dermatologist, Johor

Some ITOs or TPAs have instituted blanket generic-only mandates. However, denials of drug claims span across innovators and generics, as well as expensive and cheap medicines, on the basis of insurers classifying them as “non-medical” or “non-indicated” (e.g. semaglutide for Type 2 diabetes, with insurers claiming that the GLP-1 receptor agonist is indicated for weight loss).

Coverage is denied for policies under two years old, despite insurance agents reportedly telling policyholders that claims can be made from three months. Doctors are often blamed for denials.

“Patient was not given an option at all for [cataract] surgery to be done under GA. In the end, patient had to pay out of pocket for the anaesthetic charges.”

– anaesthesiologist, KL/Selangor

Revoking GLs after admission or completion of a procedure or treatment is common, with terms like “initial” and “final” GL. This forces referrals to government hospitals or leaves patients stuck with private hospital bills and doctor fees unpaid.

CodeBlue conducted our online survey via SurveyMonkey from September 25 to October 5, 2025. The poll had 20 questions in total, including two open-ended questions and an optional one requesting contact information. Several multiple-choice questions included options to provide examples.

Our poll was launched even before we broke the story on October 2 about a TPA's directive to panel hospitals to prioritise local over general anaesthesia for daycare procedures and surgeries.

The CodeBlue team used convenience sampling by directly sending the survey link to various medical associations, private hospitals, and our own specialist contacts for help to distribute among their colleagues.

The survey link wasn't published by CodeBlue to prevent the general public from accessing the poll.

A total of 859 respondents participated in the survey; we removed four of them because two wrote that they were an admin executive or "from the business operation", while another two declined to specify their specialty, resulting in a final sample of 855 respondents.

Our poll did not ask for respondents' National Specialist Register (NSR) number, names, or place of work to preserve anonymity, due to doctors' general fear of reprisal from either their hospital, or ITO or TPA. Over 240 specialists, more than a quarter of respondents, voluntarily left their contact information for CodeBlue to approach for further comments.

The poll was titled "Survey for Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients in Private Hospitals".

Our survey title, along with the questions, were specifically designed to elicit responses on health insurance issues encountered by specialists as the treating physicians on the ground, rather than our poll acting as a neutral measure of doctors' attitudes towards insurance.

Hence, the objective of this poll was to identify problems with health insurance faced by patients in Malaysia from the perspective of their doctors, as the scale of payers' interference with clinical decision-making and its impact on patients was not yet known publicly.

As a media outlet, CodeBlue is committed to publishing the views of both sides of an issue. Should the insurance/takaful industry, TPAs, or policymakers respond to our survey, we will run their statements.

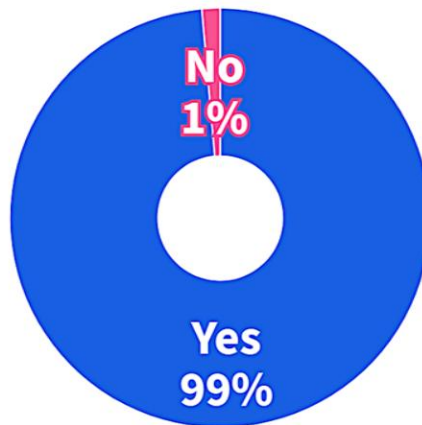
Question 1

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 99% say their patients faced health insurance problems over the past year

Over the past one year, have your patients experienced any problems with their health insurance?

n=855

■ Yes ■ No



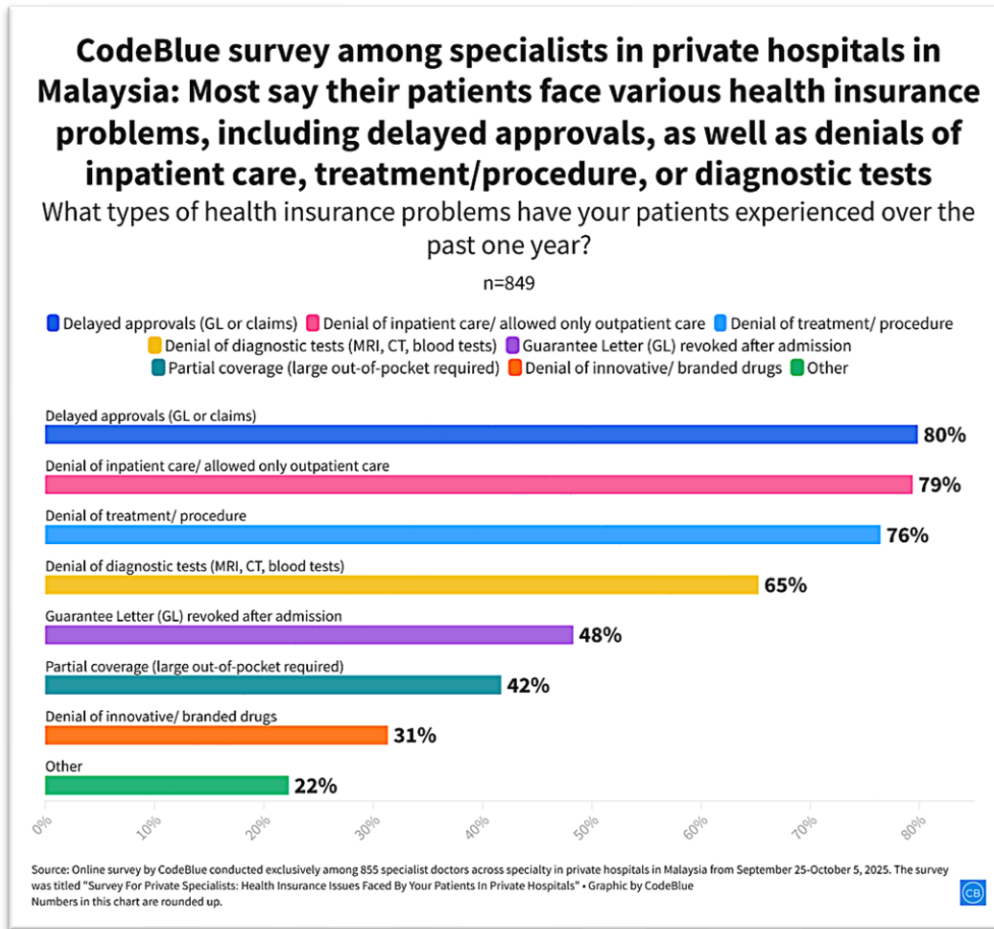
Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	98.60%	843
No	1.40%	12
Total Respondents: 855		

Question 2



Answered: 849 | Skipped: 6

Answer Choices	Responses	
Delayed approvals (GL or claims)	79.86%	678
Denial of inpatient care/ allowed only outpatient care	79.39%	674
Denial of treatment/ procedure	76.44%	649
Denial of diagnostic tests (MRI, CT blood tests)	65.25%	554
Guarantee Letter (GL) revoked after admission	48.29%	410
Partial coverage (large out-of-pocket required)	41.70%	354
Denial of innovative/ branded drugs	31.33%	266

Other (please specify)	22.26%	189
Total Respondents: 849		

#	Other (please specify)
1	██████ refuses to cover for patients of mine under individual cashless benefits
2	Using KKM's name and giving all sorts of rules to avoid payment even though is a public holiday, example wound debridement in MVA case
3	Repetitively writing why procedure required GA not LA when patients insist too painful under LA when the most important care of patients revolve around pain free surgery
4	Dictating clinical management by not allowing standard treatment protocols
5	Need tissue diagnosis before admission for excision of lesion. Impossible as tissue diagnosis already needs admission and usually full lesion excised on first admission.
6	Dismissing patient choice of hospitals
7	Denial of outpatient/daycare cancer care
8	Asking many questions as if they are the specialist.
9	Cover only 1 doctor when the patient needs 2 or more doctors eg need physician, neurosurgeon and and gynaecologist but cover only granted for the physician
10	Final GL was revoked after everything was informed and approved
11	not cover Delirium referral and management, not cover osteoporosis investigation and management
12	denied of rehabilitation physician management
13	Procedure mentioned in IGL, however was deferred upon FGL as "amount under clarification, please do not collect from patient"
14	The approver doesn't understand about procedures
15	Irrelevant GL Approval Queries
16	Allowing only 1 day coverage, then need to write appeal letter for further extension!

- 17 Only daycare surgery, cannot stay overnight even for elderly and stay far away (more than 40 km) eg hospital in Ipoh PT stays in gerik , all the above , should allow to choose more than one
- 18 Denial of guarantee for treating illness in a pregnant woman even though the illness has nothing to do her pregnancy.
- 19 1. GL not approved without reason given, despite detailed justification given 2. Queries repeated over and over again. 3. Delay in review if replies to their queries beyond the date and time scheduled for admission to hospital. 4. Grammatically incorrect querie which seems to indicate that consultant specialist responses seem to be replied by clerical staff.
- 20 Ask for money later after audit of last year dispensed claims. [REDACTED] did an audit for selected doctor on 2024 and then if then highlighted some charges. If disagreed , ask doctor to refund money which previously approved back to then
- 21 2 years insurance waiting period.
- 22 Demand for further investigations which are not indicated.
- 23 Not accepting evidence based medicine. Eg. Asking patient to pay for Bioflor, a yeast probiotic proven useful for acute infective diarrhoea
- 24 Repeated questions about hospitalisation applications - often asking the same questions over & over gain
- 25 Repeated time consuming QA
- 26 Refused Hyaluronic acid injections
- 27 Ridiculous QA for basic procedure and even life threatening procedures which needs urgent op
- 28 Query on underlying condition and refused GL when it was a clear cut infection like acute sinusitis
- 29 Only cover OD round
- 30 Refuse payment for dressing, STO
- 31 Denied holistic approach to treatment of patients but only cover treatment for a specific admission diagnosis. Only covers 2 ward visits n contentious for after hours consultation charges as if patient only needs office hours treatment advice.
- 32 Too many to list.
- 33 approved on initial GL but final GL not approved on some procedures that were previously approved
- 34 None

- 35 Maxillofacial issues which Insurance company relate to Dental problems
- 36 Request doctor to discharge patient after certain days (saying patient in other hospitals usually stay only X amount of days for the similar diagnosis)
- 37 Every conceivable problems from these unscrupulous insurance companies. Eg late approval of insurance after asking repeated questionnaires which are drafted by uneducated people, hence delays in admission, investigations and treatments. Declining payments after initially approving etc. etc...
- 38 Too many queries & unwanted questions
- 39 Claiming pre existing disease and denied admission
- 40 Repeated queries on procedures done even though it was all written on the pre-admission forms
- 41 required investigation report before issue GL
- 42 Requirement of referral letter from GPs, No more than 2 admissions within 6 months period
- 43 Request for ridiculous tests pre GL approval. Example admitting for viral fever with severe dehydration. Insurance company request for lipid profile and blood sugar which is irrelevant to the diagnosis.
- 44 refuse to pay doctor
- 45 Denial of proven tests/treatment which is minimal in cost - dietician review, spirometry test , overnight sleep study
- 46 GA EXCLUSION
- 47 Denial of reasonable and justified treatment fees to doctors
- 48 Denied elective admission on sunday/ public holiday for surgery the next day(eg.Monday/ weekday)
- 49 Many justifiable procedures denied coverage and self interpret what should and should not be chargeable
- 50 Specifying that treatment fee cannot be claimed from patient (pay out of pocket)
- 51 denial to cover full charges after admission on the excuse that the extra procedure found necessary during operation was not needed as decided by the insurance staff and insisting that doctor do not charge the patient .
- 52 Ask unnecessary and illogical questions
- 53 Perioperative Pain management - catheter insertion for regional analgesia for complex surgery . Regional anaesthesia/analgesia is for patient safety and care. Should allow to charge separately from anaesthesia code.

- 54 A whole lot of deferment letters asking to justify certain procedures. An example is asking why sedation was needed for an elective cardioversion. Simple common sense dictates that no one will enjoy a 100J of energy passing through their body. Yet, a deferment was sent.
- 55 Request investigation which is not required to diagnose disease
- 56 Non claim items of common surgical adjuncts like Tissel, Floseal, drill bits, etc.
- 57 Denial of GL for condition such acne vulgaris which to the insurers, it is deemed a cosmetic issue, Denial of GL for condition that occurred acutely but insurance policy is less than 2 years, Medications covered during post hospitalization period
- 58 Removal of cashless facility without explanation
- 59 Inappropriate suggestions of clinical management to avoid payment of claims. This is the most common. [REDACTED] is a repeat offender.
- 60 Denial of coverage
- 61 Denial to be referred to another consultant
- 62 Reject anesthesia charge for 2 different op at 2 different time for same patient
- 63 They often do refuse to cover referrals to other relevant specialties
- 64 Asking simple illogical questions
- 65 Delay in approval for investigationa
- 66 Multiple queries, every few days, on reasons for continued admission
- 67 Finding ways to deny claims as under not covered
- 68 Denied palliative care
- 69 1 refused to talk with of dispute. when upgrade policy after many years paying becomes new policy. unable to get GL after office hours even for emergency cases. when an emergency cases especially life threatening cases been referred from another private hospital cannot get GL until the referring hospital have finnalize the bill, just imagine after office hours and long weekend... any many many many more real cases
- 70 Demand of return of paid sum months later as suddenly claimed procedure not covered
- 71 All of the above

72	Insurers decide that the procedure is for cosmetic purpose
73	1) insurance denying AOH charges by doctors despite it being an emergency presentation and the case was done AOH. only doctors portion of the AOH charges are queried. But the insurers are happy to pay the hospital for AOH Services 2) Insurers denying codes for certain procedures (eg PCA code) or asking doctors to charge a cheaper code for certain procedure (eg venepuncture instead of IV cannulation and infusion)
74	Questioning surgical decisions
75	denied coverage for acquired neoplasm and not cosmetic reason
76	Patients are denied cashless facility coverage when consulting a well-known consultant or specialist.
77	Want to show abnormal ECG or Cardiac enzymes to get GL
78	Denied rehabilitation treatment
79	Denied for surgery under GA only approved under LA
80	Trying to change the amount claimed
81	Interfere with treatments plan, for example insist patient should be treated as day surgery when it is not suitable
82	Telling drs to use LA instead of GA
83	Procedure needs GA but insurance insist on LA
84	Refusal to pay for certain procedures
85	None
86	Insurance Agent question why an open fracture case need to be done after hour (it was done in after hour because of the presentation time of patient to casualty and delayed approval of insurance from the agent)
87	USUALLY THE ITEMS NOT COVERED COME AS SURPRISE TO BOTH PATIENTS AND DOCTORS
88	Refusal of payment for complex procedures not listed in fees schedule
89	Unnecessary delay in approval by asking frivolous secondary questions. Also trying to advise the doctors what is the best option of treatment
90	Ridiculous request & reasoning by insurance companies, e.g: cholecystectomy under Daycare.

- 91 Denied of a procedure done intra operatively
- 92 Case reviewed by inexperienced insurance staff
- 93 denial of drugs that might prevent progression of disease
- 94 unable to claim for rehabilitation services ie rehabilitation physician's consult and therapies
- 95 Denial of rehabilitation
- 96 Denied treatment for CIN SAYING THAT HPV RELATED
- 97 Insurance coverage declined for dressing which requires doctors to do as part of wound care to provide optimal healing
- 98 Mostly problems with [REDACTED]
- 99 Multiple irrelevant deferments of GL
- 100 GL approved but after surgery and discharge, denied.
- 101 Multiple deferments.
- 102 Initial approved gl, post op not covered .
- 103 Repeated queries & forms to fill
- 104 Making clinical management decisions whilst issuing GL
- 105 only issue GL for surgeries as dayward, not in pateint
- 106 Daycare instead of hospitalisation for pt in pain, dehydration, vomiting etc
- 107 Insurance covers only generic drugs. Some insurance listing only selected hospitals as "[REDACTED] Hospital" for cashless admissions, while sidelining others to pay first-and-claim later schemes.
- 108 Policy says cover accident fall trauma within 24hours of policy taken but thisnot true..2..insured person got driving license or not non of their problem
- 109 Denial of second doctor (referral to other specialty)
- 110 GL deferred after HPE showed skin lesion pathology

- 111 Suggesting tests to be done despite not being ordered
- 112 Querying standard codes and interpreting codes their own way and then lobbying the MOH to change codes
- 113 Denial of palliative care (underlying diagnosis of advance/metastatic cancer with cancer pain)
- 114 Patient admitted under different discipline--> referral to Neurologist denied.
- 115 Only daycare admission allowed instead of ward in patient requiring Iv methyl prednisolone for 3 days
- 116 1. Excessive QA demands before and after procedures consume valuable clinical time, diverting focus from patient care. The administrative burden and cost of handling QA far exceed the procedure fees and are not reimbursable. 2. QA questions are often vague, poorly constructed, and lack two-way communication. Requests for clarification are routinely ignored. 3. Insurance reviewers appear to override clinical judgment, making diagnostic decisions without basis. Despite two specialist referrals and my own assessment ruling out congenital causes, the claim was denied for being congenital— with no explanation provided when queried.
- 117 treatment plan dictated by the company
- 118 Asking repetitive question for GL application
- 119 GL withdrawn after HPE review
- 120 Admission for sinusitis or epistaxis needing CT scan report prior to GL approval.
- 121 Constant harassment ie endless questions which have all already been covered in the GL application
- 122 asking illogical questions
- 123 Already approve and procedure or medication given. 1 month later the insurance audit the case and reject
- 124 Denial of procedure on the basis of radiological report, not on clinical symptoms or surgeon's recommendation
- 125 Limits to 1 day gls. Repeated irrelevant questionnaires. with [REDACTED] very difficult to add procedures or refer urgently to colleagues
- 126 insisting that I change the procedure to a lesser cost one
- 127 Only daycare coverage for surgery that requires inpatient admission.
- 128 allowing only day care for procedures which require in-patient care eg excision haemorrhoidectomy

- 129 Some doctors are being pressured to discharge early, admit daycare for painful procedures, and threatened to be blacklisted if u don't follow. Lots of pressure created on doctors
- 130 Blood transfusions not covered, interference in clinical management
- 131 Unable to admit pt with fractures even if pt is suffering in pain
- 132 not allowing for MIS even if patient pays the difference
- 133 Initial GL approval for procedures revoked after procedure completed.
- 134 Skin lesions like moles which may be malignant but unknown until biopsied. If the pathology report is benign the cover is revoked and pt has to pay even if initial GL was approved
- 135 Denial the operation because of high BMI (Obesity). Majority of patients are obese nowadays. They presented with severe GERD not responded to medications. Hence, fundoplication is the best choice of treatment for them. But GL was declined due to BMI
- 136 Demand rebate on doctors MMA procedure fees rebate up to 20 %. And doctors need to pay up 30 % to private hospital management after the left 80% fees . It's fees splitting which is unethical under ethics . But insurance and private hospital management deem as business and earning by them .
- 137 OGD denied despite obvious clinical symptoms of reflux esophagitis
- 138 Repeat deferment despite initial approval
- 139 Repeatedly questioned on need for same medication prescribed for serious illness.
- 140 Quote guidelines but not clinical judgement
- 141 Denial of initial GL as no MRI/ CT scan done/ report available during application for initial GL
- 142 Clawback of payments when payment has already been done
- 143 Refusal to pay months to a year later after treatment and billing
- 144 Agents convinced the patient to use their insurance although it was not matured yet or requested HPE result prior approval which clearly absurd as approval is needed for surgery to be done then only HPE result can be obtained
- 145 Asking for tumor pathology report before surgery is performed
- 146 Plenty of medicine not covered though indicated

- 147 repeated, unnecessary QAs
- 148 Unnecessary and repeated question from insurance
- 149 Refusal to cover medication like SC GCSF or prophylactic antimicrobials/ pre-medications despite being compulsory as part of chemo protocol
- 150 Ordered respiratory panel, told if negative result patient have to pay, if positive result insurance will cover. Referred to second doctor for subspecialised care, insurance allowed only 1 review.
- 151 Asking to unnecessarily repeat tests - eg already well documented influenza positive from referring GP but still wants hospital to repeat. Asking to do unnecessary test - asking for CXR, even though clinically already diagnosed Pneumonia.
- 152 Insistence after an operation that the coverage has been denied because the condition is "congenital" when in actual fact it is not. When one is really to ponder on this deeply, the payers can always argue that everything is "congenital" to start off with, as everything may be determined at birth.
- 153 Initial investigation approved eg.allergy test, post discharge patient informed test not covered
- 154 Facing a lot of nonsensical questions to justify investigations or treatment
- 155 Initially agreeing to cover but after discharge deny payment to doctor
- 156 Certain disease not allowed for in patient care pneumonia dengue
- 157 Denied treatment for procedures done by overlapping specialty
- 158 denied treatment even after send in an appeal letter.
- 159 refusal to cover laser treatment for hemorrhoids
- 160 Denial of claim on 'pay and claim'
- 161 Refusal to pay consultation fees of co managing colleagues for patients with complex multisystemic conditions
- 162 Refusal to pay for doctors procedures
- 163 Denied of PET scan who is diagnosed as cancer
- 164 Repeated same questions numerous times
- 165 Denial of full payment after discharge

-
- 166 Pre GL approved, after discharged, not approved
- 167 Not accepting the genetic test which becomes essential nowadays
- 168 Dictating terms regarding management
- 169 Asking nonsensical management like why using digital technology and explain why need to cannulate patient.
- 170 Limited the number of times the doctor is allowed to visit the patient the most bizarre being once only. How are you meant to deliver the reports to the patient after the initial consultation?
- 171 Denial of specialist charges for previously accepted procedures like oral chemotherapy.
- 172 Totally irrelevant queries
- 173 Patient are not aware that insurance policy do not allow GL within first two years
- 174 Dictate to change code of procedures
- 175 Asking unnecessary medical questions eventually denied guarantee
- 176 Deny approval second doctor
- 177 Questioning and dictating choice of drugs (can only use generic) and post op pain management practices
- 178 Needed multiple times Q&A before approval
- 179 Request for confidential documents
- 180 Denial of standard surgical procedure as recommended by clinical guidelines
- 181 Denial of certain implants even though it's MDA approved
- 182 insurance companies do not cover psychiatry treatment either during inpatient referral from other specialities nor outpatient
- 183 Some targeted oral therapy approved under inpatient that need to continue on during outpatient post discharge was told not covered as discharged medicine. Inly cover for inpatient.
- 184 Denied new method of treatment
- 185 Insurance gives outpatient GL for clear inpatient indication like high dose radioiodine therapy

186 Deferments for silly reasons like is a 74 yr old lady pregnant??

187 patient has an acute condition but is denied as policy is less than 2 years - patient has no idea of this 2 year waiting / cooling off period yrs old

188 Not paying for important surgical procedures

189 Insurance company refusal to cover newer technology treatment such as Water Vapor therapy for BPH and Robotic Surgery

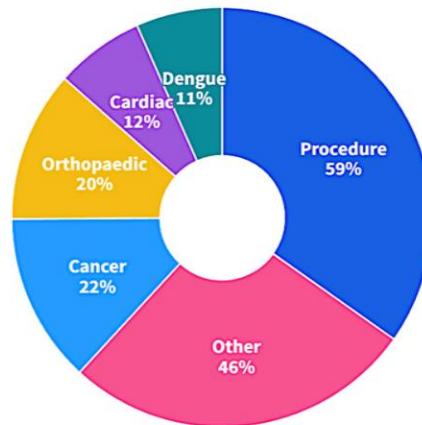
Question 3

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: Nearly 6 in 10 say their patients face problems with health insurance coverage for procedures

For your patients who experienced problems with their health insurance, what treatment were they seeking coverage for?

n=831

Procedure Other Cancer Orthopaedic Cardiac Dengue



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 831 | Skipped: 24

Answer Choices	Responses	
Procedure	58.72%	488
Other (please specify)	45.61%	379
Cancer	22.02%	183
Orthopaedic	19.61%	163
Cardiac	11.55%	96
Dengue	11.19%	93
Total Respondents: 831		

#	Other (please specify)
1	Traumatic wounds , burns
2	Virtually every problem in clinical Medicine!
3	Critical care treatments
4	Bronchitis /age
5	Headache
6	Biologic therapy and advance therapy
7	Esp for biopsies to confirm cancer
8	Emergency surgeries
9	Diagnostic Imaging MRI
10	AGE, simple fracture
11	Streamlining cataract Surgery ; but not all cataracts are same n may cause complication if a prior procedure not done
12	Excision or swellings asking for code excision in case it was cancerous to avoid repetitive surgery and emotional and physical trauma
13	Admission when no iv medication is required
14	Trauma. Treatment not covered. Follow up dressing not covered by insurance if there is a charge for follow up consultation.
15	Renal failure/ dialysis
16	Supportive care for cancer
17	Lipoma excision
18	Bronchopneumonia
19	infection (UTI, influenza, bronchitis, non tuberculous Mycobacterium infection, disseminated Staphylococcus infection, Extremely resistant Gram negative bacteria bone and sft tissue infection following MVA, spine, knee, anemia,

- 20 Renal stones, headache
- 21 Abdominal Pain
- 22 Pneumonia, acute gastroenteritis, pyelonephritis, intra abdominal infection
- 23 Non-coverage of multiple respiratory pathogen panel test (eg. Biofire) Respiratory tract infection pathogen not identified with influenza/ Covid/ RSV rapid test.
- 24 eye surgeries / admission
- 25 influenza infection
- 26 Delirium therapy, investigations and interventions for falls prevention in older patients, osteoporosis investigation and treatment when patients admitted for fragility fractures
- 27 Daycare admission for diagnostic, dynamic and confirmatory test
- 28 multiple background of cases resulting into disability
- 29 Anesthesia
- 30 Pediatrics
- 31 Plastic and reconstructive surgery
- 32 Infections
- 33 Gynae procedures
- 34 Benign skin lesion and skin cancer
- 35 Ent related
- 36 pyrexia of unknown origin and part of the workup is a rheumatic screen
- 37 Almost all Internal Medicine related illnesses
- 38 Denied for ENT examination payment or coverage
- 39 Gynaecological

-
- 40 Endoscopy
 - 41 Illness involving a pregnant woman
 - 42 Paediatric infection
 - 43 Paediatric age group (especially early infancy up to 2 years of age) requiring operation
 - 44 Oculoplastic especially ptosis
 - 45 Infection
 - 46 Medical
 - 47 Iron deficiency
 - 48 Abdominal pain
 - 49 Cataract surgery
 - 50 bronchitis, influenza A, gastroenteritis esp [REDACTED]
 - 51 Endoscopy
 - 52 Prostate issue, circumcision for phimosis/balanitis etc
 - 53 Accurate diagnostic tests
 - 54 Ophthalmology
 - 55 Investigation- PCR test
 - 56 Asthma attack, pneumonia
 - 57 Fever, diarrhoea, dengue, age, viral disease
 - 58 Intracranial bleed
 - 59 Endoscopy

60	Various medical conditions
61	Infection
62	Neurology related
63	Bronchitis
64	Gynaecology
65	Iron supplements, IV fluids for viral fever
66	Respiratory
67	Pneumonia, acute Gastroenteritis, influenza
68	Infectious diseases that required admissions
69	Large fibroids with ureteric compression
70	Infection related illness
71	infection
72	Admission for observation required for infants and young children who only needs conservative management.
73	General surgical procedure
74	maxillofacial trauma, TMJ disorders/pain, dental trauma, dental management example infections, tumours,
75	Infection
76	Respiratory diseases, medical diseases
77	OGDS abd colonoscopy
78	Maxillofacial issues
79	Referrals from other consultant when problem of my specialty was detected

80	AGE with dehydration
81	AGE, BRONCHITIS, PNEUMONIA
82	ENT PROCEDURES
83	Spine,back pain
84	Acute infections
85	Gynaecology
86	Gastroenterology
87	Gynecological treatments both medical n sutgical
88	Bronchitis
89	Gynaecological issues
90	Acute sinusitis , acute vestibulitis
91	Gastroenteritis, Gastritis, GI bleed
92	emergency surgery - appendicitis, incarcerated hernia
93	Acute Pain
94	Non coverage for certain proven standard therapy (e.g., AGE - refused to cover Bioflor as treatment and sometimes Zinc therapy, refused to cover for topical therapy for eczema)
95	Inpatient care for infections, dehydration due to various causes
96	obstructive sleep apnoea
97	Advanced investigations
98	Arrhythmias
99	Bronchitis. Pneumonia

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- 100 Blood tests and investigations
 - 101 Biologic treatment
 - 102 Pneumonia
 - 103 General anaesthesia not covered for certain procedures or surgeries
 - 104 Dermatology
 - 105 Histopathology testing - Immunohistochemistry staining To rule out malignancy. Insurance will not cover if results turn out no malignancy. But how are we supposed to know if it cancerous or not without performing this test.
 - 106 Comorbidities management
 - 107 operations
 - 108 Spine and pain intervention procedures
 - 109 Palliative Care, medications for pain and symptoms management at the end of life
 - 110 Perioperative pain management combine general anathesia with regional analgesic (patien safety for opioid sparing, and enhanced recovery after surgery)
 - 111 Scoliosis surgery for Idiopathic Scoliosis patients (Cobb angle > 45 degrees)
 - 112 Gynaecology
 - 113 Investigation to rule out diseases
 - 114 Dermatology condition
 - 115 Advance therapies / BIOLOGIC anti rheumatic drugs for various form of systemic autoimmune diseases
 - 116 ENT, Opthal, Neurosurgery, Gynaecology
 - 117 Chronic illness- Diabetes etc.
 - 118 Neurosurgery and Neurospine
 - 119 Genetic testing

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- 120 Abdominal pain, pregnancy related issues such as vomiting in pregnancy, miscarriage, pregnancy coverage, vaginal discharge - extensive questions about whether it is an STD, colposcopy
 - 121 Sle - ivig
 - 122 Pain management
 - 123 Endoscopy, gastrointestinal problems
 - 124 Endocrine dynamic test as inpatients
 - 125 Thyroid and diabetes care
 - 126 Palliative care
 - 127 Brain tumour and degenerative spinal disease
 - 128 Pediatric surgery cases
 - 129 emergency cases
 - 130 Endoscopy, surgery, daycare biopsy
 - 131 Abnormal uterine bleeding
 - 132 Surgical procedures
 - 133 Bronchopneumonia
 - 134 CRPS
 - 135 Surgical procedures eg: large lipoma, breast lumps etc
 - 136 Various surgeries
 - 137 Dermatology
 - 138 Severe dust mite induced Allergic rhinitis
 - 139 Skin lesion and soft tissue reconstruction

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- 140 It's insurers specific. Not procedure specific
 - 141 Plastic surgery
 - 142 Endoscopy
 - 143 neoplams, painful contracture scars
 - 144 Immunosuppressant for nephritis, GL denial for high risk kidney biopsy that mandate overnight observation post procedure
 - 145 Medications
 - 146 Rehabilitation
 - 147 Peads patient to be under GA for eye surgery.
 - 148 Reconstruction after cancer extirpation, burns dressings, management of burn scar problems
 - 149 All
 - 150 Rehabilitation - speech therapy, audiology, occupational therapy, rehabilitation medicine follow up clinic
 - 151 Condition requiring rehabilitation
 - 152 Rehabilitation
 - 153 Ophthalmology
 - 154 Stroke
 - 155 Patient who are pregnant but suffering illness not relating to pregnancy such as appendicitis
 - 156 None
 - 157 Breast
 - 158 Gynaecology cases
 - 159 Pneumonia

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- 160 Acute infection
 - 161 Gynaecological illness
 - 162 Denial of antireflux surgery despite endoscopy & manometry confirmation. Insurance company said it was weight related illness.
 - 163 rehabilitation
 - 164 Admitted for problems like bronchopneumonia/asthma/AGE with dehydration but GL denied after incidental finding of iron deficiency anaemia
 - 165 CIN
 - 166 Influenza , bronchiolitis
 - 167 Excision of lesions
 - 168 Imagings
 - 169 Corneal ulcer requiring close monitoring but no intravenous injection. Diagnostic test if result turns out normal.
 - 170 Whats labelled as "congenital"
 - 171 Spine surgeries
 - 172 Respiratory infection, gastroenteritis, influenza
 - 173 Ptosis correction, cataract surgery
 - 174 Pain management
 - 175 Lung disease
 - 176 Inpatient medical treatment
 - 177 Acute febrile illness
 - 178 Urology
 - 179 Length of hospital stay , necessity for admission

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- 180 Mycoplasma pneumonia with respiratory distress
 - 181 Medical including pneumonia and bronchitis
 - 182 Medical illness like DM, INFLUENZA
 - 183 medications intravenous, infusion
 - 184 Adenoid, Tonsil, Sinusitis disease
 - 185 Pneumonia/bronchitis
 - 186 Abdominal pain
 - 187 Gastritis, appendicitis, lumps in covered areas of the body
 - 188 Infections
 - 189 Respiratory infection
 - 190 gynae
 - 191 Ent related
 - 192 Benign dermal swelling that cause problem but rejected due to cosmetic reason despite lesion not on the face
 - 193 Infection, asthma, dizziness, stroke
 - 194 Medical cases like bronchitis, prolong cough, severe vertigo
 - 195 Jaw tumour/cyst
 - 196 Denial of palliative care (management of pain and other symptoms related to the diagnosis of advance cancer)
 - 197 Neurology cases eg Migraines, Strokes, Epilepsy, Uncertain Diagnosis, or as part of multidisciplinary conditions
 - 198 Pneumonia, bronchitis
 - 199 For IV pain control for backpain/neck pain

200	Rheumatology ... autoimmune
201	Urology
202	Ophthalmology
203	Gynae
204	Gastroenteritis, gastritis, abdominal pain
205	Medical: Influenza infection, Acute wheeze
206	influenzae with dehydration, temp 39 degrees Celsius, inflammatory arthritis for biologic therapy
207	blood transfusion iron infusion for severe anemia
208	Sepsis, stroke, septic shock, uncontrolled DM, hypertensive crisis, influenza with pneumoni
209	Recommended prophylactic operations like bilateral salpingoophorectomy in menopausal women undergoing hysterectomy , which is based on scientific evidence. Some diagnostic procedures which are part of the treatment for the patients' medical complaints
210	Spine surgical procedures like extreme lumbar interbody fusion, radiofrequency ablation of facet joint
211	Biologics
212	Medical complications in pregnancy
213	Children surgery
214	Ent
215	ACUTE BRONCHITIS AND ACUTE PNEUMONIA(WERE NOT COVERED FOR ADMISSION
216	Viral Fever , URTI , Bronchopneumonia
217	Any medical illness
218	Infections. Abdominal pains. Gallstone disease. Many endoscopy
219	Diabetes medication such as GLP1RA weekly injections, recognised in treatment guidelines

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- 220 most ophthalmology cases are denied admission (even GA) because they insist that eye cases can only be done in daycare
- 221 Hormonal therapies for therapeutic purposes
- 222 Spine
- 223 Neurosurgery
- 224 Endoscopy - gastroscopy, colonoscopy
- 225 Haemorrhoids, appendicit
- 226 Admission for IV antibiotics, IV hydration
- 227 otolaryngology sinusitis pt less than 2 years of insurance.
- 228 Endoscopy
- 229 Gynaecology issues
- 230 Spine, neurosurgery
- 231 Endoscopy
- 232 Vertigo. Excision of ear and oral lesion.
- 233 Paediatric Medical Care - RTI
- 234 Respiratory infections, gastrointestinal infections
- 235 Thyroid Eye Disease, Strabismus
- 236 Respiratory illnesses- bronchitis,
- 237 Oral lesions that require biopsy/excision, temporomandibular joint disorder
- 238 symptoms, which imaging is indicated. PT was denied admission unless imaging was done and abnormal.
- 239 Pneumonia

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- 240 Peritoneal dialysis
 - 241 Medical treatment
 - 242 Acute infectio
 - 243 Infective case need iv antibiotic
 - 244 Fundus angiograms , Uveitis work up and management
 - 245 Rheumatology - inflammatory arthritis
 - 246 MRI
 - 247 Bone marrow biopsy and it's associated necessary tests
 - 248 Knee injections
 - 249 AGE, Pneumonia, Influenza
 - 250 Dermatology
 - 251 Severe headache, back pain (patient has difficulty getting up from bed),
 - 252 Perioperative diabetes care
 - 253 Psychiatry
 - 254 Endometriosis (endometrioma)
 - 255 Surgery
 - 256 Medical treatment for acne
 - 257 autoimmune diseases
 - 258 General surgery
 - 259 Pediatric infection related illness

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- 260 Biologic therapy
 - 261 hernia, GERD
 - 262 Normal illnesses
 - 263 Paediatric infections
 - 264 Brain tumor and spine diseases
 - 265 Sinusitis infection
 - 266 Influenza
 - 267 Gynecological
 - 268 Neurological condition
 - 269 Psychiatry treatment
 - 270 Investigation procedure
 - 271 Prolong pneumonia
 - 272 acute Infective cases
 - 273 Pneumonia
 - 274 Headache
 - 275 Dermatology
 - 276 Operation admission
 - 277 Special ENT Surgery like RFA of Inferior Turbinates
 - 278 Rheumatic diseases
 - 279 Sports Medicine

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- 280 Autoimmune disease
 - 281 Bronchitis
 - 282 Endoscopy, IV hydration and Medications for AGE
 - 283 General health condition
 - 284 Even serious conditions like major GI bleed
 - 285 Influenza/AGE
 - 286 vertigo patients is denied for further MRI imaging TRO any intracranial cause
 - 287 Endocrinologist
 - 288 Blood transfusion
 - 289 viral fever
 - 290 MRI/ CT scan/ PETCT
 - 291 Spine related illnesses
 - 292 Influenza , Pneumonia
 - 293 Pneumonia
 - 294 operation for excision
 - 295 Surgeries
 - 296 Psychiatry
 - 297 Neurology issues esp migraine
 - 298 iv medications
 - 299 peptic ulcer disease, hemorrhoids

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- 300 Ent
 - 301 Accident, Infection
 - 302 Autoimmune condition
 - 303 Myocarditis, for urgent mri cardiac,
 - 304 Surgery
 - 305 Anaesthetic's
 - 306 Neurology
 - 307 sinusitis, FESS
 - 308 AGE, PNEUMONIA
 - 309 Brain and spine
 - 310 outpatient investigations and follow-up care
 - 311 Drug treatment
 - 312 Sepsis
 - 313 Scope
 - 314 Imaging
 - 315 Spine surgery
 - 316 emergency surgery for appendicitis, peritonitis, abscesses
 - 317 Pain management : laser , rfa, ha gel, prp
 - 318 Gynaecology surgery
 - 319 Pediatric illness bronchitis fever

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- 320 Pneumonia
 - 321 Illnesses like food poisoning which they deem just needs out pt care
 - 322 stroke, TIA, epilepsy
 - 323 Surgical procedures
 - 324 IV antibiotics
 - 325 Severe acute abdominal pain
 - 326 Severe maxillofacial trauma
 - 327 Gynaecological conditions
 - 328 Inflammatory bowel disease
 - 329 rheumatology
 - 330 Infections
 - 331 Benign tumor
 - 332 Monoclonal antibody such as rituximab
 - 333 Medical - including infections like sepsis, pneumonia, NCD complications renal failure and diabetes complications
 - 334 Ophthalmology
 - 335 Mainly diagnostic Radiology MRI
 - 336 Endoscopy
 - 337 Autoimmune. Diseases
 - 338 Influenza, AGE, pneumonia
 - 339 Not specific to any field

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- 340 Pneumonia
 - 341 lung problems
 - 342 GnRh analogue
 - 343 Skin problem
 - 344 Paediatrics
 - 345 Neurosurgery
 - 346 Surgery
 - 347 H pylori Gastritis
 - 348 Infection - swab for Respiratory panel
 - 349 Breathing related
 - 350 Biological drugs
 - 351 Fever, Respiratory problem, gastroenteritis
 - 352 Diabetes, thyroid
 - 353 Need for tongue based biopsy under GA, denied
 - 354 Hepatitis
 - 355 Shoulder pain
 - 356 Endometriosis
 - 357 approved for hysteroscope dd&c for menorrhagia but when additional test added .i.e pap smear , insurance decline for procedure approved earlier
 - 358 Normal paediatric illnesses something like AGE, chest infection, gastritis etc
 - 359 Urology stones

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- 360 All category
- 361 Pterygium excision with graft but insurance refuse to cover for the tissue glue used
- 362 Gynaecology
- 363 Psychiatry (depression, anxiety, insomnia, somatic symptoms, etc)
- 364 Gynae related investigation
- 365 IV Medication and Ophthalmology services
- 366 Critical care or ICU care
- 367 Surgery and Endoscopy
- 368 Cancer treatment related complications including infection bleeding
- 369 Follow up for cancer
- 370 Kidney failure
- 371 Paediatrics
- 372 Urine tray infection with multi drug resistant organism , sepsis
- 373 Gastritis, sinusitis,pneumonia, tonsilitis
- 374 Medication
- 375 Paediatric patients who need admission cos they need frequent procedures like nebulisation, or just close observation for potential deterioration
- 376 neurological
- 377 1. Jaw tumour - these tumour are classified as odontogenic tumour that requires excision of tumour and jaw reconstruction was repeatedly and systematicly denied as dental treatment. However, the treatment requires is resection and reconstruction.
- 378 Lower respiratory tract infection
- 379 Pain intervention

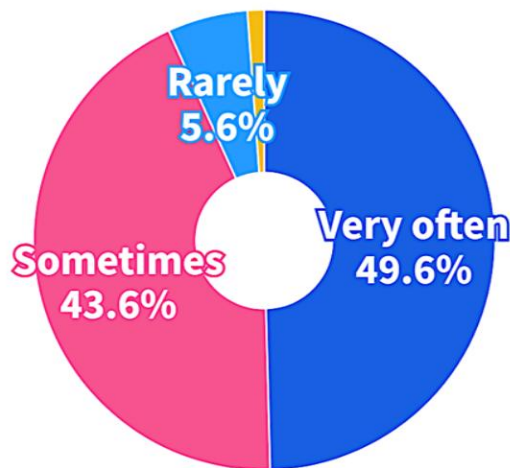
Question 4

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 99% perceive interference from health insurance companies with their clinical decisions

How often do insurance issues interfere with your clinical decision-making?

n=855

Very often Sometimes Rarely Never



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Very often	49.59%	424
Sometimes	43.63%	373
Rarely	5.61%	48
Never	1.17%	10
Please provide one example of how insurers interfered with your clinical decisions – optional		290
Total Respondents: 855		

Note: the option to write an example was only inserted in the survey after the submission of 389 responses to this question without that option, as CodeBlue inadvertently left it out earlier.

#	Please provide one example of how insurers interfered with your clinical decisions – optional
1	Unable to do tests that may affect the treatment
2	Many times they approve a diagnosis and procedure only to deny it once treatment is complete . A specific mechanism should be put in place so this never happens
3	Denied cardiac output monitoring/ intramuscular hypothermia/ cytokine filtration
4	Why patient was intubated when patient is in obvious respiratory failure
5	Cannot admit cos no iv medication, incessant questions related to routine lab investigations that are indicated
6	Denied used of antiviral for severe adenovirus pneumonia simply because there is no local guideline, denied coverage for CMV and EBV PCR tests for fever of unknown origin, denied coverage for admission for patientents and stool PCR tests
7	Denial of claim when incidental findings of normal variants, physiological or congenital lesions. Rejected
8	When neuro-imaging combined with phasing was required
9	Delay in either ERCP or lap choke approval when both are required.
10	Isolated elevated high sensitivity Troponin I. Investigations done refused to be covered when final diagnosis is not due to acute coronary syndrome.
11	I still offer the best treatment for the patient, it is up to the patient whether they want to self pay or not. If they are unable to pay, then I will either offer what is affordable for the patient or refer out to government hospital
12	Insurance decline for blood test, respiratory viral test, dynamic endocrine test for screening and confirmatory test, CT scan
13	need to plan for outpatient rehabilitation, limiting improvement can be achieved with intensive inpatient rehabilitation
14	Insist on daycare admission for major surgery. Cannot admit on Sunday for Monday op
15	Burns dressings under GA as daycase due to pain, TPA decline as “outpatient”
16	Denied coverage stating that patient doesn't need in patient treatment
17	Dictate what procedure can be charge. Closure post wide excision using local flap often denied but in my plastic surgery practise it is mandatory.
18	Pt came with cervical spondolysis but refuses meiosis
19	Patient requires pain procedure, but only approved as outptn

20	To use ONLY generic drugs
21	Questioning important procedures that helps alleviating pain and discomfort
22	Not covering patients who are being admitted on Sunday for surgery on Mondays.
23	Must do as daycare cannot inpt eg hospital in Ipoh PT stays in tapah or gerik
24	Inpatient to daycare , questioning the indication for surgery and need for prolonged stay
25	Better medication not covered by insurance, so have to use the other option if patient not affordable
26	Delay approval of appendicectomy for acute appendicitis. Reason is no CT done
27	Declining GL despite detailed justification, especially for children less than 2 years requiring surgery.
28	ECG not applicable due to no history of IHD previously
29	providing adequate pain relief perioperatively
30	1. They always disallow ptosis claims , argue it is a cosmetic despite we should then photo and visual field which clearly it is a functional issue which affect vision. 2 so also have a case with a mass in a nose require biopsy and was declined by insurance claiming it is a cosmetic issue
31	A patient had a neck abscess with matted lymphnode which cect neck confirm the need TRO TB. Tb Pcr was sent but insurance denied the claim as saying unnecessary investigation
32	Rejected a claim for a justified admission
33	Cap on insurance coverage limits intensity of therapy
34	Patient with typical angina pain with negative exercise stress test refused coverage.
35	denying payment for surveillance colonoscopy following colon cancer surgery
36	I need to answer up to 20 questions when applying to do upper and lowerscopes with one particular insurance [REDACTED]
37	They refused coverage for genetic testing which would assist in decision making of systemic therapy
38	Challenging the charging codes

- 39 Request for imaging although not needed for that particular case
- 40 insists on iv medication throughout the admission
- 41 Denying coverage for procedures, saying that it is not necessary (in their opinion)
- 42 They will ask for investigation results before issuing GL
- 43 Prolonged post op ileus, thyroid function test is not warranted as not related to diagnosis
- 44 Filmarray PCR test cannot be done
- 45 Irritating illogical inquiries
- 46 Some procedures are not covered, can't be done
- 47 Refused Mri. Refused admission
- 48 Issues with only certain insurance companies, mainly ██████████ and ██████████
██████████ takaful
- 49 Unnecessary QA which should be clinical and easily assessed with proper underwriter in health knowlegde
- 50 Part of procedure allowed. Another part not allowed
- 51 Refused to pay for diagnostic test and sometimes treatment
- 52 require unnecessary investigation: eg ultrasound for sebaceous cyst, CT for incarcerated hernia
- 53 Patient had fall,severe pain neck region,nunbness over UL,denied MRI abd admission for treatment
- 54 Simple xray which had been seen/interpreted by medical officer before admission were not accepted. The insurance companies still insists on radiologist report before decision for admission can be processed together with ed by radiologistre to be reported by radiologist
- 55 Diagnosis of dengue fever with warning signs not indicated for admission despite justification. AGE with severe dehydration not justified for admission for IV drip and IV therapy despite justification. Reasons given no clear indication for inpatient care.
- 56 Denying coverage for complex procedures and asking to do under daycare when procedure requires GA in patient
- 57 Insurance ask why I need to do two leg varicose vein instead of just one, where in fact the patient has venous reflux both legs

58	Coverage issue
59	Volar wrist ganglion cyst, patient have phobia for surgery and blood, request for GA. Insurance refused and pateint unable to go for surgery. The swelling is increasing in size and is in the dominant hand and disturbing his daily work. This is just one small example
60	Patirnt admitted for urgent surgery but approval took more than 48 hours, with multiple unnecsry questionnaires which more often than not are repetitive and unreasonable
61	They will say that admission is not necessary or not justified to stay beyond certain number of days
62	Patient abdominal pain plan for gastroscopy n colonoscopy but insurance approved only 1 of the 2 planned procedure
63	Reschedule admission and surgery to another date where patient to be admitted on weekday.
64	Ovarian cancer surgery - will. Not cover eg appendicectomy claiming is not required although it is part of a full. Surgical staging
65	Question my choice of disease modifying drugs on autoimmune disease management
66	to only approve GL Daycare when an inpatient admissions is required for a long surgery and need of post operative monitoring
67	Deny for admission as ecg was reported from machine as normal, later on patient developed myocardial infarction
68	Elaborated in 3. GA not covered in Endoscopic procedures.
69	Patients with anaemia had a iron studies done and started on iron replacement therapy but told by the insurer iron studies not warranted and iron replacement therapy considered as supplements.
70	For patients who do not want to pay out of pocket for medication/ treatment not covered by insurance, alternative treatment which is not in the best interest of patient be given
71	Giving me numbers of visits I can see the patients as second doctors. Initial visits only and thereafter will not cover . I habe ti justify and appeal why I have to keep reviewing patient and to treat patient.
72	Not allow to use first line drug because more expensive
73	insisting that hysteroscopy should be done as day surgery even though the pt is 60 years old and has hypertension and diabetes
74	Patient planned for cervical epidural block and dorsal root injections, GL approved, but for outpatient treatment,
75	May affect the medications that we prescribe
76	Questioned post operative continued care as a secondary physician

- 77 Delayed GL in open fracture case causing delay in definitive management. Patient had to be on traction while waiting for GL to proceed with surgery.
- 78 Insurer wants an ovarian Cystectomy instead TAHBSO for a post menopausal ovarian cyst with raise tumor makers
- 79 Request for unnecessary test when the diagnosis is suppose to be clinical. And the diagnostic test is not with high sensitivity & specificity
- 80 Deny coverage for Mirena which is indicated for treatment of heavy menstrual bleeding. Deny coverage for bilateral salpingoophorectomy during vaginal Hysterectomy and pelvic floor repair for UV prolapse in a post menopausal patient.
- 81 Do not allow me to charge after i did the procedure. Threaten me to waive the fee as they may raise some law suit if i do not agree to do so
- 82 Ogds and colonoscopes. Patient's autonomy and right for safe and controlled sedation by an anesthetist is not allowed
- 83 The insurers will query why the patients (Idiopathic Scoliosis) require surgery.
- 84 Lumbar disc prolapsed - only approved for admission but not for procedure eg radiofrequency block treatment
- 85 Insurance limit 20K, denied a 30K estimates
- 86 Example - abdominal hysterectomy encountered adhesions ? Endometriosis related. Certain TPAs will refuse to let you charge for adhesiolysis or attempt to ask you to use another irrelevant code
- 87 Need to skip certain diagnostic procedures and need to manage problem not related to speciality because referral to another specialoty was rejected
- 88 Laboratory investigations ordered which were perceived by insurers to be not related to admiting diagnosis ie urticaria (lab tests ordered such as ANA, thyroid profile)
- 89 Questioning on initiation of treatment for severe disease condition without considering patient's disease status
- 90 Initial GL approved, half way through admission, completely revoked. Forcing patient to be transferred to public hospital.
- 91 Insisting that a laparotomy can be done as a day case.
- 92 Do not cover outpatient investigations or procedure resulting in admission and added cost
- 93 Query me insert central venous line for a major brain surgery brain
- 94 Insists to be done under day care which is impossible
- 95 Decline anything to do with palliative care
- 96 Not allowing charging code for actually procedure done during a surgery

- 97 When surgery needed but insurance keep asking for further test which was not covered initially
- 98 Refusal to reimburse for genetic testing
- 99 A patient had multiple medical issues and to plan for surgery I needed other specialists involved but insurance denied the request for referrals. Without a multidisciplinary team I was not able to manage her and had to ask her to go to a government hospital.
- 100 Patient who has a difficult airway was only approved for daycare despite explaining the risk of apnoea, airway oedema , complications post op
- 101 Patient in pain but asked to treat as outpatient
- 102 decision on type of procedure, my qualifications, other alternative treatments
- 103 Deny patient the standard treatment for diabetes despite following the malaysian cpg for diabetes. Only allowing generic medications.
- 104 Admission as Hospitalisation Versus Day Care
- 105 Not covering for referrals and medications, special investigations
- 106 Denying GA and insisting on LA
- 107 Denial of treatment - circumcision for recurrent balanitis
- 108 They decide if patient needs daycare or inpatient - [REDACTED] insurance
- 109 Questions about the necessity of a procedure even the reasons are clearly outlined not only by the referring GP but also by us clearly in the in line form with validation from blood tests and ultrasound images
- 110 Non coverage of the procedure that has been done . It is part of parcel of previous procedures . Hassles of needing justification why the procedure need to be preformed and their evidence .
- 111 when they don't allow certain procedures , hence patients are treated in a substandard way
- 112 A 7 year old admitted with severe epigastric pain for 1 week, and despite giving maximal medication and morphine base medication, the request to perform endoscopy (OGDS) was denied. Reason given was the symptoms was only a week and to qualify, the child needs to have the symptoms for 1 month! This is [REDACTED]
- 113 they dictate what need to be done and refuse to engage with us especially by the medical director
- 114 Patient had systemic absorption of local anesthesia during an image guided biopsy. Letter written to convert daycare to inpatient. Reply was late, patient ended up discharging by 10pm, GL approved by 11pm

- 115 Starting acute pain service for the patient
- 116 QA on Medical treatment or surgical procedures proposed
- 117 Refused to pay for multimodal analgesia technique
- 118 GL inpatient denied. Pt shied away from hospital. Came back again 1 year later. Already developed fibrosis/bronchiectasis
- 119 Insertion of epidural insertion, use of TIVA intraoperatively
- 120 Threats of procedures paramount for patients benefit not being covered in the GL
- 121 Refusing payment for procedure performed
- 122 Choice of post operative analgesia
- 123 Advanced technology ie endometrial microwave ablation
- 124 Hysteroscopy with DD&C is only approved for daycare, no overnight admission. That would prompt me to perform general anesthesia instead of spinal anesthesia for the day case
- 125 Denial to pay for blood cultures in a febrile patient. Denial to pay for Troponin T in a patient complaining of chest pain. Denial to pay for somatic gene mutation testing for acquired disorders because of poor understanding of the difference between her line and somatic mutations.
- Denial to pay for karyotyping of bone marrow cells for the same reason. Denial to admit patients for monitoring for first infusion of cancer immunotherapies known to have 20-30% risk of infusion reactions, denial to pay for PET CT scans for staging or surveillance of malignancy, denial to pay for expensive tests not available locally eg T cell clonality studies in Singapore.
- Denial to cover gene sequencing assays for cancer, denial to cover daycare hospitalisation for subcutaneously injected biological agents with significant potential adverse effects with the reason that subcutaneous injections do not require 'admission to daycare'.
- Denial to cover treatments where the total length of daycare admission is shorter than an arbitrary number of hours not specified in policy document, denying to pay for cancer therapy when the patient is receiving novel anticancer agents with the reason that the agents are not 'chemotherapy'
- 126 Manipulation of joints under GA as out patient!
- 127 They declined the administration of dust mite specific allergen immunotherapy

- 128 Skin malignancy over the face requiring wide excision and flap or graft coverage but denies ward admission and only allow daycare procedure
- 129 1) insurance asking me (anaesthetist) the reason for insert Arterial line for a major neurosurgery (craniotomy) 2) insurance denying payment for PCA morphine ordered for post op arthroplasty patients
- 130 Questioning on what will happen if (skin) cancer is not removed.
- 131 Deferred endoscopy
- 132 patient planned for surgery and insurance refused coverage
- 133 Limitation to diagnostic test delays certain interventions.
- 134 Kidney disease patients often have multiple comorbidities that include hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol, renal anaemia and bone disease. Frequently Insurers forbid prescriptions if the medications for the aforementioned comorbidities citing the reason as "NOT RELATED TO THE DIAGNOSIS". Another example is prescribing SGLT2 inhibitor for kidney patients often being challenged as patients have no diabetes suggesting their narrow knowledge that most medications have multiple indications of use.
- 135 Want to show abnormal ECG or Cardiac enzymes to get GL, but they don't seem to understand UNSTABLE ANGINA is a clinical diagnosis, they expect the enzymes to be raised which is NSTEMI/ STEMI
- 136 IM Botulinum toxin for spasticity denied
- 137 Insurance only allow certain procedure and when claims made, they refused to pay
- 138 Ganglion cyst of hand, best to be done under General Anaesthesia - asked to be done under Local Anaesthesia by insurance
- 139 Decline GL for paediatric eye surgery under general anaesthesia. Was only covered if surgery under local anaesthesia.
- 140 Ptt may go elsewhere. Delay in treatment
- 141 Effusion post TKR which required aspiration of knee joint in clean air theatre setting, insurance company refused admission insisting that it could be done in outpatient clinic. Despite numerous letters of appeal, insurance still denied.
- 142 Did not approve certain lab investigations
- 143 Denied medical claims for stroke due to previous smoking history
- 144 For example patient is admitted for pseudomembranous conjunctivitis and needed daily rodding, they only allow once charged procedure for the whole admission.
- 145 Refused daycare admission for infected ingrown toenail for wedge excision under la and I've abx

- 146 Apply GL as 2nd doctor for inpatient and denied when treatment is clearly warranted
- 147 Insist on LA when procedure has to be done under GA
- 148 I would be hesitant to peripheral nerve blocks, because insurers refuse to pay.
- 149 Asking for justification of certain treatment. Any cheaper option. Asking justification on why require admission and not just day care. Refuse to cover for benign tumour that is not clearly congenital related
- 150 Q n A: sounds like the one doing screening for approval is not a medical doctor. Need to explain A to Z. Still decline
- 151 Forcing for investigation to believe clinical diagnosis
- 152 The diagnosis given by earlier Surgeon confused the insurance Company
- 153 Denial of endoscopic procedure
- 154 Patient needs admission (in-patient care) but was not allowed and insurers insist on outpatient treatment only
- 155 Refuse inpatient admission when it is warranted Refuse used of confirmed gold standard of treatment
- 156 Ultrasounds refused for surgical cases only approved after results are out
- 157 To delay emergency surgery to office hour time
- 158 A specific insurer instruct patient pay and claim. Later doctor learn that only 2 doctors in hospitals are allowed to apply GL. Patients who are treated by other doctors have to pay and then try to claim. Patients refuse admission for fear the expence will not be reimbursed. Patients continuity of care is disrupted due to payment mechanism imposed by insurance company.
- 159 Why need to do OGDS for billiary colic
- 160 Refusal of coverage for inpatient, insist on outpatient care
- 161 Asking to manage a patient as a daycare admission instead of full admission although the patient has medical risk factors and not suitable for day care. Denying coverage just because a patient has an unrelated congenital condition.
- 162 Insurance companies keep querying why anaesthetist administered intravenous sedation is required for patients. Sometimes sedation is a good and safe alternative compared to general anaesthesia. However they keep querying and implying that sedation is not necessary! This is detrimental to patients' well being and comfort.
- 163 Any operation to fallopian tubes were always calcified as fertility

- 164 Not allowing endoscopy as the symptom is less than 4 weeks
- 165 Dengue patient- need for serology to become positive, then they ask if necessary or in shock...
- 166 Approved admission for epigastric pain but not for OGDS!
- 167 Choice of medications
- 168 if a patient post stroke sustained significant impairments such as cognitive or motor impairment will be denied rehabilitation consult who can prognosticate and plan out most effective rehabilitation program within the required time frame ; resulting in avoidable stroke complications like contractures etc which limits further function
- 169 Denial of rehabilitation and its related management and procedures despite the established evidence and standards of care
- 170 CIN,
- 171 Type of surgery that provide better clearance or investigations that provide better diagnosis and local disease. As a result of limited coverage, patient requested simpler investigation or procedure to reduce their cost
- 172 ██████████ does not follow moh protocol to treat certain Orthopaedic procedures especially ██████████
- 173 Rarely because I decide on what's needed and often patient will then pay out of pocket n claim or I refer them elsewhere.
- 174 Often questioning validity of treatment proposed
- 175 Interfere with the coding for example Q1700 was done. But asked to change to Q1800.
- 176 Patient who has Ptosis of eyelid are denied surgery even though there is clinic's evidence of visual impairment. I must add that not all insurance companies adopt this policy. ██████████ is the only insurance company imposing this requirement. ██████████ has approached hospitals wanting to impose ceiling price for cataract surgery. Hospitals have no choice but to seek cheaper older generation lenses.
- 177 For Trigeminal neuralgia procedure, decline startdard procedure like Trigeminal ganglion thermocoagulation
- 178 Question on indication of the procedure, deem unnecessary
- 179 Coverage issue
- 180 Other surgeons invited me for two surgeon procedure, they disapproved
- 181 Patient was scheduled for gastroscopy and colonoscopy but insurance only covered colonoscopy without giving any reason.

- 182 Requirement for IV treatment before inpatient GL is allowed
- 183 Whether procedures are covered by insurers and time delay of GL clearance
- 184 Deny and disallow treatment
- 185 Necessity for admission, longer stay.
- 186 Judisfication of medication or investigation for the diseases
- 187 Obese Pt with proximal DVT with SOB denied emergency admission.
- 188 Hemorrhoids surgery have to do as outpatient
- 189 They asked me multiple times why pneumonia need to be admitted. And patient has been coughing for 1 month and was getting worse on oral emds
- 190 Insurance should not decide when patient needs inpatient treatment
- 191 Kept thinking all children problems are congenital in origin
- 192 not allowing inpatient care for minor procedures despite explanation on need for inpatient care
- 193 Refuse coverage because treatment not approved by PDA!
- 194 Limit endoscopic tests only after failure of medical treatment for one month despite patients had severe symptoms
- 195 Turbinate surgery, cannot use radiofrequency method.
- 196 CT cardiac investigations- insurers remark cover depends on resport, if normal they won't cover
- 197 Pt in seveeee gastric pain but only cover daycare for scope. Pt post open haemorrhodextomy, post op very painfulAnd may bleed, but cover for daycare
- 198 No iv medication, admission not required. Abscess can be drained in opd
- 199 unable to use better quality medication
- 200 By trying to deny certain diagnostic tests/procedures based on allegations that they are not needed for treatment.
- 201 Insisting certain conditions can be treated as outpatient.

- 202 Admission criteria based on questionnaires scoring
- 203 Why was admission required?
- 204 Denying admission and investigation for a patient with acute chest pain. Rational was as the ECG was normal and a Troponin was normal. This was a middle aged man, with significant symptoms and multiple risk factors.
- 205 Duration of analgesic to be shortened , procedure to be done to follownot by clinical need
- 206 Refuse imaging that's necessary for diagnosis
- 207 Patient having chest pain and needed admission for medications to do CT angiogram. But because there is no IV medications and only diagnostic tests, insurance does not cover. Because of this interference, patient more willing to go ahead with invasive coronary angiogram which will be covered by insurance.
- 208 They tell me what to do.
- 209 Providing partial coverage / only allowing procedure to be done as daycare despite the procedure needs post op monitoring in ward.
- 210 By asking questions like why you do this, justify. By asking questions like why are you admitting your patient, i. e. why hospitalization? By asking questions like why can't you do this as an outpatient or as a day surgery case?
- 211 Requesting for Covid test, allowing 1 day stay for myocardial infarction case, permit only 1 visit for in patient ward round
- 212 Asking irrelevant questions eg. how frequent the nebuliser, what dosage the drugs
- 213 Just given day care approvals when not all patients are the same and some need proper stay for recovery
- 214 When insurers deny coverage of palliative care (even though the diagnosis is cancer), it affects subsequent management of the patient. Continued consultation may result of patient paying out of pocket, or unreimbursed services on my part (as a palliative care provider). Tough spot to be in.
- 215 Only allow certain surgeries to be done as daycare
- 216 [REDACTED] case--> delays in care (Diagnostic/Treatment) for each consultant involved in a specific patient care, as approval has to be given to prior investigation or doctor cleared first, before next doctor can proceed with his treatment plan. This makes care dragged out, delayed and dangerous. ant involved
- 217 Patient don't require certain test like CT or doesn't require admission despite severe symptoms. Denial sometimes based on no abnormal test results rather than Drs justification
- 218 Patient already on oral painkiller from GP, seeking further treatment as inpatient. GL denied and asked to be treated as outpatient

- 219 1. Reactive arthritis with crp 29. Despite adequate treatment crp went up to 43. Decline pet scan. 4 days of justification letters and patient finally made complaint cc to bank Negara the ceo of the insurance company made a complaint to my ceo about me to say I instigated the patient to make complaint and to mark me.
- 220 Low coverage
- 221 Orthopaedic procedures denied. Asked to continue conservative options. Insist patients complete a few months of oral medications before we can explore surgical options.
- 222 2 ways of fixing a fracture. open or MIS, insurance approves open
- 223 Unable to do scopes despite having clear indications
- 224 Duration of stay
- 225 A patient with posterior myocardial infarction waited for >3 hours and GL not approved. Patient finally opted to get treatment in government hospital..
- 226 Refusal to allow certain stool studies although admitted for Gastroenteritis, need to seek permission to do the test resulting in treatment delay.
- 227 Best medicine available
- 228 Ear lump excision deemed congenital when they are not
- 229 Teaching us what surgery to do, when to do, what drugs to administer and duration of treatment
- 230 Often you get fed up and just tell them insurance denies coverage
- 231 Chest pain evaluation
- 232 We r told to transfer a dengue patient in cytokine storm to government hospital, told to use cheaper drugd amd generic, we have a patient with pnemunia and hypoxia and need bronchoscopy but told to treat conservatively and patient detetiorated amd need repeated admission for partialy tteated pneumonia
- 233 Insurers sometimes deny patients legitimate claims becos of the patients policy eg a dermoid cyst in the ovary is considered a congenital illness even when it was not detected at birth or within 6 months of birth. Or CIN is classified as a STD becos it is caused by some strains of the HPV
- 234 Patient had large disc herniation, surgery was denied and advised for conservative treatment by insurance doctor.
- 235 For coverage of biologics , requests patient's photos nefore decision can be made. Non steroid creams are not covered and only covers for steroid creams.
- 236 Asking for an irrelevant investigation such as a ct scan

- 237 Requirijg jusirification for doing tests
- 238 Questioning why initial diagnosis was changed, also recommending alternatives cheaper procedures.
- 239 Require tests reports (blood test, ct scan etc) before GL request is given consideration
- 240 Delayed Insurance approval or non Approval . Patient request to wait for Insurance
- 241 Request for unnecessary imagings
- 242 Will not pay even consultation
- 243 Declined certain blood tests scans and even medications
- 244 The delay in approval by generate queries means the procedure have to be done after hours or delayed to the next day, putting risk on patient doing procedures after hours and disrupting clinic apponitments
- 245 Unable to proceed with certain investigations due to non approval. Having to settle for the less recommended medications as less costly. Patients yelling at me because the insurance providers blame the doctors for not applying for said treatment properly. Insurance declined is always the fault of the doctor.
- 246 denies coverage citing need to investigate despite the patient need urgent surgery
- 247 I had a cases that needed GA due to her severe anxiety and was denied.....eye cases do not need full body anesthesia they said
- 248 1. Being told the required test, treatment or surgery is not necessary or covered.
- 249 Why do you need GnRH injection post Myomectomy with extensive adenomyosis
- 250 By saying what is covered and not . Including certain procedures
- 251 Procedure fee denied.
- 252 Treatment rendered not indicated.
- 253 A patient with right iliac fossa pain, guarding and marked tenderness with a CT that suggested 'caecal diverticulitis ' was denied GL for appendisectomy.
- 254 Have to refer to general hospital
- 255 Mental pressure on where to admit- daycare for procedures that will be painful vs ward. Discharge early. Some procedures like laser treatments are not allowed. They are creating mental stress by auditing doctors unnecessarily. They have never approached the doctors personally and let us know what can and cannot before threatening blacklist.

- 256 Queries that do not make sense with regards to patient diagnosis and management followed by rejection of coverage with no reasons given at all
- 257 Radiological and investigation not covered hence diff to make decision , skeptical on second procedures ear and tonsils which is common to have two related diseases.
- 258 Patient came with gastrointestinal bleeding after midnight and [REDACTED] ordered to treat as day case. . the face, denied treatment under insurance.
- 259 1.Acute severe low back pain with pain score of 10/10 denied MRI scanning and admission
- 260 Insurer ask to change charges code according to their perception but the surgery was not the same as described as per code they suggested
- 261 I had a pt with large osteochondral lesion that requires a cartilage filler. Insurance did not approve
- 262 Day care procedure but patient with insurance usage is compulsory to admit as inpatient.
- 263 they request to do vague investigation
- 264 Decisions to operate and inpatient treatment
- 265 Insurance companies Insist to request a CT/ MRI although not indicated as we can do diagnosis via endoscopic examination.
- 266 Request for justification for specific treatment despite clinical guidelines followed
- 267 PCR resp and gastro panel denied, unable to see antibiotics usage appropriate or not
- 268 Why need plastic surgery? Very poor knowledge of spectrum of plastic and reconstructive surgery (where else cosmetic is only 10% of scope of plastic & reconstructive surgery)
- 269 Admission for diarrhea and dehydration for 2 weeks. Denial for colonoscopy as it has not been 4 weeks of symptoms.
- 270 Does a skin lesion need removal? What is the issue if left untreated etc. crystal ball questions that no one can answer. The doctor is suspicious it could be a disease or malignant
- 271 Unable tl performed further radiological investigation
- 272 Can only do op during office hours
- 273 Like I explained aboved.
- 274 Having to do upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy on separate occasions when they can be done in one sitting, because insurance refused to cover both at the same time. Patient ends up having to come twice, and undergo sedation twice, with overall increased cost to the company

- 275 By making a blanket rule that 'its dental related' and policy exclusion, although it is not!
- 276 In patient treatment not justified and only for day care admission which is dangerous in certain circumstances.
- 277 Patient was unwell and dehydrated, tested positive for viral illness, referred by GP, tested positive for viral illness. In view of the diagnosis being influenza and DF but platelet count above a certain threshold, were denied coverage.
- 278 Don't want to cover the adjuvant oral medication which is gold standard worldwide .
- 279 One insurer keeps calling my patient daily to ask her about treatment despite of her struggling with migraine everyday.
- 280 Changing to using generic drugs because certain doctors been labelled as 'expensive' .. and they dictate to treat patients as outpatient despite strong reason for admission
- 281 Use of IVIG
- 282 Typical chest pain with cardiac risk factors but denied admission
- 283 Haemorrhoidectomy GL approved for only daycare
- 284 Only allow dialysis done in center or hospital. Home dialysis therapy is denied.
- 285 Choice of biologic for inflammatory bowel disease
- 286 Denied GL for inflamed sebaceous cyst excision, repeatedly questioned on need for propranolol n spirinolactone in cases of liver failure with esophageal varices n ascites.
- 287 Why xray not done, need ultrasound to be done
- 288 Haemorrhoidectomy only to be done Daycare
- 289 Asking why certain drugs are used. Denying usage of drugs considered standard treatment.
- 290 Deny request for MRI lumbar spine for back pain

Question 5

Can you describe one specific instance where insurance denial or revocation affected patient care? (optional)

Answered: 502 | Skipped: 353

#	Responses
1	Had a dr who came to see me with a bad cancer of the foot . Early stage however this type of cancer carried a grave prognosis . Approval was denied stating a wide excision was “not medically indicated”
2	Typically high icu bills, therefore need to transfer out pt to GH
3	Medical therapy and investigation
4	Day care biopsies to rule out cancer was advised to do as out pt(with out of pocket funds
5	A very ill patient with a perforated appendix was denied a GL and had to be transported to the nearby general hospital because they couldn't afford to pay for the procedure (laparoscopic appendectomy) out of oocket
6	Patient have AGE with AKI. GL decline as patient SBP is 140 with no previous medical illness.
7	Dengue hemorrhagic fever with warning signs unable to cover for ICU admission
8	Insurance companies dictate management the issue is not with doctors pricing which is regulate but hospital charges 80% of the bill but doctors are targeted n not the hospital
9	Patient had to wait overnight for clearance
10	Delay in admitting a child that worsened dehydration
11	Basal cell carcinoma on the face. Refused coverage. I told patient to ignore the insurance company, have the tumour excised and later if the insurance company obliges, get reimbursed. Not the first time. Growing lesions not covered for first excision or incisional biopsy. [REDACTED] is the culprit here.
12	Condition such as cyst that could be acquired or congenital. Or cancer patient who prefers to be in a center with all facilities eg 1 stop center
13	Reject Insurance cover for excision of pigmented lesion

- 14 Multiple facial lacerations patient post repair in severe pain denies one day admission
- 15 Done procedure rp6 swab then rejected
- 16 Denial of coverage of other illness. Eg patient admitted for pneumonia and incidental, they were found to have diabetes or hypertension. Insurance coverage declined cover for diabetes and hypertension.
- 17 Delayed in issuing GL for a few days for patient with extremely drug resistant gram negative bacteria infection of open tibial fracture.
- Breast pain in lactating mothers
- 18 Small renal calculus but with severe pain
Incidentally findings of retroaortic vein which can also cause flank pain
- 19 Insurance only allowed neuro-imaging as outpatient.
- 20 Patient who was refused gastroscopy at another hospital subsequently found to have Hp +ve DU when I did gastroscopy as outpatient.
- 21 i need the insurance to do the MRI before treatment
- 22 Patient is having gastro infection and is dehydrated - denied admission for iv drip because it doesn't fulfil the insurance criteria and blood tests normal, pt having pneumonia and bronchospasm - denied admission because cxr normal and saturate well on room air, denied because they don't see bronchospasm
- 23 Withdrawal of final GL citing non-disclosure of previous thyroid disorder (more than 5 years ago, policy active more than 5 years) , which is currently euthyroid, with no obvious cardiac sequelae.
- 24 Patient did not require total knee replacement at stage II arthritis but I was advised to perform this surgery instead of hyaluronate injection. As I planned Ins company has decided a more expensive but very non ethical way to this patient
- 25 Patient's GL was initially issued, but then revoked as insurance claimed the condition was preexisting
- 26 dysphagia unable to eat and dehydration, admitted via AE late night, next day was informed insurance not cover, as it can be treated as outpatient. Who is this insurance to decide what to do ?
- 27 I admit one 60+ years old patients with new onset frequent falls from clinic for further investigation and management, falls 2x in past 3 days, want to rule out stroke and assess other falls risk factors. Insurance revoked the coverage when MRI is normal, no stroke, saying this can be treated as out patient. But patient stays very far from hospital with her husband only, I cannot risk her for further falls, must admit to further investigation and management to reduce the falls risk immediately before serious injury like fracture or ICB happens. Appeal letter sent and patient still failed to claim back.
- 28 Endocrine dynamic test is essential to confirm diagnosis and to proceed further management for example saline suppression test, adrenal vein sampling. Some patients may need surgery if it is proven the underlying cause is tumour

- 29 Patient in ICU requiring multidisciplinary input. Rehabilitation physician review and assessment is denied
- 30 Case of road traffic accident. Incidental finding of high RBS, or incidental findings of CT FACE/brain reported as sinusitis- when patient admitted for emergency surgery; IGL revoked due to “undisclosed prior pre-existing”. Surgery deferred, delayed and eventually transferred to MOH facility
- 31 Patient was unwell because of high fever, dehydrated, chills, rigor. They were much better after iv drugs and drips. If they had not been treated the same way as stated above, patients suffers much longer at home.
- 32 Insurance demand for biopsy result that will definitely delay the treatment. some skin cancer the diagnosis is 90% clinical and need to proceed with wide excision asap.
- 33 Above had to be discharged with out treatment
- 34 Patient cannot tolerate generic drug
- 35 Denial of ct abdomen when us showed minimal free fluid
- 36 Admission for rhinosinusitis with bronchopneumonia....sinusitis coverage was denied
- 37 Patient will be in pain and discomfort. This will affect the image of the service and the hospital itself.
- 38 Breast Cancer PT not cover due to insurance not yet 2 years , must pay and claim after their investigation whether PT cheats or not
- 39 Patient having high fever with sore throat and insurance inform pt need to pay and claim for them to investigate. Insurance was 1 year old.
- 40 Denied initial GL approval
- 41 Patient needed emergency admission, waited in emergency department for longer hours awaiting for GL, can be up to 12 hours waiting time.
- 42 A recent case of a 2- yr old girl who had an irreducible inguinal hernia, requiring urgent operation. Despite detailed justification from me, and many repeated queries from the insurers, the admission for urgent operation was declined by the insurers, and the patient had to seek treatment in the overcrowded government hospital.
- 43 Insurance not covered if anticipated undiagnosed NCD even though previously no medical illnesses
- 44 As insurance decline payment; patient cannot proceed with surgery . Hopefully it is not cancer
- 45 As mentioned above
- 46 Minimally invasive pain intervention is indicated for bilateral shoulder adhesive capsulitis to facilitate physiotherapy but insurance denial for GL resulted in delay in treatment and permanent shoulder joint contractures

- 47 Patient refused further treatment due to financial constraint.
- 48 A pregnant lady was admitted for acute gastroenteritis(vomiting, diarrhoea). The insurance insists its pregnancy related. Until on the last day the patient's stool was positive for Rotavirus
- 49 Patient were asked to pay and claim. They didn't have the cash upfront so had to be referred to government hospital in spite of the fact that they had RM500,000 coverage.
- 50 Refusal of biopsy procedure which later confirmed malignancy
- 51 Patient was admitted for abdominal related issue and colonoscopy was carried out.Initial GL approved colonoscopy but rejected upon discharge.Reason was i performed polypectomy during colonoscopy where as they only approved IGL for colonoscopy
- 52 Patient request for multifocal intraocular lens implant. Insurance covers only monofocal upto maximum RM 1000.00 stated in the policy. When asked to pay the difference, the insurance only covered the exact price of a monofocal intraocular lens, not rm1000.00. which means the patient had to pay more extra.
- 53 outpatient nebulized medication for less than 1 year old baby with bronchiolitis took a long time to clear the lungs and mum tried to claim from [REDACTED] outpt benefits daily long wait so she gave up!
- dengue fever using [REDACTED] I referred toGH Ipoh as not covered as inpatient .
- Flu A pt with vomiting and unable to tolerate orally - admitted for iv hydration [REDACTED] refused to cover the treatment for influenza!
- 54 Cancellation of surgery for non-coverage by insurance
- 55 A patient diagnosed with breast cancer was initially denied coverage because the policy was 18 months old
- 56 Patient suffered with phimosis with recurrent balanitis, cannot have circumcision done.
- 57 Usage of pcr Swab testing as it provides accurate diagnosis vs RTK.
Will reduce length of stay and good antimicrobial stewarding
- 58 Need to refer patient to public hospital for iv antibiotics .
Patients have to pay for PCR tests
- 59 Deferred Treatment
Declined admission
- 60 Planned for admission but insurance approved for daycare
Sepsis secondary to mastitis denied gl claimed breastfeed related but patient stop breastfeed more than 1 year
Gl for guided biopsy under LA daycare approved but on discharge GL decline

- 61 Insists MRI or CT scan to cover
- 62 [REDACTED] makes it very difficult to admit indicated for admission patients, all gl rejected for fever, urti, pneumonia, age
Wasting all time and precious resources
- 63 Kid with intracranial bleed with pupils dilated denied of GL by [REDACTED]
- 64 Incidental raised cholesterol level prevented admission for patient post trauma wound infection
- 65 Mva with ribs fracture
- 66 Suspected septic arthritis. Planned for surgery. GL revoked after blood investigation high sugar
- 67 GL denied and patient cannot be admitted for further investigation. Patient cannot afford outpatient investigation, thus the etiology of disease is unknown.
- 68 Many cases need to redirect to government hospital which causes delayed treatment
- 69 GL will only be issue with the final diagnosis. To get to the diagnosis, some investigations are needed eg CT scans but patients need to pay first. So eventually unable to proceed as patients do not want to risk of declining GL with own payment.
- 70 Insist I do my procedure ONLY in LA
- 71 Lung infections
- 72 Infant fell from bed at night with cephalohematoma n vomiting required overnight conservative observation without need for CT scan based on clinical assessment.
Children with hyperpyrexia admitted for treatment n observation without need for blood test and iv medical treatment, when caregivers deemed incompetent to observe/nurse child at home.
- 73 Back pain
- 74 Choice of drugs
- 75 Patient improved after iv analgesics and physiotherapy. Planned surgery was no longer indicated. Patient GL was revoked 2 weeks after discharged.
- 76 Refuse inpt GL despite pt persistently vomiting
Refused GL for obeumonia because pts insurance hadnt reached 2yrs
- 77 A patient with bronchitis who had bronchospasm, breathless, distressing cough. GL was declined straight away because his chest X-rays & blood test were normal, the diagnosis of bronchitis was not acceptable. Did not give me any chance to clarify or explain. Worse still, the agent blamed me for not helping to appeal (very often the GL were declined unreasonably & we had to spent time doing the appeal)

78	Diabetic with dyspepsia. Insurance said anything to do with diabetic is irrelevant to OGDS.
79	It was a Maxillofacial cyst and the insurance denied because they claim it was a Dental problem
80	Always deferment letter and questions which had been written on the admission forms
81	pt admitted for pain due to stone, MRI detected ovarian cyst, referred to me, scan confirmed cyst, opted for conservative management. Declined due to can be managed as outpt. How would the referring consultant know whether that condition can be managed as such as it is outside their specialty?
82	Refuse for AGE, asked to submit stool C&S report which will take 48hrs whereby pt was dehydration.
83	Encephalitis denies inpatient care. GL decline and patient can't afford Guillain Barre syndrome - denies IVIG due to cost, pay and claim (patient can't afford)
84	Patient with worsening condition not responding to conservative treatment denied GL for further investigation and treatment as outpatient
85	Patient was denied treatment and have to transfer to government facility
86	Many. Eg patient with acute abdomen. Ct scan and surgery delayed because of non insurance approval initially. Then diagnosis of tubo ovarian abscess and abdominal hernia made. Then gl approved for management of tubo ovarian abscess approved but any investigations or treatment of the abdominal hernia not approved
87	Child presented at midnight in ED for abdominal pain but during review no more pain. Admit for observation but no coverage if no IV drip/ medication (reason : can be treated as outpatient) How safe to discharge a child a midnight ?
88	Delays in instituting treatment
89	Came for high fever and facial pain and nose block. Gone for treatment to 2 different GP. Wanted to admit for acute sinusitis
90	permanent pacemaker implant - policy already more than 5 years
91	Deny urgent procedures
92	Arthroscopic procedures. There are sometimes additional findings intra-op which require intervention but is queried or denied
93	Patient referred to me for malaena by Urologist after URS. Pre approval gotten and daycare OGDS done showed duodenal ulcer. After 1 month, I was informed that insurance will revoke my GL because the Urologist bill not settled yet!? Patient has to pay and file claim.
94	Admission not allowed for patient with AGE and dehydration based on blood test only despite my report that patient needs IVD. Admission not allowed for patients in pain and

	need iv analgesia. Only daycare allowed for some procedures even though patients have co-morbid conditions.
95	delayed issue GL for appendicitis, hernia causing procedure done after office hours, then queries why patient was charge on call
96	Many instances unable to proceed with treatment as insurance not cleared..patient had to revert to GH
97	Some insurers refused to cover for antiviral therapy for ILI. Required positive Influenza test to cover for Oseltamivir
98	Patient admitted to ICU for close monitoring due to hypotension and tachycardia. Required inotropic support and multiple fluid boluses. Insurance rejected without any clear reasons. Insurers did not respond to queries but merely replied patient may file a claim post discharge subject to review of relevant documents.
99	I had to refer pt to govt hospital as they delayed and denied coverage
100	Insurance is already two years old, despite promising the patient blackout period is only 3 months
101	Patients who underwent total knee replacement were denied to receive peri-articular knee injection for rapid recovery and pain relief. Patients were also denied intra-articular injection with hyaluronic acid even though it is recommended by KKM
102	patient admitted with bronchitis/pneumonia as informed can be treated as OP
103	Patient has CPA tumour for surgery inquires by insurance for non- surgical treatment instead surgery
104	Once we had a patient with polytrauma, insurance policy is about 2 years old. However blood shows uric acid to be on the high side. Out right denial by insurance because of uric acid, explained could be due to dehydration from the trauma. But denied.
105	Not allowing certain cases to be done under full ward admission or general anaesthesia, insisted on only local anaesthesia / daycare. They decided these based on diagnosis and not considering patient's autonomy/ surgeon's decision.
106	Patient had to pay out of pocket after an initial. GL was revoked delay in GL issuance hence delaying surgery
107	Delaying definitive treatment as patient's expectation once he/she has insurance everything will cover and refuse to pay first
108	Patients with anaemia had a iron studies done and started on iron replacement therapy but told by the insurer iron studies not warranted and iron replacement therapy considered as supplements.
109	As above
110	HPE - refuse to cover for Immunohistochemistry staining. Enlarged lymph nodes needs to rule out malignancy. Results came back no malignancy and insurance will not cover the Immunohistochemistry test, claims results no malignancy. Appeals made and still refuse to cover.

- 111 GL not granted for treatment of diabetes while patients admitted under another doctor for cellulitis. Request patient to wait till discharge and manage glucose as outpatient
- 112 Insurance company just disallow pt from guaranteed letter and make pt pay and claim later for hospitals or departments in hospitals which they are not happy with and not willing to reduce charges decided by them
- 113 Delay in patient treatment, causing untreated pain, patient seek treatment at public hospital
- Refused GL n patient with ACL injury.
- 114 Refused to pay Dr for the procedures that we did.
Stop patient to pay drs even though patient will to pay.
- 115 Patient cannot afford vital palliative care and pain management at the terminal stage
- 116 With advent in medicine, especially in subspecialised cancer field, new treatments which are much more simple and cost effective are not covered thus we are required to perform conventional treatment methods. Classical bone curettage which can be treated by simple injection on outpatient / daycare basis.
- 117 Fortunately, I did not (and hopefully will not) reach a stage where the patient care is affected. I fight and rebut their queries no matter how much the insurer cares less about the patient safety, as many times as required to get the best care for the patient.
- 118 Comes with acute appendicitis diagnosed on ct scan . Planned for lap appendectomy but GL declined
- 119 Delayed in approval of appendectomy causing perforated appendicitis and peritonitis.
Delayed in approval for lscs causing meconium stain of fetus
- 120 Deny patients with Bartholin Cyst/ abscess for in patient care and asked to be managed as day care although patients need in patient care and IV antibiotics.
- 121 Yes. It make me feel distress where i need to choose to make sure my patient's safety with regional analgesic but i can make any changes for the effort that i had made. Regional analgesic had show to improve patient safety and quality of care based on the anaesthesia assessment.
- 122 Cancellation of operation. Although the cases isn't an emergency/life saving procedure, but improvement to quality of life is not covered. It is as if they feel that if the patient isn't dying, there is no grounds for procedures to be done. Not realising that people dont like being cut up and poked, but for the patients who agrees for a procedure, it must be affecting their lives enough to allow being operated on
- 123 The insurers denied the GL by unilaterally concluding that the underlying cause of the Idiopathic Scoliosis is due to Congenital or Developmental factors.
- 124 Delayed treatment coz patient need to be referred to Govt facility
- 125 Patient pregnant admitted for non Obstetrics reasons for example appendicitis. TPAs refuse to issue GL saying they "want to investigate whether appendicitis is pregnancy related" and ask patient to do pay and claim. The claim process will then take forever and these TPAs will find all sorts of excuses to exclude certain payments

- 126 Patients usually are unable to proceed with the care/treatment when GLs are declined
- 127 Patient with severe inflammatory spondylitis until wheelchair bound, needing IV BIOLOGIC infusions for effective treatment control, as per worldwide standard protocol— was declined day care admission coverage, citing reason — treatment can be done as outpatient. This is impossible as IV infusion treatment cannot be conducted in outpatient clinic setting.
- █ insurance specifically declined ALL forms of IV infusion treatment in daycare wards , citing reason that the policy only allow daycare surgery procedures.
- 128 2 cases.
- 1 patient treated for influenza and acute lung hypersensitivity. They disclaimed him half way in the admission due to waiting period & that his lung hypersensitivity pre- existed before eg asthma.
- 2nd case. Sepsis query cause, initially approved for infective bronchitis and when found out it was gram negative sepsis from urosepsis (which pt was aware of disclaimer), completely revoked coverage & had to transfer public hospital halfway.
- 129 █ - previously approved GL but later retracted after admitting
- 130 Diagnostic FNA of thyroid nodules required pay and claim without guarantee of reimbursement. Patient unable to afford and had to go to a public hospital.
- 131 delaying in treatment, infection, tumor spreading
- 131 Patient initially had approval with initial GL for spine pecedure/Pain Procedure, only which during the discharge, the same procedure is rejected.
- 133 Treatment was given but part of the charges were denied
- 134 One patient done debridement for 2 times at interval of roughly 3 days. Insurance ask to charge one anesthesia charge for the first day operation instead of 2 charges for both the operation done at different day
- 135 A patient had multiple medical issues and to plan for surgery I needed other specialists involved in her care but insurance denied the request for referrals. Without a multidisciplinary team I was not able to manage her and had to ask her to go to a government hospital.
- 136 Child admitted for Rotaviral AGE with dehydration. Noted Hb is 7 (anaemia). Do further investigation and started on iron and multivitamins supplements. Insurance refused to pay for the tests and treatment, because it is supplement. Patient needs to pay and to be referred to government.
- 137 Denied ivig, patient cannot afford to pay

138	Patient was planned for robotic partial nephrectomy and insurance refused to allow, only approved for laparoscopic despite complex anatomy, patient has to be told of the risk of kidney loss.
139	Did not approve mechanical thrombectomy for stroke. This is standard of care
140	patient nausea, vomiting with diarrhoea for more than 10 days, stated not indicated/not fulfil criteria for treatment/admission/endoscopy
141	Patient has multiple liver lesions, with large abdominal mass... was refused Gallium scan which should be done in another hospital. Hence - patient not able to have options of treatment such as PRRT.
142	Patient declined having the surgery
143	Not allowing other subspecialty to co Manage
144	Requesting for stool GPP Echo & Holter
145	Having recurrent balanitis
146	Severe gastroenteritis asked to treat as out patient
147	The use of a hormonal intrauterine system (IUD) for heavy menstrual bleeding. When this was substantiated with low hemoglobin counts and ultrasound pictures of enlarged uterus. They questioned the need of the IUS & suggested it was only used for contraception
148	Heaps of them .. including unreasonably asking of daily observation chart , daily IV medication given and their justification , including of frequencies (real absurd)
149	Patient cant afford the treatment cost and had to be sent to a very far hospital as the other hospitals were full
150	I have explained earlier... need to refer to GH
151	Daycare Admission for carotid tumour biopsy declined - pt ended up defaulting
152	Mirena IUS insertion for the treatment of abnormal uterine bleeding. Oral haematinics for treatment of anaemic patient.. not covered as it is regarded as supplements/vitamins.
153	Refused to cover for invasive lines and monitoring
154	Pt denied coverage of better drugs for diabetes at the expense of poor control and development of complications
155	Delayed approval. Multiple rejections over arguments that doesn't make sense, this delaying treatment causing unnecessary suffering
156	Patient with multiple complex breast lumps was given daycare status. Challenges with postoperative pain management

- 157 Patient was in HDU and required ketamine lignocaine infusion as second line post op analgesia, as PCA alone was not adequate. Not granted to be charge as pt is on PCA
- 158 Delayed in surgery
- 159 Microwave endometrial ablation - denied. Dictated to do open surgery
- 160 GL for admission for bone marrow transplant was declined one day prior to scheduled admission, when the stem cell donor was already receiving growth factors for stem cells mobilisation. It was denied as uncovered treatment, approved LATE upon appeal, and when rescheduled due to the delay, was denied AGAIN on re-application, and then re-approved upon appeal.
- 161 Traumatic joint ligament injury (Acute injury). Has insurance subscription for more than 20 months.
- 162 Patient developed recurrence of allergic symptoms requiring multiple medications when only one would have done the job
- 163 Inadequate monitoring, uncontrolled pain
- 164 Micro denying coverage for patients coming for surgeries on Monday to be admitted a day earlier on Sunday. This includes patient scheduled for major surgery on Monday Morning and some of these patients requires preop investigation and optimisation before op. As a result, patients have to be admitted after midnight and doctors have to be troubled to review them and their results in the wee hours of the morning causing stress to all parties involved
- 165 Patient refused wide excision and skin grafting for a skin malignancy
- 166 Denial of payment for single shot Regional anaesthesia
- 167 the lesion that is not excised will cause future problems
- 168 One dengue case presented early in Day 2 of illness but with significant gastrointestinal complaint suggesting these symptom as potential signs of progression to critical phase later. GL denied on the basis "platelet level is not critical to warrant admission". This again highlighted the arrogance of the Insurers and insulting the clinical judgement of Physician. They rejected the request out right without even issue a deferment pending Clinician further explanation. It is sad if a life is lost due to this situation and the patient was referred to Government facility and being accepted without further questions.
- 169 Multiple times I have transferred patients to GH
- 170 Denial of botulinum toxin for spasticity management leads to more physiotherapy sessions needed. In some cases patient developed contractures when they cannot afford physiotherapy or not covered. Then require ortho referral for surgery
- 171 Insurance only allow day care case where the patient actually required admission to observe for bleeding.

- 172 Patient opted not to under surgery due to insurance declining GA for surgery
- 173 Peadiatric patient is always not cooperated fir eye surgery under local aneasthesia - very dangerous
- 174 As above, finally patient decided to accept the swelling and discomfort
- 175 Unable to confirm the diagnosis confidently without the special lab investigation
- 176 As above
- 177 [REDACTED] personal rejection of admission for acute sciatica
- 178 As above. The need for 1st doctor to manage conditions that require my expertise during admission
- 179 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- 180 Patient had epiretinal membrane. Initially approved. Post op decline. Pt has to pay.
- 181 I cant remember any
- 182 Denial of upper endoscopy for investigation of patient with digestive symptoms.
- 183 Patient needs to be admitted due to vomiting and abdominal pain with the working diagnosis of Acute Gastroenteritis. Patient needs intravenous fluids. However insurer denied the guarantee letter as in-patient thus treatment cannot be given.
- 184 Patient has heavy menstrual bleeding
Hysteroscopy done confirmed polyp
Hold standard MIRENA as iucd with hormonal treatment
Insurance refuse MIRENA
Patient end up have to pay MIRENA as oral hormonal treatment associated with lots of side effects
- 185 Case of a child with stroke requiring MRI refused several times child had a brain tumor
- 186 Patient due for a day care procedure. He was advised to pay and claim. Patient never returned to hospital.
- 187 Patient was denied laparoscopic surgery and advised for open surgery
- 188 Elective admission for a surgical procedure under GA. After admission, noted acute infection which procedure has to be postponed.

- 189 I had a patient who had a horse-shoe kidney which is a congenital problem. The patient presented with a retroperitoneal mass which was obstructing both the ureters. The mass turned out to be a malignant lymph node and totally unrelated to the horse-shoe kidney. But her insurance coverage was denied for a congenital problem. Eventually this patient had to be referred to a government hospital which delayed her treatment.
- 190 If the patient has had insurance rejected and have financial problems with affording treatment, I have had to change my practice of providing optimal care which is more costly and had to use alternatives which are cheaper but not as ideal for patient care and comfort.
- 191 Any operation on fallopian tubes were always calcified as fertility related which not necessary
- 192 Denied of adhesiolysis in appendicectomies.. which is warranted.. all appendix is different and requires intra op decision
- 193 MSCT angiogram not covered so straight to invasive coros
- 194 Patient unable to get admitted thus had to suffer through fever at home.
- 195 Lymphoma for a young girl
- 196 Unstable angina denied due to possible undeclared previous medical history which was quite sometime
- 197 Following denial of rehabilitation, patient deteriorate in function and quality of life
- 198 Child was diagnosed as epilepsy and parents insisted for DAMA when seizures were still not controlled as GL declined.
- 199 Patient has a suspicious melanoma-like lesion on his right cheek. The patient opted not to have surgery after insurance GL declined. Such case is very unfortunate because an undiagnosed malignant melanoma is a death sentence to the patient
- 200 Patient had bilateral osteoarthritis of the Knees. Though followed all moh protocol for Hyalgan injections but was denied by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- 201 A patient with a large pituitary threatening was refused all because a radiology report described it as cystic and the insurer decided it was then congenital. Despite me writing and speaking it was denied
- 202 Delay in approval of urgently required treatments
- 203 AGE in pregnancy. Insurance company refused GL stated that AGE caused by pregnancy.
- 204 Most often patients would cancel or delay their surgeries. The insurance company is creating a barrier to healthcare.
- 205 Patient went to government hospital

- 206 non coverage for malignancy, resulting in delay in surgery as patient has to be sent to government hospital
- 207 So far I'm lucky, none
- 208 Patient postponed the procedures
- 209 Denied / Rejected GL leading patient to manage their condition at home.
- 210 Patient had to wait for 2-3 days before approval
- 211 An Active 33 year old lady Patient had come to see me for frozen shoulder .Patient was denied coverage because the patient was afraid of needles and intra venous medication that was prescribed was not given.Patient had to pay out of pocket ,insurance retract its coverage and patient had to pay out of pocket
- 212 Patient's condition become worse. Delayed treatment till patient died.
- 213 Mycoplasma pneumonia patient with respiratory distress and required oxygen support. Insurance company request patient should get referral letter from PANEL clinic in order for the admission.
- 214 Patient with pancytopenia denied GL for 1/52
Patient turned out to have acute leukemia!
- 215 Patient having bleeding hemorrhoids but insurance consider preexisting condition, not cover as insurance just 18 mths
- 216 Severe headache
- 217 [REDACTED]
- 218 Refusing coverage for a patient who may have a potentially neoplastic lesion
- 219 Non muslim with recurrent balanitis requiring circumcision are denied surgery which is the treatment of choice
- 220 pt need to be admitted on another day for dayward as no dayward surgeries over weekend or PH.
- 221 Refusing to cover for negative pressure dressing. Request for color photo of wound. Then further delay because they think from the photo only that it can be treated surgically (after indicating earlier that patient not fit for surgery)
- 222 Have to comply with medications more likely to get approved.
- 223 Infected sebaceous cyst with abscess. Insurance declined due to ? Cosmetic or preexisting problem

- 224 Appendicitis, pre-existing condition
- 225 Refusal of admission for acute sinusitis which needed surgery
- 226 pneumonia admission based on pneumonia severity index instead of clinical judgement
- 227 Menorrhagia due to uterine fibroids
- 228 Admission for acute chest pain, possibly due to a severe reflux, and acute anxiety. The patients blood pressure was raised. The admission plan was for oral anti hypertensive and PPI, with a plan for a non-invasive coronary assesment (CTCA). The reasoning behind the denial was that there was no intravenous medications given. Going against guidelines where most patients with Hypertensive urgencies may only require oral medications. Management and admission for the acute chest pain was ignored. The patient was discharged with oral anti hypertensives and empiric treatment of CAD.
- 229 Patient had fall n sustain backache ..admitted for treatment but denied the next day without reason
- Another case polytrauma in icu even after 14 days gl still not approved multiple queried
- 230 Patient admitted for chest pain. Insurance pending diagnostic result for further review. Patient can't afford to pay, hence discharge at own risk. Came back with full blown heart attack.
- 231 Denied coverage for sinusitis despite patient presenting with retroorbital pain and blurring of vision. In the end need to refer to government hospital
- 232 Delayed treatment and patient had to suffer and tolerate more pain and accept higher risk of treatment delay.
- 233 Benign dermal swelling that cause problem but rejected due to cosmetic reason despite lesion not on the face
- 234 My patient who needed surgery had to be transferred to a govt hospital because of lack of insurance funds for coverage.
- 235 Incidental pituitary gland changes and request for pituitary hormones testing to check its functionality is rejected
- 236 You may contact me for further details.
- 237 Symptomatic abdominal pain patients required GL for endoscopy but insurance interferes but telling to treat patients patient with medication first before scope despite knowing possible risk of malignancy and delayed treatment
- 238 Delayed approval given for brain imaging for pt in ICU--family couldnt afford to pay 1st--> pt deteriorated overnight, urgent CT showed Acute Hydrocephalus.
- 239 Delay in treatment as the above case. Pet scan revealed multiple ln and patient in pain

240 Certain procedures are not covered like REZUM

241 1. Insurance underwriters are making remote, non-clinical diagnoses without direct patient evaluation—for example, labeling a condition as congenital despite no such diagnosis from either the referring physician or specialist.

2. Clinical decisions are being overridden, such as approving cataract surgery only under local anesthesia, even when the patient is too anxious to proceed without general anesthesia. This led to the patient declining treatment altogether.

242 Persistent pain from osteoarthritis and sciatica due to denial of insurance.

243 polytrauma patient could not pay and claim. had to be transferred back to govt hospital

244 Cannot perform scope for patient despite having melena.

245 Denied cover due to stop iv medication

246 Patient waited more than 3 hours for primary PCI. That is atrocious. Despite communicating with PIC of the insurance company and still very delay in approving emergency care.

247 As above

248 Denies daycare admission for biologic therapy despite active disease³

249 Patient paid for the insurance premium but GL was not approved due to silly reasons, so patient had to seek treatment in a Government Hospital.

250 Insurance approve GI for surgery but deny payment later

251 They go without.

252 Admitted for suspected unstable angina and approved. Then revoked because it was just goerd

253 patient who semi urgently needs surgery refused to do because of insurance denial

254 Cellulitis with uncontrolled DM. Patient end up with BKA days later

255 When morcellation is considered a part of laparoscopic myomectomy, when in fact it is an additional operation to remove a large tumour from the body through a small incision. The patient may then opt for a laparotomy instead which is inferior to laparoscopic myomectomy

256 Denial for admission for RFA lumbar facet joint. Patient was admitted in other hospital for pain therapy.

- 257 A patient was admitted for HFMD via A&E. Coverage was revoked after 24 hours admission. A justification letter had to be written to request for coverage, after which it was reinstated
- 258 patient came with acute severe injury, clinical diagnosis clearly showed urgent admission including medical care and immediate investigation e.g MRI but denied admission because plain x-ray was reported no abnormality. In the GL, has clearly stated the clinical diagnosis and treatment plan for urgent care and admission
- 259 Yes. After angioplasty was done, approval was revoked, due to policy being 'immature'.
- 260 Patient swab culture had grown Super bug. Patient needed definitive surgery for cure. GL was declined for surgery. But agreed to pay only for medication for temporary relief.
- 261 ACUTE BRONCHITIS DENIED HOSPITAL ADMISSION RESULTED IN PATIENT DEVELOPING ACUTE BRONCHOPNEUMONIA RESULTING IN HDU CARE AND LONGER HOSPITALISATION
- 262 Cannot put IV Fluid so went to KKM
- 263 Pt with breast lump.insurance company doctor asking for size of lump.told me if more than 3 cm she will treat it as preexisting and refuse gl
- 264 Pt had appendicitis, because of incidental findings of liver/ kidney cyst. Coverage was denied, pending further investigation. Pt was then referred off to a government facility
- 265 Nil
- 266 Yes. Patient needed appendectomy. Patient needed abscess drainage. Patient needed cholecystectomy
- 267 Patient was denied treatment, and as a result patient went to wait at government hospital for the procedure, after 2 weeks no procedure patients end up paying for the procedure themselves, and a diagnosis was established within 1 days, all because patients insurance was bought 1 year ago, the symptoms only 2 months
- 268 severe back pain which need some iv painkillers denied admission citing reason for outpatient treatment
- 269 Given GL for surgery. Revoked GL after surgery was done.
- 270 Patient with cataracts that required surgery under GA but was refused. Yes the majority of cataract will be done under topical anesthesia, but there are pts with severe anxiety or abnormal movements eg Parkinson's that will need GA. They just apply a blanket rule...
- 271 Patient can't afford to pay on their own, they have to be referred to a government hospital or they have to just take medication or bear with their medical illness and not get the treatment they need.
- 272 For me none
- 273 Acute Spine Fracture denied as policy was 3 months old with excuse that it is pre-existing without specifying what it is

274	1. Regional anaesthetic with catheter for acute pain. 2. Lumbar spinal for CSF drain
275	Plan for pain management but denied.
276	Most of the time these patient's go to a govt hospital.
277	Patient had aviary abcess . Insurance rejected as pre-existing condition. Patient operated 2 days later after reapply and justification. Patient had to endure pain and risk of sepsis.
278	Ovarian tumour with suspicion of malignancy. Referral to gynaeoncologist is denied as it is only suspicious
279	Abdomen pain for emergency admission, NO GL issues unless the investigation results reviewed by them
280	[REDACTED]
281	Patient had severe diarrhoea and vomiting, severe AGE, insurance denied coverage. Patient was referred to GH in spite having insurance cover.
282	Severe headache due to head injury, suspected skull fracture or intracranial haemorrhage. CT scan of brain was not approved initially and patient had to put across his case with the insurers for GL. Delayed the entire process and patient care was obviously affected
283	Need for surgical management but was advised to pay on the surgery that the insurer refuse to cover
284	Yes had a pt with lisfranc fracture. Insurance approval was not obtained for more than a week. As a result , reduction become very difficult
285	renal angio myo lipoma when requesting for CT scan, they want us to work patient up for tuberous sclerosis and other congenital disease. This is on a old patient. not children.
286	Patient with abdo pain needing scope. Had to go goverment hospital
287	Some cases are acquires e.g ear wart/ granulation tissues, tongue cyst. But insurance rejected insisting it's congenial disease and unclaimable.
288	Patient came in for respiratory tract infection. Anaemia noted on FBC.
289	Child adm for bronchitis, tried multiple antibiotics outpatient Zinnat, Klacid, Cipro, Zithromax..PCR resp panel denied, so what to give iv , could be viral
290	sebaceous cyst mass on face. Who wants to live with a mass growing on the face?
291	Patient in his 30s preeent with a new onset lump requiring excision. Insurance alleged that this was a congenial issue without any basis and refused to cover care.
292	Delay in diagnosis n treatment

- 293 Dictate doctors' decision making for lifethreatening procedures and medications requested!
- 294 There is insurance denied OGDS for in-patient referral. They decide for outpatient. But patient is in pain and diagnostic ogds is needed.
- 295 UNABLE TO PROCEED WITH TRE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT
- 296 Refuse to cover anti-cancer treatment. Question laboratory tests done on follow up etc.
- 297 Patient could not undergo surgery because it was deemed unnecessary or because the procedure was not listed in the schedule of fees
- 298 Delay in investigation
- 299 Patient can have treatment for temporomandibular joint disorder but denied
- 300 Had to be referred to government hospital.
- 301 Patients with cancer requiring cytotoxic chemotherapy plus targeted therapy and monoclonal antibody, although approved by NPRA And standard of care, denied coverage.
- 302 Hormonal receptor positive breast cancer was denied coverage adjuvant hormonal therapy .
- 303 Given GL for 1 day
- 303 Intially approved for sleep study but final GL declined
- 304 Apml patient denied treatment
- 305 Use of ivig
- 306 Lower GI bleeding due to hemorrhoid was delayed and denied admission. Patient waited for more than 24hours
- 307 Patient upgraded insurance policy 1 year ago. Hence GL declined.
- 308 Patient has to switch modality to in center haemodialysis and denied an equally acceptable mortality of peritoneal dialysis
- 309 Subcutaneous biologic agents not covered by insurance companies
- 310 Denied issuance GL for excision of inflamed sebaveous cyst. Denied GL for excision of BCC of face.
- 311 deny treatment for acute coronary syndrome
- 312 Age not tolerate feeding, results normal

- 313 Personal abscess with sepsis, denial approval citing Diabetes Mellitus as pre-existing condition instead of causation
- 314 Patient with new policy bought 3 months prior to accident denied coverage by insurance for cartilage injury of the patella after an episode of fall
- 315 Fundus angiograms is invasive procedure which requires intravenous dyes injection and observation for allergic reactions after procedure, however insurance insisted this is investigational procedure and not claimable. However angiograms are very important to decide direction of management. Photodynamic therapy is also another procedure that often declined by insurance, it is indicated for resistant polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy case and central serous chorioretinopathy. The procedure is expensive due to the drug used, and usually requires fundus angiograms to decide location of laser before can proceed with photodynamic laser, however insurance denied this procedure as daycare procedures and insisted patient to pay and claim as outpatient.
- 316 Patient was denied admission for a drug given by IV infusion. So her arthritis remained very poorly controlled with significant disability
- 317 Need to scan or imaging before approval GL
- 318 Dengue patient admitted with GL cleared. Day 2 of admission they revoked and patient had to pay out of pocket. Patient discharge AOR
- 319 Newer drugs can only be used if there is a said guidelines and we are unable to use targeted agents if patients assessment shows as such ie Daratumumab in acute leukaemia
- 320 Delay in approval for surgery despite emergent life threatening condition
- 321 Denial of treatment- SIRT for liver metastasis. The treatment is covered by the insurance company in other countries but not by the Malaysia company.
- 322 Several insurance providers esp [REDACTED] denies coverage for life saving radiotherapy treatment as it is considered outpatient treatment. I have had patients whose cancer progressed/became incurable because their insurance denied GL for radiotherapy and patient was unable to afford treatment.
- 323 Knee injections IAHA
- 324 Diagnosed Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma and till now despite writing a letter and still not approved
- 325 Consultation an medication for perioperative diabetes care denied
- 326 Insurers interfere with clinical judgment. Deny surgical procedures to confirm malreported imaging
- 327 Yes poor choice of latest medication
- 328 Refusal to cover for mirena iud as a treatment for my patient who presented with heavy menstrual bleeding
- 329 1. acute suppurative otitis media is consider as chronic problem

- 2.Acute submandibular and sub mental abscess consider as dental problem thus rejected.
- 330 Patient was diagnosed with malignant Yolk Sac Tumour, proven by tumour marker; AFP (sufficient to establish diagnosis). Insurance company insisted for tissue biopsy, which in fact will upstage disease, increase morbidity or even mortality.
- 330 2. Many surgical final diagnosis can only be known after the surgery. When it is found to have so-called congenital conditions, insurance is declined (after the surgery). Though we know it does not cover for congenital, no one would know its presence until becomes symptomatic. So, patient needs to bear the whole hospital cost in the end. It is so unfair, in my opinion.
- 331 After ablation of a verruca on the face, the insurer comes back with a claim that it is sexually transmitted, refused to pay
- 332 declined biologic dmard cover despite life threatening condition
- 333 Patient has pneumoniae, shortness of breath, GL decline. Patient couldn't receive treatment on time, condition worsen
- 334 Decision to do a cataract surgery for a young patient under general anesthesia due to anxiety was override by insurance and approval was only given for local anesthesia
- 335 None that are affected significantly but it denied optimal management
- 336 Refuse to cover patients admission for breast cancer surgery, allowing only day care admission. But this was not surgery that can be done as day care
- 337 Demanding tumor pathology before admission. patient is due for admission for tumor surgery
- 338 Application for intraarticular HA for knee OA pt who fulfilled all the criterias set by KKM recommendation but still rejected, happens quite frequently.
- 339 Patient present with symptoms suggestive of possible acute cord compression syndrome. Inpatient GL declined and told to manage as outpatient.
- 340 Boy with hand foot mouth disease with dehydration with poor oral intake , indicated for admission for iv drips but denied by insurance insisted that it can be treated at home
- 341 Denying surgery for a large pelvic mass stating that it was a pre existing condition when the patient had taken the policy for more than 2 years and 2 years prior had a documented ultrasound that there was no pathology whatsoever
- 342 Refused to give GL for injuries and refused to allow iv medication and physiotherapy as inpatient treatment. Dictate doctors decisions on many clinical aspects
- 343 Patient with what looked like post-infectious encephalopathy. Insurance kept asking for mri brain results before approving the GL - almost 16 hours later, mri done out-of-pocket and reported normal only was pt admitted. I'm not sure if the mri having ringing or none is the problem ... but pt is deteriorating or could have seizures etc
- 344 Patient had abdominal mass and insurance refused admission for ct guided biopsy saying not medically indicated

- 345 initially GL approved for CGRPI for migraine,,but decision revoked after drug was administered, and patient had to pay out of pocket
- 346 No coverage
- 347 Dignostic test and procedure
- 348 Unstable angina case was denied admission.
- 349 Many instances. I have even kept the deferments, appeals, etc.
One example is for me and patient to prematurely end his 35 cycles of Pembrolizumab (salvage chemo for his refractory lymphoma), merely because he responded well, where the insurance company does not understand that the protocol is to start and to complete 35 cycles of patient response well. This is full course treatment that we as doctors cannot simply terminate if the research and guidelines wants us to complete the entire course. I don't want to held medicolegally responsible for such unethical and unprofessional behaviour, merely because insurance companies want to save cost, risking patient's cancer not treated properly.
- 350 Patient had severe dengue fever. Insurance allowed only 1 review for 1 case. For another 2 or 3 more cases allowed 2 reviews only.
- 351 Unable to get treatment for ligament injury. Patient wasn't able to get a scan done, unless they paid for it. And had to seek treatment elsewhere, despite having a legitimate injury and clear clinical signs
- 352 Cannot recall any recent specifics but usually patients pay deposit to avoid delay in treatment due to delayed GL issuance and multiple queries from insurance to dr.
- 353 They asked a fracture planed for surgery to be. Managed as outpatient
- 354 Testicualr torsion. They denied coverage after the surgery has been done, claiming it is a congenital problem.
- 355 My breast cancer patients requires oral hormonal medication for at last 5 to 10 years, this is to reduce risks of early recurrence. Patient is denied claims and had to pay cash for this medication.
- 356 Major case denied pre-op admission a day before due to the admission day falls on a public holiday
- 357 One insurance company refuse to give inpatient GL for ALL patient who is going for haemorrhoidectomy. Instead they only offer daycare GL. Doctor has to keep appealing for patient to convert to inpatient (most of time just for overnight admission) and this added unnecessary paperwork/ stress to physician. If we feel it's safer to keep patient overnight for observation, insurer shouldn't force us to change our routine practise.
- 358 Emergency surgery was delayed because multiple queries and clarifications
- 359 Insistence of procedure being done as day care subjecting patient to inadvertent and unnecessary risks.

- 360 Approved for a surgery but later revoked after found out pt is obese
- 361 Patient was unable to proceed with treatment
- 362 Cannot use novel branded drug and have to resort to traditional drugs with increase and high side effects
- 363 Insurance just a few months short of 2 years since plan started
- 364 I cannot perform certain procedures necessary to complete the treatment
- 365 Insurance denied guarantee letter for a patient with liver cancer who needed radiation therapy. However they deemed it an outpatient procedure which it blatantly wasn't as it required xray imaging and a period of fasting and therefore intravenous hydration. Patient was denied this treatment and subsequently lost to follow up.
- 366 A patient was diagnosed to have Ankylosing Spondylitis. Insurance declined approval for daycare admission for IV biologic therapy.
- 367 Patient has acute gastroenteritis with dehydration, but insurance denial despite multiple appeals.
- 368 Fracture Non-union / delayed union can be successfully treated without repeat surgery but was refused
- 369 Denial of admission for biologic treatment that had been previously approved three times
- 370 Young 5-year-old child with brain tumor requiring MRI brain and spine under general anaesthesia, denied daycare admission and coverage for imaging.
- 371 1) Insurance providers have denied coverage for certain treatments—despite their recommendation in international guidelines—claiming the therapy is unnecessary, even though the medication in question is not costly.
2) Insurance companies are using the definition of remission—citing the most recent scan showing no evidence of disease—to reject claims for adjuvant hormonal and targeted therapies that patients still require as part of their standard-of-care treatment plan.
- 372 Procedure requires daycare admission for safety reasons and international guidelines recommendations but denied on the basis it can be done as an outpatient when it is dangerous to do so and against guidelines.
- 373 Patient without intravenous medications. Some patient need admission for observation but unnecessary to have intravenous line. insurance decline as no intravenous line.
- 374 Need to mo
- 375 patient had to be referred to public hospital
- 376 Refuse admission

- 377 60+ year old patient with significant abdominal symptoms requiring daycare scope . GL declined because officers attached to insurance company deemed that further investigations and treatment can be done on outpatient basis. (pt's insurance agent call hotline and the conversation was recorded)
- 378 Gammaknife radiosurgery denied for orbital cancer
- 379 Ventricular ectopics during stress test - advised angiogram to look for coronary stenosis - GL declined.
- 380 Initial admission for chest pain approved but upon discharge it was declined
- 381 Patient with high CEA n PR bleeding n family history denied colonoscopy
- 382 Patient whom supposed to get a trucut biopsy done for parotid tumour is denied GL.
- 383 i worked around it
- 384 I don't think it will directly affect patient care as we as doctors will do the best for patients but most of the times we just swallow our greivences and do the best for patients.
- 385 Patient diagnosed with severe GERD oesophagitis plan for antireflux surgery. Insurance declined due to high BMI (<30)
- 386 Acute prolapse disc with neurological deficit
- 387 Patient denied surgery because the insurers assume that the lesion was congenital (vascular tumour on MRI).
- 388 Pneumonia - told to treat as out patient
- 389 Excision of acquired benign growth with potential for causing deformities were labelled as aesthetic procedure
- 390 pr bleeding. insurance do not pass for in patient. patient need bowel prep and colonoscopy, then operation on same day, which cant complete in a day time. have to write multiple appeal letter to admit patient inpatient and rewrite appeal again next day for operation
- 391 On a daily basis
- 392 Unable to perform upper endoscopy procedure to investigate for peptic ulcer because insurance deem abdominal pain for 2weeks not long enough.
- 393 Delayed treatment
- 394 Insurance wants CT scan before approval for admission for acute appendicitis. Patient needs to pay out of pocket for CT.
- 395 refusal to cover laser treatment for hemorrhoids, patient had small hemorrhoids that are most suitable for laser surgery. patient had undergone open surgery for very small hemorrhoids as the insurance does not cover laser treatment

- 396 Patient was referred for MVA and insurance declined mentioning needs further investigation / possibly pre existing condition?!
- 397 Approved for surgery. During 1st follow up entire admission and surgery approval was cancelled.
- 398 Acute urticaria not covered for in patient for young infants with failed oral tx. Severe gastritis approved for daycare tx only. Prolonged fever approved for outpt tx. So many more.
- 399 Patient had an autoimmune condition for which she needed IVIG, she could not afford
- 400 Hyaluronic acid/rfa injection
- 401 Resuscitation codes , managing complex patients with complex illness and instability was denied to intensivists who stays with patient for hours until stabilization
- 402 Patient was allowed only outpatient cover. The next day the patient returned very ill with perforated appendicitis.
- 403 Insurance denied and patient had to be referred to govt hospital eventhough emergency surgery was warranted.
- 404 patient had insurans bought 1 year ago but fell at workplace and sustained ACL and MCL tear which need surgery, was denied of GL, as insuran company want to investigate first, so patient had to pay for the surgery at her own.
- 405 Many cases where insurance not approved and patients could not afford And went to government hospitals
- 406 An anomaly since birth but no manifestation of problem till adulthood eg infection
- 407 Delay in approving RITUXIMAB
That was the third dose
- 408 The insurance provider set the specific duration that the patient can admit in the ward without looking at the severity/progression of disease.
- 409 Spontaneous intracranial bleeding, delay in approval as question of it was an avm
- 410 Patient has iron depletion and was symptomatic. She was put on oral iron tablet for treatment. Insurance company denied the claim, saying that iron tablet is a supplement.
- 411 GL approved for Chest pain -ACS but ctca turned to be non-obstructive- gl revoked/denied or preconditional coverage only If tests are abnormal
- 412 Delayed surgery for acute spinal cord compression
Delayed treatment for intracerebral hemorrhage
Delayed treatment for cerebral cancerous lesion
- 413 1. Multiple QAs leading to delayed of treatment, patient refuses to give consent for surgery until the GL is approved.

2. Insurance company dictating what should not be done.
3. Insisting generic medications to be given to patients
- 414 Patient in severe pain, but denied treatment because treatment can be done outpatient
- I have a case - went for hysteroscopy & dd&c
Initial GL covered under DAYCARE procedure
Intraop - complicated by uterine perforation - convert op to minilaparotomy to repair the perforation
- 415 We immediately requested for patient coverage - verbal approval given
After 3 weeks post discharge - insurance refused to cover the payment for inpatient stay and minilaparotomy procedure - without any specific reason
Case still pending till today
- 416 Radiotherapy can be done as out patient treatment, insurance company decline GL application
- 417 A classic, peer-practised, minimal invasive surgery was declined by the insurers and a conventional older technique was forced upon us, resulting in suboptimal recovery
- 418 Bronchopneumonia on antibiotics
- 419 Not allowing doctors to decide whether a patient needs sedation by anaesthesia for endoscopy - even when reasons are given still rejecting and ask the surgeon to give sedation
- 420 Pt required a fixation of wrist fracture, but because the ECG suggested possible left atrial enlargement, was denied as "undisclosed prior medical condition"!!
- 421 This causes delay in the treatment
- 422 Post hysteroscopy pelvic infection. I wanted to admit for IV antibiotics which could have been adequate treatment but the insurer declined and said coverage would only be given for surgery. I did not want to subject the patient to surgery at that point because it was not yet needed and she may have been able to avoid it. But because of the insurer's denial, the patient opted to try oral antibiotics and subsequently returned with worsened infection and required laparotomy which I believe may have been avoided with adequate treatment early on
- 423 acute stroke patient denied admission because no injection medicine given when stroke patient needs to be observed and treated as in-patient to optimise treatment, physiotherapy and monitor for any complications
- 424 Insurance declined in patient admission for a 75 year old patient and recommended daycare
- 425 A post-menopausal woman came in with post-menopausal bleeding. She has been paying the premium for 20 years. Became diabetes past 6-7 years. Insurance was approved. She was operated and upon discharged, the insurance retracted the coverage. Reasons: not informing insurance of her diabetes status.

- 426 High Risk patients needed life saving antibody denied the treatment for Breast Cancer (herceptin)
- 427 Young Malay lady had severe right sided abdominal pain for 3 days with tenderness
- 428 Refuse surgical technology such as virtual surgical planning and navigation surgery.
- 429 Pt denied admission and procedure said to be able to do as outpatient however procedure needed general anaesthesia - ridiculous
- 430 GL for standard admission denied by inconsistent review agent. Suggest the insurance company should have a doctor review all denials before being forwarded.
- 431 Small child. Laceration chin.
Denied. Went to GP. Got glue instead of stitches
- 432 A patient with ileo-colonic Crohn's disease (severe) . Patient was treated with biologics (ustekinumab) for 1 year and attained remission . But for long term maintainance of remission , the patient was denied for treatment
- 433 Delay operation
- 434 Insist myringotomy and grommet to be done under LA despite patient having low pain threshold
- 435 Patient diagnosed with odontogenic tumors are denied treatment because it is dental related.
- 436 My patient earlier was allowed gl approved by [REDACTED] for treatment of refractory MG. At the end the medication Iv. Rituximab was not covered . Say not in guidelines
- 437 Heart attack. Patient does not have a credit card to provide a guarantee and guarantee letter has been delayed by Insurance. Unethical and safety grounds I advise Patient to proceed immediately but patient is worried about large bill he can't afford.. so he refuses leading to more cardiac I jury
- 438 Patient was only covered up to RM 20 k - admitted for sepsis due to pyelonephritis with renal calculi. Need urological intervention stenting at the same time need ICU care - as patient is septic on inotropic support as patient is hypotensive, need longer duration of antibiotics - but as exceed GL - unable to do op - once stabilised had to be transferred to govt hosp.
- 438 Another case patient admitted for liver abscess coverage was limited and only covered total duration of 5 days in ward - patient supposed to stay and continue IV antibiotics as liver abscess is large as well as needed drainage - but as GL is limited patient AOR and continued with oral antibiotics - had to vbe on almost 3 months of oral antibiotics but liver abscess persisted. As patient is well - patient was not keen to go to govt gastro facility - i feel that the GL limitation lead to suboptimal care for this patient who should be on longer duration IV antibiotics
- 439 GL was issued for intravitreal injection by insurance company . Procedure was done and then insurance company revoked the GL and asked the patient to pay the full bill . Patient refused and our eye centre had to absorb all the costs of the treatment. We appealed

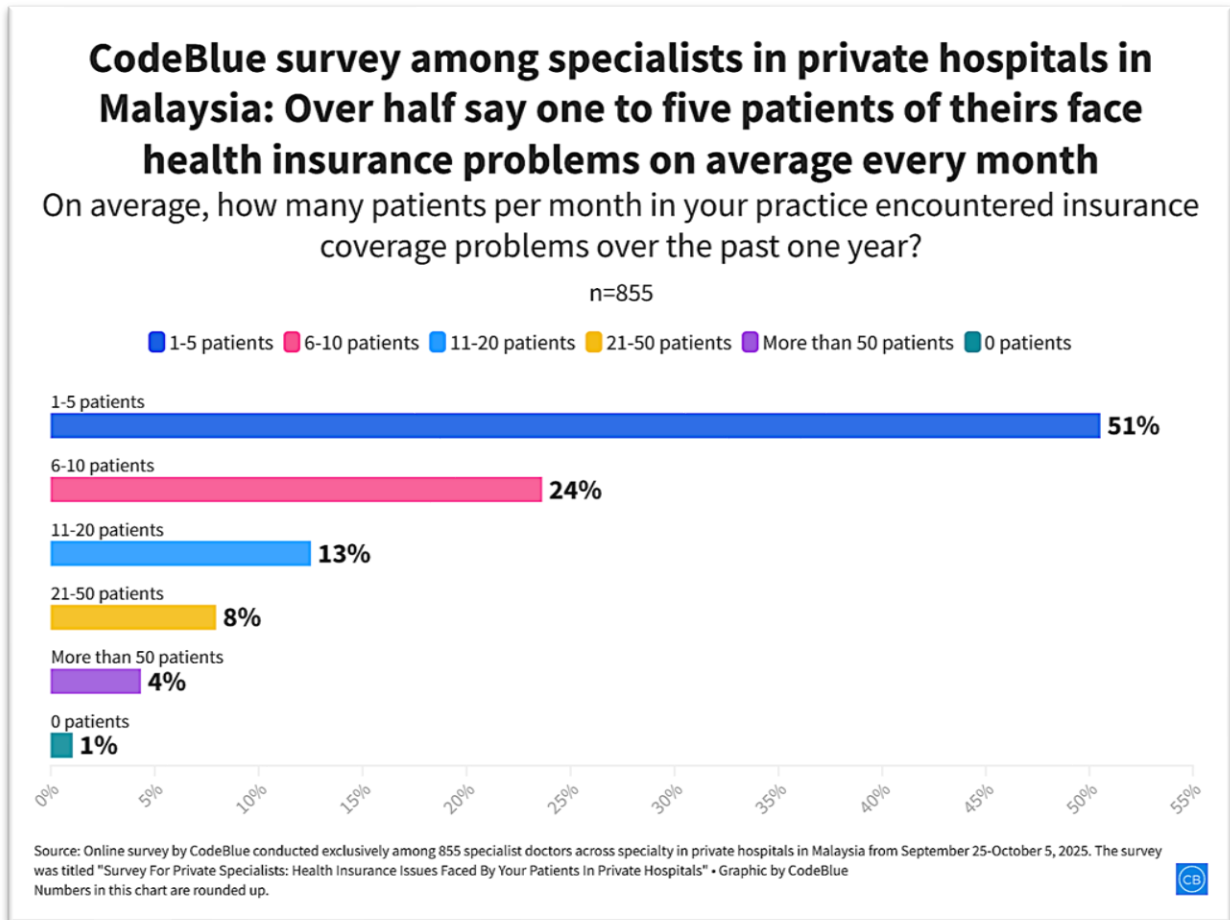
- multiple times to the insurance company and was asked to collect the amount due from the patient directly .
- 440 What is required is what asked for but many times multiple queries and at last rejection Herceptine and perjeta is a new standard for 5years. However they have got a new for which is subcutaneous and simple less than 15min they don't cover
There is oral chemo called tegefur it needs to be given with oral folina. Reimburse for tegefur but out of pocket for folina. Simple, cheap treatment made difficult
- ill patient with many comorbid
- 441 Subjected to many review and tests for stabilisation
Only allow routine test as 'normal patient'
- 442 Unable to offer more effective treatment for liver metastases
- Rituximab for steroid dependent minimal change
- 443 Admission for high risk kidney biopsy
Outpatient meds SGLT2 for non diabetic CKD
- 444 Delay in surgery
Morbidity in terms of heavy menses(bleeding)
- 445 Refused percutaneous tenotomy which is proven orthopaedic procedure
- 446 came in for abd pain, denied ultrasound / CT abdomen.
- 447 Patient who had sudden sensorineural hearing loss who was denied treatment by intratympanic dteroid injection
- 448 Patient is supposed to go for PET scan for staging of lung cancer. Insurance wanted to have report first then only to decide whether should approve.
- 449 Patient admitted for renal biopsy, informed insurance estimated cost (including HPE) 8K. Insurance only agreed to cover 2K. Insurance also said will not cover for transfusion should it become necessary
- 450 A patient from Alor Setar came to KL. GL was denied and the patient went back to Alor Setar as the procedure was not approved.
- 451 Patient required endoscopy but insurance was less than 2 years maturity and GL denied. Patient was required to pay and claim and couldn't afford care
- 452 Patient not able to get optimal care for their illnesses
- 453 Endoscopy was denied in GI bleeding
- 454 Swab for Respiratory panel applied during stay and informed that it's ok to go ahead. On discharge, the insurance company refused to cover.
- 455 Certain procedure or instruments related

- 456 Patient have flare up of disease as biological treatments are not approved
- 457 frequently deny for OGDS/colonoscopy, deny skin lesion for excision, presume themselves the diagnosis and reject doctor diagnosis, reject chemotherapy treatment, etc.
- 458 I had a 2 year old child presented with acute gastroenteritis and dehydration.
Insurance did not provide GL, because didn't have stool sample result.
Stool sample result is not the determination factor for admission, treatment should be given before child ends up in complications
- 459 Patient needed pleural drainage as he had pleural effusion
- 460 Pt admitted for influenza A with severe dehydration. Took 3 days for insurance to reply and say that they refused to cover. Patient took AOR discharge as couldn't pay bill.
Another pt, thyroid nodule required FNAC to rule out malignancy, pt refused to cover for FNAC, Pt had to pay. FNAC came back as malignant sample.
- 461 Refer to Q3, tongue base is not assessable from the mouth and can potentially bleed, hence safer to biopsy under GA and yet, insurance can deny stating that tongue base is in the oral cavity, does not need GA.
- 462 Vertebral osteomyelitis pt had to get transferred to tertiary hospital
- 463 Patient was denied a liver metastasis ablation. The insurer deemed that the ablation procedure was an investigation, citing MOH guidelines which does not exist. This was clearly against standard of care.
- 464 Shoulder pain
Dr wanted to admit to check if it's MSK or spine
Denied
Told to do MRI paid own self cash. If diagnosis positive. Then can be admitted.
- 465 Patient came for cataract surgery for the second time with the first done under General Anaesthesia. Insurance only allowed 2nd surgery to be done under Local Anaesthesia despite surgeon's insistence and appeal. Patient was not given an option at all for the second surgery to be done under GA. In the end patient has to pay out of pocket for the anaesthetic charges
- 466 Pts assumed to have underlying prior disease
- 467 Certain non-invasive procedures to help diagnose functional/motility issues following standard and unremarkable procedures/tests performed in separate centers
- 468 Do not cover ECHO for a patient on antiHER2 therapy
- 469 Simple AGE with dehydration, they want investigation results before admission

470	Yes. Case of stone treatment, diagnosed within 2 years of buying policy. Rejected as pay and claim only
471	Denial of oophorectomy in hysterectomy procedure
472	next generation sequencing for cancer care alteplase dornase for fibrinolysis spirometry for airway disease
473	Patient was admitted on advice of insurance agent who stated that the admission was claimable subsequently denied
474	Admitted after GL approved. Then rejected. Had to write 2 appeal letters.
475	Hemoglobin 5, on going bleeding, decline admission
476	yes inpatients under medical or surgical who were referred for psychological contribution of physical illness were declined coverage for psychiatry consultations in the wards or as outpatients.
477	Deny post surgery pain relief options
478	Denial of MRI for staging oc cervical cancer
479	Pelvic MRI
480	Patient was denied ophthalmology services after crossed refer by physician for exposure keratopathy as insurance says its an out patient service
481	Procedures declined due to short period of illness
482	Iv daratumumab was not covered for multiple myeloma treatment. Cited reason was that it is not classified as chemotherapy hence non coverable under policy term and condition. Oral gilteritinib that was needed for combination with salvage treatment for pt with refractory Flt 3 mutation AML was told non converable upon diacharge medicine.
483	The need of awake fibreoptic intubation for cervical spine surgery
484	Denial of review and charge more than 2x in ICU when pt is very ill and require more than 2x review in a day. Denial of certain ICU medications which insurance labelled them as vitamin supplement.
485	CAR T Cell therapy denied for R/R Myeloma patient. The same insurance company approved CAR T Cell therapy for another patient the previous year. Goal posts change.
486	Initial GL approved then final GL declined after discharge.

- 487 Procedure not approved due to exclusion but disease treated is not in exclusion(eg gallbladder procedure , exclusion stomach)
- 488 Severe back pain to the extend that patient is bed bound, insurance denied admission and treatment. [REDACTED]
- 489 Decide patient can go for medical therapy first when a clinician think the problem need intervention
- 490 A patient to have high dose radioactive iodine that require 3 days asmission to a radioactibe iodine ward: insurance gave outpatient GL
- 491 Did not manage to do PET scan when she had severe back pain. Told to do as out patient. Pt not willing to pay, waited for govt appt bone mets!!!
- 492 Denial for sclerotherapy or ablation therapy including for hemangioma even if it is traumatic cause
- Mdro Urosepsis
- Patient failed oral antibiotics x3 by GP
- 493 No oral options to treat the bacteria
- Insurance declined . I sent the patient to government hospital for treatment as patient could not afford private care without insurance
- 494 Denied joint HA injection when it is indicated
- 495 I have 7 year old girl, admitted for symptoms of gastroenteritis, she develops symptoms of gastritis 2 days after admission. I referred to surgeon for co-management of gastritis. Shockingly, her GL was revoked for both doctors as her [REDACTED] policy is less than 2 years
- 496 Refusal of coronary angiogram, patient pays out of pocket, found severe stenosis
- 497 Child admitted as viral fever but turned out to have urinary infection, and denied further investigation pertaing to renal tract
- 498 deny the patient's GL as policy is less than 2 years. Patient is having an ACUTE CEREBRAL INFARCTION
- 499 Patient presented with cemento ossifying fibrous dysplasia jaw tumour, this tumour requires resection of part of the jaw and reconstruction with illiac bone graft. This was rejected on the basis of dental treatment which is an outrage.
- 500 Patient has open fracture and needed urgent surgery. Insurance ask for x-ray report which is usually not available after office hours. So I send a screenshot of the x-ray. Got approved but end up doing surgery after midnight
- 501 Always
- 502 Patient had already insurance clearance for procedure but when came to admission required further clarification from admitting doctor prior to commencement of procedure.

Question 6



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
1–5 patients	50.53%	432
6–10 patients	23.63%	202
11–20 patients	12.51%	107
21–50 patients	7.95%	68
More than 50 patients	4.33%	37
0 patients	1.05%	9
Total Respondents: 855		

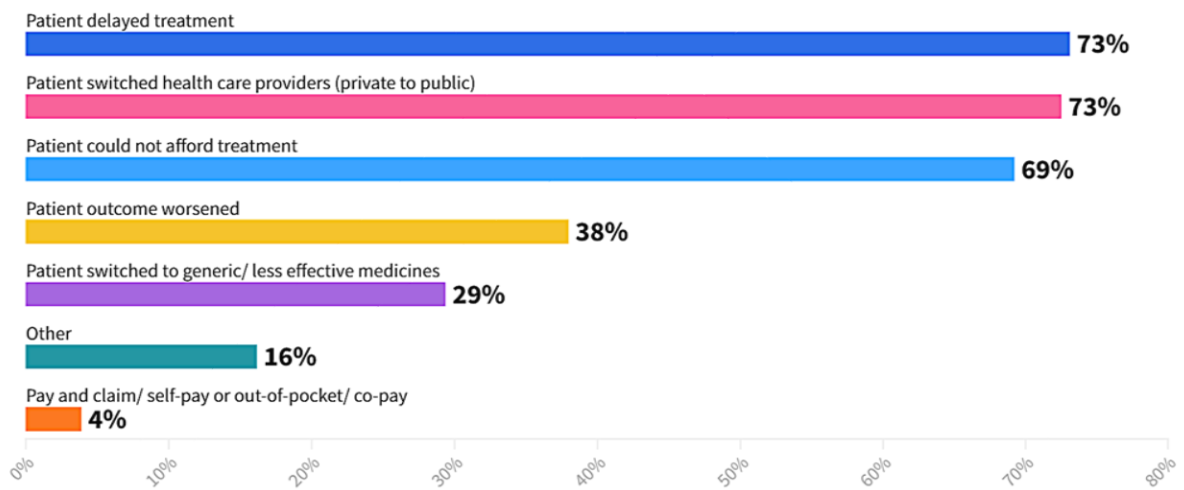
Question 7

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: The majority say their patients who face health insurance denials or delays end up delaying treatment, switching to public hospitals, or are unable to afford treatment

What happens to your patients when insurance denies or delays care?

n=848

- Patient delayed treatment
- Patient switched health care providers (private to public)
- Patient could not afford treatment
- Patient outcome worsened
- Patient switched to generic/ less effective medicines
- Other
- Pay and claim/ self-pay or out-of-pocket/ co-pay



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.

Answered: 848 | Skipped: 7

Answer Choices	Responses	
Patient delayed treatment	73.11%	620
Patient switched health care providers (private to public)	72.52%	615
Patient could not afford treatment	69.22%	587
Patient outcome worsened	37.97%	322
Patient switched to generic/ less effective medicines	29.36%	249

Other (please specify)	16.16%	137
Pay and claim/ self-pay or out-of-pocket/ co-pay	3.89%	33
Total Respondents: 848		

#	Other (please specify)
1	Have to refer to Govt hospital
2	Patient was forced to seek treatment in govt hospital which resulted in delays .
3	Need to transfer to Government Hospital
4	Discharge to Govt hospital
5	Patient AOR discharge/transfer to government hospital
6	Refer to government hospitals
7	Transfer to govt hosp or go to alternative treatment
8	And referred to govt.where there is so much delay
9	Went to queue at government hospital
10	Patient have to seek treatment in government
11	Patient had to be sent to the government hospital
12	Transfer to public sector
13	Some take loan or borrowings to do op if urgent
14	Patient paid and claimed
15	Patient paid themselves
16	Some paid n claimed. Not sure if they got paid back

- 17 Patient self-paid for treatment.
- 18 Delay in dialysis leads to overload, intubation and worsen outcomes. Some patients are forced to pay out of pocket first for acute treatment until insurance is approved!
- 19 Pay from their own pocket
- 20 Self pay for supportive care
- 21 Patient was forced to pay on their own
- 22 Patients self-pay
- 23 Patient self pay and claim
- 24 Patients have to pay for treatment themselves
- 25 Need to pay
- 26 Patient pay out of pocket
- 27 Patient pay with their own money
- 28 Patient pay on their own when able to afford
- 29 Pay and claim
- 30 Patient agreed to pay first pending approval.
- 31 Pt pay first
- 32 Patients collect donation or sell properties/borrow money to pay the cost
- 33 Out of pocket expenditure.
- 34 Patients had to pay own self
- 35 switched to pay & claim
- 36 patient willing to pay first and try to claim later

- 37 patient self pay
- 38 Patient has to pay on their own
- 39 some opted to pay cash
- 40 Pay and claim
- 41 Patient pays out of pocket
- 42 They opt to pay the difference (forced co-payment)
- 43 Answer for no. 6 is 0-1/month. Patient pays 1st and claim later or transfer to public hospital
- 44 Self paying, frustration of paying insurance premium.
- 45 They have to pay everything from their pockets, despite paying their premium diligently.
- 46 Emotional breakdown
- 47 Parents were very distressed and disillusioned by the delay and eventual declined GL, and in general felt that we as the doctor in charge were not capable enough to secure the desired decision from the insurers.
- 48 Patient continue with compromised vision and affect quality of life (not able to drive) .
- 49 They got angry with us as their agents told them the doctor did not write correctly or wrong
- 50 Pt chose to implant only monofocal intraocular lens
- 51 Unnecessary hospitalisation, unnecessary antibiotics usage
- 52 Patient scolds/blames doctor
- 53 Need to reply and clarify multiple time
- 54 Delay in treatment
- 55 discharge
- 56 Waive or charge nominal consultation fee, seek welfare support from hospital welfare facilities, earlier discharge n follow-up as outpatient

- 57 Patients complained Doctors and Hospital
- 58 Patient disappeared and outcome unknown
- 59 Need repeat explanation & reasoning to get approvals
- 60 They choose to take outpt treatment and go home
- 61 Needed admission but denied.
- 62 Treatment not optimised
- 63 Poor quality of life to pateint, some educated patient taking law suit against the insurance provider
- 64 Sometimes patient cancel treatment
- 65 Patient has to bear the anxiety and pain during LA surgery(denied GA)
- 66 Billed but not payed.
- 67 Get scolded by patient. Insurance agent always told patient that the drs didn't write serious enough.
- 68 Doctors waive their fee due to good will, and gave discount
- 69 Use other company which covers the same issue.
- 70 Patient defaults treatment
- 71 Unable to proceed with more specialised molecular studies eg Gastro panel molecular studies for gastroenteritis (because it's expensive)
- 72 Resort to TCM or other dubious practises and end up with mortality
- 73 Patient refused to pay the bill which means I didn't get paid too
- 74 Patient request to be discharged and go to other health care facility
- 75 Patient suffered before death
- 76 Default completely

- 77 Delay in approval as second doctor which only processed next working day 9am.. had resulted in ruptured ovarian cyst and haemorrhage leaving very little ovarian tissue left intact.
- 78 The payment is delayed
- 79 Doctors ended up not getting payment
- 80 Refer to government
- 81 Doctors compromise and waived their charges eg waiving AOH for emergency AOH cases, or waiving our codes for certain procedures despite the services having been rendered. And the insurers will specifically mentioned that doctors are not allowed to collect the outstanding from patient despite the care having been given
- 82 I just forgo the charges
- 83 Certain modalities of treatment e.g. peripheral nerve blocks not performed
- 84 Please get a qualified doctor to screen for approval
- 85 Delay but non Urgent case
- 86 Delay
- 87 go for alternative or rely on tik tok, whatsapp suggestions
- 88 Patient complains on doctor and hospital when insurance decline.
- 89 1. Pt used another insurance provider.
2. Doctor have to write appeal letter. Wasting of our time
- 90 AOR
- 91 Patients DAMA home to seek traditional treatment
- 92 Patient takes their chances with unproven traditional medicine which leads to grave outcome
- 93 One patient wrote a complaint letter to the CEO of [REDACTED] and cc to bank negara. GL approved within a week!
- 94 Patient had to be treated as outpatient
- 95 Patient died

-
- 96 Refer government hospitals/clinics
 - 97 Needs repeated clarification
 - 98 delay in surgery and medication
 - 99 Patients start blaming doctors and hospitals instead. Insurers are not at the fore front to receive backlashes.
 - 100 Lost to follow up
 - 101 I end up paying for the poor patients
 - 102 The hospital stay became longer and then insurers requested Dr to list down the daily treatment details post discharge
 - 103 Patient blames doctors and hospital for outcome
 - 104 Patient AOR discharge when insurance approval declined.
 - 105 defaulted surgery and follow up
 - 106 PATIENTS EVENTUALLY BLAME DOCTORS FOR POOR MANAGEMENTT
 - 107 Pt resort to GP and alternative medicines
 - 108 I omit my free as such procedure is warranted for patient care.
 - 109 Suffer in pain. Inspite paying their premiums regularly
 - 110 transfered to government hospital
 - 111 By God grace they recover but needs prolonged admission which also will cause insurance company money but they are ignorant here
 - 112 Reapply
 - 113 Patients put the blame to us saying we have not tried hard enough to help them. What we said to insurance was in fact factual.
 - 114 Defaulted treatment
 - 115 Hospital bears the cost and clinician did with no charges

-
- 116 Patient requested premature discharge
- 117 Suffer in silence
- 118 the case is written off . it is so tedious to follow the paper trail
- 119 They start blaming the doctor as if I don't know what is happening/ makes me look like an idiot. Why can't I just be honest?
- 120 Patient defaulted treatment
- 121 Some cases I don't charge for the review in the end affecting my income. Service provided but no pay.
- 122 Increase side effects
- 123 Parents risk their children by bringing home.
- 124 Patient cancel admission
- 125 Death
- 126 Disappointment anger and frustration
- 127 Patient transfers to public services with further delays
- 128 Mainly delayed or denied treatment
- 129 Patient get angry to wards surgeon and hospital
- 130 Delayed in payment..perhaps was put under CUR(already delayed for more than 6 months)
- 131 AOR home discaj
- 131 I usually write a letter to govt hospital to take over management
- 133 Complained to MOH and social media
- 134 Have to write in to appeal
- 135 work performance deterioration

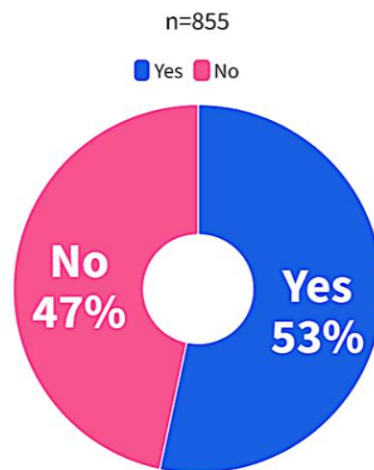
136 Lengthy and repetitive deferment replies

137 We try to appeal in behalf of patients , occa rejected second timr round

Question 8

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: Over half say health insurance companies or third-party administrators (TPAs) deny coverage of various medicines or therapies for their patients

Have insurers/ TPAs refused to cover certain drugs for your patient (e.g. innovative/ brand-name medicines)?



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	53.33%	456
No	46.67%	399
If yes, please provide one example – optional		286
Total Respondents: 855		

#	If yes, please provide one example – optional
1	Ripple mattress, expensive antibiotics, dvt pumps, feeding pumps
2	Lamictal for headache, amitriptyline for headache
3	Biologic therapy
4	Fybogel
5	They ask to use generic drugs instead of original drugs
6	Vocinti
7	Asked to Use generic augmentin which patient became allergic ; but patient is not allergic previously to original augmentin
8	GLP1-RA
9	Proprietary drugs
10	Cidofovir
11	Probiotics which is now a recognised treatment for food poisoning and IBS.
12	bionerv
13	Mycamine, Linezolid, Heptral, Tamiflu
14	They suggested to use generics
15	Dermatix ultra for hypertrophic surgical scar
16	Micardis —> generic telmisartan, Januvia —> generic sitagliptin. Ozempic semaglutide
17	neuroaid
18	CL4/6 inhibitors
19	Iron tablets for symptomatic Anemia

20	Biologics for inflammatory bowel disease
21	They tell us what drugs we can pres
22	Dermatix wound care
23	Montelukast, Sinus Rinse or nasal spray
24	Bionerve for nerve related disorders
25	syrup lactulose
26	Bionerve, bioflor mthycobalt
27	Advised to use generic
28	Artificial tears are usually not cover despite dry eyes is a medical condition . despite dry eyes being a medical
29	Dupixent
30	Prochlorperazine
31	Botulinum toxin for spasticity management
32	steroid enemas for radiation proctitis
33	Bioflor
34	Eyedrop that are classified as lubricant are not covered.but in certain cases like foreign body removal or severe conjunctivitis,this is used as therapeutic management
35	insurance will not cover any long term medication eg inhalers so pt have to buy from designated pharmacy and no assurance compliance to buy and follow long term inhaled prophylaxis.
36	Bioflor is regarded as supliment
37	Bioflor
38	Biologic treatment for asthma
39	INTRAARTICULAR HYALGAN OR EPIDURAL

- 40 Hyaluronic acid, prp
- 41 Refused RFA. Refused chondrofiller
- 42 Vit D for symptomatic vit D deficient
- 43 Biologic treatment in inflammatory bowel syndrome
- 44 Repatha
- 45 Biologics
- 46 Iron supplement for treatment of anemia, Moisturiser/emolient for eczema, spacers requires to administer inhale medications,
- 47 Neurontin
- 48 K-CAB Tegoprazan; I've iron
- 49 Inj Hyaluronic acid
- 50 Insurer asked doctors to use generic medicine
- 51 Neurontin for neuropathic pain
- 52 Galcanezumab
- 53 Keppra
- 54 Expensive drugs
- 55 Bionerv
- 56 They've issued letter to us to use generic drugs and up to now, I've complied
- 57 Vitamin B for numbness
- 58 GnRh analogue injections
- 59 IV methycobalamine or tab methyl cobalamine for sudden sensorineural hearing loss

60	Hrt
61	Questioning when using intracoronary ivus, FFR
62	sglt2 for heart failure
63	On drugs ie vitamins used for therapeutic like B12
64	Hyaluronic acid
65	Sangobion for anaemia, Bioflor for AGE case.
66	bioflor, fiber
67	They asked to use generic drugs
68	often only allow generic
69	Bionerve
70	Controloc
71	Nexium
72	Immunotherapy
73	Biologic therapy for autoimmune diseases
74	Ozempic
75	Patients with anaemia had a iron studies done and started on iron replacement therapy but told by the insurer iron studies not warranted and iron replacement therapy considered as supplements.
76	Probiotic for diarrhoea treatment
77	Post operation review- nasal rinse and nasal sprays were not covered, reasons given its not related to diagnosis. Patient was treated for Acute sinusitis , this are standard required medications
78	Calcium and vitamin D not cover for osteoporosis treatment
79	High dose vitb12 used to treat neuropathy and paraesthesia, but presumed by insurance as suppliment

-
- 80 Viatril, bionerve
- 81 Denosumab for treatment for aneurysmal bone cyst.
- 82 Mirena
- 83 Received a memo from a TPA/ insurance company to use only generic medicine when available for their policy holder
- 84 Medication to prevent and delaying hearing loss
- 85 They have asked us to switch to generic meds. Some generics are fine. Antibiotics is one area where I can clearly see a difference between generic and originals. But again... profits prevail over efficacy
- 86 Mirena. It is used for treatment of heavy menstrual bleeding but TPAs will insist its a contraception device and refuse to pay
- 87 Moisturisers, isotretinoin
- 88 IV biologics for SLE, RA, AS, PSA
- 89 Not applicable . I don't practice innovative drugs.
- 90 Acarizax, Gingko, sinus rinse
- 91 Dictating generic PPI use only.
- 92 Asked to use generic
- 93 Maltofer (iron supplement) , moisturiser cream for eczema
- 94 Heptral
- 95 Calcium vitamin d for treatment for low calcium
- 96 Celebrex and pregabalin asked to switch to generic or purchase under their insurance panel doctor.
- 97 Rybelsus, Ozempic
- 98 GLP1 receptor agonist
- 99 One TPA insisted on generic meds only

- 100 Mirena Intrauterine system / iron infusion / GnRH drugs to stop bleeding
- 101 Bionerve
- 102 Rybelsus /ozempic for poorly controlled DM
- 103 Hyaluronic acid for osteoarthritis of the knee
- 104 Levonorgestrel intra uterine delivery system
- 105 Brentuximab, venetoclax
- 106 Use for joint scaffold surgery. Rejection use of HA in patients that had HA injections before. & rejections for HA despite complying with the latest KKM guidelines for HA.
- 107 Oralteq sublingual dust mite allergen immunotherapy
- 108 Station and anti-hypertensive
- 109 If not specified in final diagnosis they will refuse
- 110 Bioflor
- 111 Botulinum toxin for spasticity treatment, Neuroaid for stroke recovery
- 112 They asked the dr to use generic drugs instead
- 113 Immunotherapy
- 114 Tamoxifen
- 115 Preservative free artificial tears
- 116 Nurtec (migraine medication)
- 117 Iron supplement, hormonal treatment beyond 1month (for the purpose of regulating menses)
- 118 Heptral for hepatitis ; Total Fibre for constipation
- 119 Mirena diaphere

- 120 HA injections
- 121 Viartil S (glucosamine) for OA knee
- 122 Miners for DUB
- 123 Treatment of anaemia secondary to excessive uterine bleeding were denied. Patients has to take iron therapy by them self. Meaning patients haa to pay for the iron therapy
- 124 Evolozumab for resistant cholesterol
- 125 Especially for fatty liver and MASH...Eg Legalon, Heptral and Natrieo..all proven clinically to help in those diagnosis
- 126 High end Antibiotics not covered in Septicemia
- 127 Ozempic
- 128 Nimvestin, monofer, iberet tablet as take home medicine
- 129 Neil med/ sinis rinse for blocked nose
- 130 [REDACTED] is forcing all of us to use generic drugs
- 131 Neuroaid 2
- 131 Collagen skin grafting for burn patient
- 133 Midazolam which is used to manage a patient anxiety during routine cataract surgery.
- 134 Neuroaids
- 135 Dermatix ultra after thyroidectomy
- 136 bionerve tablet
- 137 Overactive bladder syndrome drugs , penile rehab drugs, prostate treatment, medical expulsion therapy
- 138 Vitamins prescribed for treatment
- 139 Mozobil

- 140 Heptral
- 141 Rimegepant for migraine. Semgalutode for DM,
- 142 Semaglutide for diabetes . They claim the indication is for weight loss
- 143 Supplemental meds which are essential for treatment
- 144 diphereline/gnrh antagonist
- 145 Do not cover platelets rich plasma or stem cells. Ketamine infusions for chronic pain
- 146 Tanakan, Bionerv, Neurobion, Hyaluronic acid for vocal cord injection, Botox injection for facial spasm
- 147 Rybelsus
- 148 Semaglutide in Diabetes type 2
- 149 Neuro vitamins for vertigo & tinjitus
- 150 Entresto (due to cost)
- 151 Do not cover leadless pacemaker.
- 152 vitamins essential for treatment, certain laxatives essential for the particular case..
- 153 PCSK9
- 154 Mounjaro, semaglutide
- 155 Intravenous Immunoglobulin, CGRP for migraine, Botox for Neurological Dystonias
- 156 [REDACTED] refused to give patient infliximab and said according to their guidelines to give Secukinumab and told the patient to change doctors
- 157 I initially offered Avastin, which was denied on the grounds of lacking updated protocols and being off-label—despite its inclusion in national guidelines. I then switched to Eylea, aligning with the latest approved medication and protocols, albeit at a higher cost. The claim was suddenly approved—but with Eylea excluded. This inconsistent approach raises concern: is the approval process genuinely protocol-driven, or simply geared toward denying claims or steering toward cheaper options? References to “off-label” or “latest protocol” seem more like pretexts for rejection than clinical reasoning.

- 158 vitamin C for CRPS prevention
- 159 Mecobalamin at follow up clinic
- 160 Phosphodiesterase for pulmonary hypertension.
- 161 Aero chamber required to administer inhalers in children. Aero chamber is a universal requirement for inhaler therapy and is mandatory in the National CPG for childhood wheeze.
- 162 Original antibiotics
- 163 Iv dynastat
- 164 Diabetes with obesity already on all OHA and insulin. Needed GLP 1 n insurance. Dengue patient or pt on antibiotic develop epigastric pain and insurance refuse to pay for PPI because PPI is not a treatment if dengue or sepsis. They overlook that pt may develop side effects if medication and rhat needed to be treated. Another is post transfusion allergy and insurance refuse to oay for hydrocort
- 165 Some TPA request medications to be obtained from pharmacies outside. Hospital encourage doctors to use generic drugs
- 166 Protopic
- 167 Questioned why alternative cheaper medication was not being used
- 168 Immnumotherapy
- 169 Ozempic, Trulicity, Repatha
- 170 Especially Intravenous iron and hormonal injections
- 171 Hyalofast cartilage regeneration therapy
- 172 Visanne/ Diphereline injection/ MIRENA
- 173 analgesia
- 174 Proton pump inhibitors like nexium and pariet
- 175 Progesterone for bleeding control
- 176 Dynastat. They want us to use generic only

177 cialis 5mg for BPH

178 Collnano gel

179 Neilmed nasal irrigation for post sinus surgery (so far [REDACTED])

180 Sometimes they don't cover outpatient iv antibiotics. Patient well for discharge but needs to continue iv same antibiotics as outpatient (reduce stay, less cost and less nosocomial infections) but not allowed

181 Scar gel after recover for trauma with a reason o

182 Procedures yes

183 Original vs generic

184 Many

185 As simple as oral tamoxifen till expensive innovative medication like oral osimertinib

186 Biologics

187 Subcutaneous Humira and Stelara

188 nexium

189 Bioflor

190 [REDACTED]

191 Venetoclax.

192 Antivegf drug. There better and newer antivegf eg faricimab and aflibercept, however insurance would query us why we did not offer of label drug such bevacizumab which has no strong evidence for patient's condition. They also often query us why patient needs multiple injections for age related macular degeneration.

193 IV Simponi

194 Aloclair spray

195 Daratumumab , CART cells

- 196 Robotic
- 197 IAHA -all types
- 198 Daratumomab, generic posaconazole
- 199 There has be numerous queries demanding answers to endless questions.
- 200 Hyaluronic acid - KKM says it's only allowed i. Arthritis of the knees and shoulder BUT not arthritis of the ankle
- 201 Aeries
- 202 It is already stated in their policy to the hospital
- 203 biologic dmard
- 204 Biologic or Targeted therapy
- 205 Amityriptyline for nerve pain
- 206 Gonadotrophin antagonists for the treatment of endometriosis claiming it was a hormone
- 207 the antidepressant used for headache indication, CGPRI (reason being migraine prophylaxis is considered for prevention and not as real treatment)
- 208 GCSF injections, Pembrolizumab, glucometer monitoring in ward, referral to dietician for patients in Rules tube feeding
- 209 Not yet!
- 210 Immunotherapy
- 211 Biologics and small molecules
- 212 secukinumab, upadacitinib
- 213 [REDACTED] refuses to cover biologic treatments
- 214 Levofloxacin in eradicating h. Pylori infection. This levofloxacin regime is 1 week duration and better tolerated than clarithromycin 2 weeks regime. Another case if refusal to cover for neurotin for nerve pain post surgery. The insurer insisted that neurotin is the same with neurobion and its a supplement/vitamin for nerves.
- 215 Zoledronic acid, tamoxifen letrozole , capecitabine

-
- 216 Sybrava
- 217 Semaglutide (for diabetes)
- 218 Iron for patients with iron deficiency anemia
- 219 Admitted for dengue, high cholesterol noted on blood test, insurance refused to cover for antilipids.
- 220 Inclisiran
- 221 Bioflor
- 222 only generic
- 223 Post oesophagectomy with slow gastric emptying due to patent pylorus- botulinum toxin injection to pylorus to improve gastric emptying- insurance refused to pay for botulinum toxin
- 224 Hyaluronic acid injection
- 225 Biologics for asthma
- 226 Oral calcium.
- 227 Nexium
- 228 CAR-T cells, stem cell transplant, use of BiTE therapy
- 229 Antidepressants
- 230 Nurtec
- 231 Hormone replacement
- 232 upacitinib
- 233 Only request to use generic medication
- 234 Hyaluronic acid
- 235 Biologics , xolair

-
- 236 Probiotic, hematinics, Vitamin B
- 237 Ozempic for uncontrolled diabetes and obesity
- 238 Neilmed sinus rinse
- 239 Neuroaid
- 240 Forxiga/jardiance for Heart failure
- 241 NeuroAid
- 242 Ostinol, piascledine, bioner for spinal and neuropathic pain
- 243 Subcutaneous Phesgo
- 244 Biologic therapy
- 245 Insisted on only generic medication, no innovator brands allowed.
- 246 statin for stroke
- 247 Immune modulating drugs
- 248 Calcium and iron supplements for pregnant moms
- 249 HerceptinQ
- 250 Biologics (stelara, humira , vedolizumab) for IBD . Heptral for NAFLD
- 251 Probiotics, legalon, heptral
- 252 Mefenamic acid (claim that this is O&G drug), Neilmed nasal douching, CMC ointment
- 253 Rituximab
- 254 I am aware of backdoor agreements between insurers and hospitals forcing use of generics. Patient who have paid for Premium insurance have at times complained and asked me why they have been auto switched without consult.
- 255 ozempic

- 256 Pergeso as sub for Iv Herceptine and perjeta
- 257 Robotic surgery
- 258 Legalon
- 259 GnRh analogue
- 260 [REDACTED] - Tacrolimus ointment, ketoconazole shampoo, bioshield soap bar (certain patients)
- 261 Biological drugs
- 262 Venofer
- 263 Dm with obesity fair better with GLP1, but insurance don't want to cover because they say it's a weight loss medication when it's actually used for diabetes.
- 264 Voriconazole
- 265 Ozempic for severe obesity & diabetes.
- 266 Iron therapy for anaemia
- 267 progestogen tablets like tab medroxy progesterone acetate , t norethisterone and t dydrogesterone
- 268 Cialis , gyneflor. Approved as medication by KKM
- 269 Tissue glue used in pterygium surgery
- 270 DORNASE / rituximab/ biologics for severe asthma fasenra claimed can be done outpatient
- 271 Mirena
- 272 all psychiatric medications
- 273 Augmentin
- 274 Topical Artificial Tears
- 275 Daratumumab/Gilteritinib

276 Iv Thiamine

277 Order by [REDACTED] Insurance to prescribe generic medicines

278 Insurance asked to give generic dynostat and antibiotic to patient

279 Immunotherapy or oral targeted therapy

280 Generic antibiotics only covered

281 Joint supplements

282 Biogaia

283 advised generic medicines from the outset including antibiotics and pain relief

284 Vitamin and hematinics. Injectable product into the joint such as PRP and hyaluronic base product.

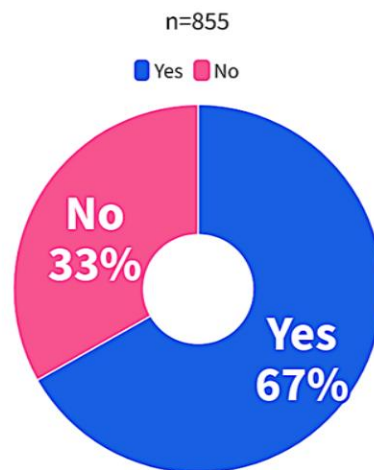
285 Viartiril-S is considered supplement even when prescribed for OA

286 IV pain killers - dynostat

Question 9

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: Two thirds say health insurance companies have revoked or denied guarantee letters (GLs) for their patients after admission or treatment

Have you experienced cases where an insurer revoked or refused to issue a GL for your patient after admission or treatment?



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	66.78%	571
No	33.22%	284
If yes, please provide one example – optional		288
Total Respondents: 855		

#	If yes, please provide one example – optional
1	Patient admitted after office hours even at wee hours of the morning
2	Too many . Happens so often in the field of plastic surgery that you expect a denial and advise patients as such . So much that even partner are aware the coverage could be denied . Most of the time it is for excision of suspicious skin lesions on the skin where a clinical diagnosis was initially made and a wide excision is planned to confirm diagnosis and treat lesion simultaneously for eg. BCC . Many times after the treatment is complete then the deferment questions come and finally a decision out of thin air that it would not be covered
3	Planned for surgery, then declined
4	Age- refused-had to write appeal letters.
5	Pt admitted for acute stroke , given thrombolysis and less 24 h revoked the GL
6	Denied the medication and treatment
7	Aklowed for admission but not for procedure
8	HPE different from clinical diagnosis
9	Refusal to cover for MRI even though indicated
10	After admission and procedure done, decline tro preexisting conditions . Case of ICB 2' to newly diagnosed hypertension.
11	Issues GL for patient MVA ; for wound debridement n dressing for Open wound , but after dischrge their famous words are waive ; n not collect from patient even patient willing to pay
12	An Indonesian patient admitted for embolization of renal AVF. Her insurer (Indonesia) denied coverage. Patient self paid.
13	Admission for mycoplasma infection and treated with bronchodilators for bronchospasm.
14	Pt has intra abdominal infection needs iv antibiotics and surgery, incidentally pt was covid+, insurance was declined
15	Fibal GL revoked when final diagnosis of not meeting acute coronary syndrome for investigation of chest pain and elevated high sensitivity Troponin I.
16	Tkr was done after initial GL was approved then revoked
17	Patient's GL was initially issued, but then revoked as insurance claimed the condition was preexisting

- 18 Onco team refer for confusion in ward, insurance refused to cover for Geriatrician referral
- 19 Patient admitted for severe hyperthyroidism. GL admission approved. But after discharged, insurance declined. Reason, iv drip not given throughout the days of admission. Nonsense
- 20 patient's parents didn't disclose certain medical history of patient when applying for insurance
- 21 As mentioned above: Case of road traffic accident. Incidental finding of high RBS, or incidental findings of CT FACE/brain reported as sinusitis- when patient admitted for emergency surgery; IGL revoked due to "undisclosed prior pre-existing". Surgery deferred, delayed and eventually transferred to MOH facility
- 22 When HPE result come back different than provisional diagnosis
- 23 patient had previous gastric disease (known non coverable by the insurance) but later had haemorrhoid treatment - refused GL because the insurance company classifies haemorrhoid disease in the cluster together as gastric disease and hence refused to issue a GL
- 24 Pt admitted with vertigo but ask to treat as outpatient
- 25 Patient admitted for rhinosinusitis with bronchopneumonia
- 26 Acute Appendicitis - after surgery can't get GL , then have to write 2 letters to appeal
- 27 Noted BP high and was started on medication on Day 2 of admission. Insurance was 6 months old.
- 28 Admitted for lap hernia but denied after surgery and initial approval
- 29 Insurance not covered if anticipated undiagnosed NCD even though previously no medical illnesses
- 30 declined GL after admission for elective procedure
- 31 Even worse ; they ask back the money which they paid u and approved a year ago. [REDACTED] is the culprit
- 32 The grey area of 2 years. Which is not even stipulated in the insurance policy
- 33 Ct shows some other incidental findings which not related to current admission
- 34 The insurance company will issue a letter request for investigation and refuse to issue GL before admission. Patient will decline admission
- 35 patient had pneumococcal septicemia initially covered then had ear discharge and MRI scan showed mastoiditis- on discharge insurance declined as not covering any ENT condition for 1st 2 years of life!

36	Cataract surgery under GA
37	Wide excision abdominal wall carbuncle GL refused because insurance just reach 2 years thus they need to investigate
38	Weekend usually where GL takes time
39	When patient was found to have additional diagnosis that was different from admission diagnosis
40	When I am the second doctor
41	Diabetes mellitus
42	ICU care admissions for perforated appendix with sepsis. Payment not covered and force to waived
43	Pneumonia with hyperpyrexia treated conservatively without any iv medication or “unnecessary” investigations, reason for decline GL as “condition “CAN” be treated as out-patient. How are they in the position to decide which patient can be treated as out-patient just based on the treatment plan when observation is needed to observe if treatment needed to be escalated over time.
44	Knee injuries
45	Refused coverage due to policy upgrade.
46	As in question 5.
47	operation was done on previously approved initial GL, but final GL was not approved and patient refused to pay the treatment for implant in which I had to pay myself to the supplier
48	Declined with the reason of “ pre existing condition”, “ need further investigation, pay then try to claim later”
49	GL approved initially for IV iron, hence patient process for treatment and admission, later GL revoked and patient have to self paid
50	Approved for Bronchitis, but upon discharge declined with reason of underlying Asthma which the pt never had
51	GL obtained. Approved. Upon final bil, GL declined
52	Admitted for spine problem, and denied GL
53	After ct scan findings
54	Many such cases. Patient then discharges self and often refuses / unable to pay

- 55 Acute Abdomen, request for Imaging before GL
- 56 Admitted for back pain. MRI Done. But asked to file and claim
- 57 Rarely
- 58 especially co managed patients
- 59 Patient underwent an urgent life saving procedure cardiac and never got compensation
- 60 Described above
- 61 put it as condition clause, will only pay after looking at the result/outcome after admission
- 62 See answer in Qs 5
- 63 Knee HA injection
- 64 insurance is about 2 years old
- 65 Knee intra-articular injection with hyaluronic acid
- 66 Rejected after admission
- 67 Emergency case like abdominal pain, suspected appendicitis delayed approval. Another case of cross referral by paediatrician to exclude appendicitis, when the final diagnosis not appendicitis, insurance refused coverage
- 68 After admitted at night and emergency surgery performed, insurance replied to inform that GL only covers for Daycare procedure! Where is was a clear cut emergency case.
- 69 admitted for pyelonephritis and denied gl because ct abd found incidental renal cyst, not related to infection
- 70 If the final diagnosis not same with provisional diagnosis
- 71 But despite GL approved, there have been cases payment refused despite being billed and deferment reply given.
- 72 [REDACTED] Patient referred to me for comanagement of skin disease by another primary doctor. After seeing the patient aand prescribing, feeling is denied as the insurer didn't agree w the referral despite clinical need. Doctor is "not to claim payment from patient toon
- 73 Revoked after seeing CT brain report noted sinusitis, not relevant to current treatment

- 74 Patient came in after trauma with soft tissue injuries.
- 75 Open fracture tibia. GL took 3 days to approve
- 76 Breast cyst in pregnancy. Clearly the cyst has got nothing to do with the pregnancy
- 77 Noticed an old fracture from imaging and suddenly refused treatment
- 78 A pregnant patient admitted for food poisoning deny a GL just because patient is pregnant.
- 79 Pt admitted with fever, initial provisional diagnosis was dengue. Subsequently found to have cholecystitis, GL revoked. All treatment to cholecystitis will not be covered
- 80 Slip disc admit for pain management. GL revoked because no specific procedure/surgery done.
- 81 [REDACTED]
- 82 I just had a case whereby final GL was revoked for the reason that patient is overweight
- 83 Given example as previous.
- 84 Too many to think of
- 85 If referred or needing palliative care
- 86 Patient initially had approval with initial GL for spine procedure/Pain Procedure, only which during the discharge, the same procedure is rejected.
- 87 Insurer will look at the diagnosis and treatment first upon discharge , then decide on coverage.
- 88 Pt who has normal imaging found for the diagnosis
- 89 Approval for REZUM Therapy, stated clearly pre admission, approved and admitted , surgery done then insurance company revoked the approval
- 90 Patient nothod to have high blood glucosw due to stress hyperglycaemia. Insurance decline the admission as claimed patient has diabetes where in fact it was stress hyperglycaemia.
- 91 Patient was referred to me for likely endocrine hypertension
- 92 To be fair, she comes in with nasal polyps related symptoms which is not covered by her policy
- 93 Not revoked entirely , but try not to make the pay out by giving lots of deferments needing justifications

-
- 94 They found out patient was a diabetic before
- 95 I have given examples.. list not exhaustive
- 96 Patient admitted for gastritis, initial GL approved. Post OGDS (positive finding)GL revoked,
- 97 Applicable to doctors from surgical and orthopaedic unit
- 98 Denial to allow urgent cytoreductive chemotherapy to proceed before formal laboratory reports are issues. Laboratory reports require a multi- stage validation process that cannot always be completed kon weekends and holidays
- 99 Oraltek Sublingual immunotherapy
- 100 Insurers denied AOH doctors charges for patient presenting with ureteric colic for Emergency stemming despite having approved the GL earlier
- 101 Request for conservative despite indicated endoscopy
- 102 Some new policies, if a Diabetes Mellitus was newly diagnosed they will revoke the final GL saying it's probably pre existing illness
- 103 Pt admitted for AGE but noted to have severe skin infection with underlying eczema. However current admission necessary for treatment of infections, not the underlying eczema.
- 104 After the ceiling has been exhausted
- 105 Polytrauma pt with infection
- 106 Subdural hematoma
- 107 Denial of coverage for management of dental traumatic injuries sustained from motor vehicle accidents or traumatic events
- 108 Plan colposcopy for abnormal pap smear findings
- 109 Child who had cervical access requiring drainage anaesthesia and ent care refused ent referral several deferments in view of requirement of MRI and surgical after failed medical management
- 110 As above
- 111 Patient was admitted for treatment of ureteric stone. What very clear the reason for the denial.
- 112 Ovarian cyst abd fibroid claimed already exist

- 113 Child admitted for AGE with dehydration and GL rejected as child had underlying Global Developmental Delay.
- 114 After HPE report, the insurance company decline GL because the said diagnosis is under their exclusion
- 115 [REDACTED] approved spine procedure then revoked before Patient was on table
- 116 Not covered for the procedure that mentioned and planned to do
- 117 I have a young patient who developed a cataract requiring surgery under GA. Her initial guarantee letter approved her admission .but after her surgery her GL was withdrawn.
- 118 Pid lumbar, need procedure, just allow outpatient
- 119 Admitted under Internal medicine, later required skin referral. Insurance refused for both to comanage.
- 120 An Active 33 year old lady Patient had come to see me for frozen shoulder .Patient was denied coverage because the patient was afraid of needles and intra venous medication that was prescribed was not given.Patient had to pay out of pocket ,insurance retract its coverage and patient had to pay out of pocket
- 121 Ureteric / renal colic on the right due to stone obstruction, but underlying duplex kidney on the left which has nothing to do with the current illness. Due to the congenital defect on the contralateral kidney- insurer refuse to cover gl and the patient's condition deteriorated till urea and creatine elevated and damaged the right kidney causing pyonephrosis and urospeis.
- 122 Required referral Letter from specific Panel clinic
- 123 Denied fgl as suspected scope finding of gerd is a presxiting condition
- 124 When patient came with headache MRI shown AVM.
- 125 Patient admitted for dengue fever, noted newly diagnosed diabetes in blood tests. Admission gl was declined following that
- 126 After approving treatment refused to pay for the procedure
- 127 Usually after appeal, may be approved. Second doctor request quite often rejected.
- 128 Acute Bronchitis
- 129 Incidental found to have DM
- 130 Patient admitted for alledged detergent poisoning but GL revoked because no IV infusion or IV medications were given
- 131 Post surgery

- 132 Acute chest pain, Troponin negative, came overnight, required nitrates and DAPT. Was declined in the morning.
- 133 Accident with multiple wound done surgery initial gl approved then rejected...at times rejected for blood levels are high like glucose when it s not even fasting blood
- 134 They deems treatment can be done as outpatient
- 135 Patient admitted with chest pain. Ct angiogram normal. Insurance revoke GL.
- 136 1.) there were times suddenly the coverage was reduced
2.) there were times they refused to cover for instruments
- 137 [REDACTED]
- 138 Benign dermal swelling that cause problem but rejected due to cosmetic reason despite lesion not on the face
- 139 Approved for admission for investigations, treatment and procedures but suddenly not covered for certain investigations or procedures, need to answer many questions on why patient needed those investigations or procedures like sitting for an exam.
- 140 Admitted for uncontrolled hypertension or chest pain. No IV meds given hence rejected.
- 141 Once u have issued a GL and a procedure has been done it's not right to revoke it especially if the company did not bid their due diligence
- 142 MRI under sedation or GA to be given by Anaesthetic... initially GL approved on Admission... procedure done by anaesthetic... unfortunately after pt discharged from hospital then letter come and said declined... pt unable to pay and making lots of noise and complaint... at last the cost become bad debt for both hospital and anaesthetic... not fair at all... it should be declined from beginning and should not initially approved and then after pt discharge the insurance reply declined
- 143 Abdominal pain refused coverage for scopes
- 144 Uncountable
- 145 Most recent patient came with severe right hyperchondriac pain. CT abdomen showed right lowerlobe pneumonia. Pt was admitted and the next day insurance was approved for outpatient cover only. ([REDACTED])
- 146 Gl aporived 1 week ago, on the day of admission during procedure only receive exclusion.
- 147 Happens quite often. GL issued for a procedure then insurance refuses to pay after said procedure done and patient discharged from the hospital
- 148 claimed that it was a congenital condition
- 149 GL for GI scope revoked if findings is normal

- 150 Unfair clause as to deter patient getting appropriate treatment and procedure as in normal angiogram, fee is not cover. Or in ICU, only limited to 2 clinical rounds etc.
- 151 Not yet
- 152 After reviewing HPE
- 153 Excision of ear cyst was initially approved but declined after surgery as it was deemed to be congenital without giving reasons
- 154 For surgery
- 155 They just refuse to honour the GL provided
- 156 after surgery GL revoked
- 157 GL already issued to hospital after PA form completed but later withdrawn becoss of policy issues
- 158 GL revoked because patient was not given IV analgesia the last day of back pain admission
- 159 As above
- 160 Claims that the patient's condition is a pre existing condition and require investigation by insurer
- 161 Aftter surgery agreeing to pay for only some parts of procedires
- 162 Post hernia repair. Post endoscopy
- 163 Admission for hyperglycemia. Initial GL approved then final GL declined. Reason given is because pt is overweight and that is a pre existing condition. Pt was overweight on initial GL application already. Could have declined then but approved then. And being overweight is not a pre existing condition
- 164 Final GI Not covered after intial GI approved and pt already had the treatment done.
- 165 Vacuum dressing for diabetic wound
- 166 Once, yes - GL approved for ogds and colonoscopy then covered only for OGDS. Can't recall the MRN now.
- 167 Most times admission is at night when symptoms are unbearable. The next day insurance insurance rejects.
- 168 wants to review HPE results
- 169 Admission doagnosis - ovarian cyst intraoperative findings- paratubal cyst

- 170 Severe AGE - denied admission
- 171 When insurance found out that the patient's got previous same disease or treatment done. Or delay in insurance payments, etc.
- 172 long time ago.
- 173 Anaemia as incidental finding
- 174 Yes, herpes gingivitis assumed as dental problem, refuse coverage but after many appeals they eventually approved
- 175 As above
- 176 Admitted for treatment of thyroid eye disease, but further investigations suggest that strabismus present. So GL revoked after investigation done and treatment given.
- 177 Patient was admitted for a urine infection. Imaging showed a duplex kidney, unrelated to the infection. GL was revoked as insurers allege that the matters are linked.
- 178 RADIOFREQUENCY ABLATION
- 179 Refuse to cover certain investigations
- 180 [REDACTED]
- 181 Patient with severe anaemia, symptomatic, admitted via ER and blood transfusion started. Test came back iron deficiency, denied coverage.
- 182 Radiotherapy refusal coverage as insurer thought that it's out patient treatment . It's can be in patient treatment , day care and out patient treatment .
- 183 GL approved for Appendectomy done for acute appendicitis. Post op, GL declined as patient has G6PD and past history of cardiac septal defect which was operated and completely healed.
- 184 Admitted for appendicitis n denied GL day2 so transferred to GH for treatment but neither the patient nor insurers psid drs n hospital bill.
- 185 acs treatment without wcg
- 186 Child with acute bronchitis with hypoxaemia
- 187 Admitted for infection which need iv antibiotic and found out an incidental finding in ultrasound report
- 188 Corneal ulcer case was approved for admission care, but was later rejected after discharged without payment
- 189 Dengue denied admission after being admitted

- 190 Refer Q5
- 191 Patient was admitted for injections with HA. GL was approved. Procedure was done. HA was given and then GL was revoked. I was made to pay for the medication by the hospital.
- 192 submandibular abscess,insist it is dental causes
- 193 Yes, deny for cross referral. For example, when a patient is under a physician, and case is referred to surgeon for suspicious surgical condition. Insurance declines the referral as no surgery is done, claimed referral is not indicated. Assessment and decision for no surgery is also a treatment!
- 194 Medical treatment for acne
- 195 approved and then declined reason being daycare admission < 24 hours. initially approved despite knowing insurance limit already exceeded
- 196 Couldn't remember
- 197 Patient was admitted due to mva sustained closed fracture of leg. Was referred for high blood pressure. GL ISSUED, Fracture was fixed and after operation GL revoked suddenly due to high blood pressure
- 198 Denied acyclovir for skin disease (shingles)
- 199 Patient tht was admitted for breast absess treatment, they claimed tht it was 2nd to breast feeding but it was not
- 200 Gluteal abscess during pregnancy, it was not related to pregnancy but after initial approval on the second day of admission the claim was denied and the patient was told to pay first and claim later
- 201 Acute tonsillitis because they labelled that as a throat condition????
- 202 Patient done GL approved for 1st RCHOP chemo as in-patient, but merely because he was discharged on the same day, but exceeded 6-8hours. Insurance revoked the GL, claiming that patient's policy doesn't allow same day discharge. So, Insurance is forcing doctor to keep extra night, and waste more money. So it's isn't true that we doctors or hosp is causing the medical cost to rise. It is the unfair assessors simply making unreasonable excuses, and as a result, patient stay longer, hospital bills increases. Therefore insurance pool funds are depleted unnecessarily and rakyat suffer from rise in premium
- 203 Yesterday, a patient whom already failed outpatient treatment, and started in inpatient treatment, but insurance without any explanation, issue GL only for outpatient.
- 204 Testicualr torsion as above
- 205 Not yet!!!

206	Elderly patient with dislocated shoulder needed reduction of shoulder joint under general anaesthesia. Post procedure insurers refused coverage for day care as they claim it should have been done as outpatient treatment
207	on table referral by colleague for a gynecological cancer requiring assistant case
208	Patient admitted for food poisoning. Incidental blood test abnormalities were found that required further investigation and resulted in declined coverage
209	No coverage of URTI while pregnant
210	██████████ refused to pay for a SIRT treatment after patient had had the treatment which cost in excess of RM150,000
211	Patient was admitted for IV biologics. The biologic medication was not charged under the patient support programme. Insurance refused to cover the ward and consultation charges
212	Patient has acute gastroenteritis with dehydration, but insurance denial despite multiple appeals.
213	Shockwave therapy was approved for fracture delayed union after initially approving it
214	13 yo girl with intermittent abdominal symptoms, haemoglobin on admission 3.4 g/dL. Initial GL approved, she received packed red cell transfusions and blood tests. Upon discharge, GL declined. Reason given for declined GL - possible underlying congenital disorder.
215	Patient has no intravenous line
216	When final diagnosis differs from original
217	Laser haemorrhoidoplasty
218	Admitted by ER M.O. for severe symptomatic tybotoxicosis, a week after discharge they wrote to me demanding justification for the admission.
219	GL approved for pH studies but final GL excludes pH capsule
220	Admitted for bronchitis, insurance declined
221	As above
222	If no intravenous drugs or medication is given pt is usually denied coverage. Observing a patient for progress of disease is not covered. But if patient turns bad at home, we doctors will be liable.
223	Admitted for acute abdomen Ct done acute appendicitis- declined final GL as policy less than 2 years
224	Initial GL approved , patient underwent conservative treatment but not proceed with surgical treatment planned then final GL declined

- 225 Traumatic lumbar PID patient who underwent surgery and GL was revoked during discharge due to perineural cyst on MRI imaging which was not related to her illness
- 226 Pneumonia
- 227 after partial chemotherapy, policy was revoked
- 228 Admitted for CT guided biopsy, biopsy showed no cancer, patient had to pay on their own
- 229 Claimed congenital issues
- 230 Patient admit for one diagnosis. Incidental finding of fatty liver on imaging, causes TPA to revoke GL claiming undeclared by patient. This finding is unrelated to admission diagnosis.
- 231 one lady admitted midnight, next morning revoked
- 232 They found out that patient's policy has not matured / cool off period
- 233 Septoturbinoplasty And fish bone removal under GA
- 234 Refused to cover an obvious infection, saying it was a pre-existing condition.
- 235 PET Scan
- 236 same as above
- 237 Refused GL Afte patient refused parenteral analgesics
- 238 ADMITTED OVERNIGHT FOR ILLNESS FROM EMERGENCY AND DENIED INSURANCE NEXT DAY
- 239 Bleeding lesion and spine related problems
- 240 Provisional diagnosis ACS-UA but ctca was normal-GL revoked
- 241 Admit for cerebral tumors; revoke after admission
- 242 Rfa was covered suddenly not covered
- 243 As per noted earlier/ above
- 244 Acute gastroenteritis [REDACTED] declined can be treated as outpatient

- 245 patient admitted for vertigo, GL declined as patient discharged after 2 hours
- 246 A post-menopausal woman came in with post-menopausal bleeding. She has been paying the premium for 20 years. Became diabetes past 6-7 years. Insurance was approved. She was operated and upon discharged, the insurance retracted the coverage. Reasons: not informing insurance of her diabetes status.
- 247 Prescribed Chemo PLUS herceptin. Denied treatment GL because said herceptin not covered in policy. But in policy no such exclusion clause
- 248 They allowed procedure but afterwards halted payment
- 249 Patient presented with upper GI bleed, anemia. Insurers refused to cover for admission but asked to do oGDS as daycare
- 250 Admit for bronchitis but previous admission regarding knee not covered. So current admission not covered
- 251 Patient diagnosed as acute tonsilopharyngitis is not congenital problem as they always thought.
- 252 On Out pt antibiotics converted to in pt when clinical deterioration happened. They could not 'close' the previous bill and subsequently denied insurance cover
- 253 sometimes was the mistake / inexperience of underwriter, after appeal mostly approve
- 254 Patient admitted for facial infections was refused GL because of odontogenic causes.
- 255 Rituximab
- 256 Patient managed by two doctors myself and another specialty. Initial GL was approved under the other specialty. On referral to me as patient had developed cardiac chest pain, both GLS were revoked.
- 257 patient admitted for bronchitis - GL revoked as patient was a known case of bronchial asthma prior to insurance coverage so bronchitis is not covered
- 258 GL issued for eye surgery and surgery was done. After that, insurance declined to pay for the surgery and asked eye centre to collect all charges from patient.
- 259 Especially more than one discipline Such as TAHBSO for stenting
- 260 Pre operation blood test shows mildly raised random sugar, GL revoked even case is not related to diabetes, it was endometriosis
- 261 Came in headache, no stroke, refused payment after CT brain normal
- 262 Influenza A
- 263 Cystectomy / anaemia

- 264 Ureteric colic
- 265 Not frequent
- 266 As mentioned. Also another case where the initial diagnosis was viral fever and then Mycoplasma Igm was positive and GL was revoked as it's not a diagnosis that is covered in the initial phase of coverage
- 267 ogds and procedures (skin/adhesiolysis)
- 268 Dengue patient already admitted then had GL revoked.
- 269 Influenza A with severe dehydration
- 270 Patient with neck abscess noted to have DM at this admission , denied GL as they feel that pt did not disclose the diagnosis of diabetes
- 271 After getting admitted. The patient apparently had hypertension. GL denied because failed to disclose.
- 272 Pts with recurrent endometriosis And those with inadvertent complication
- 273 admitted for pelvic infection . on day 3 when refered to ortho for numbness of hand and diagnosed with cervical spondylosis
- 274 bronchitis/ influenza not tolerate orally - refused GL
- 275 Large abscess needed incision and drainage
- 276 Procedure for Conjunctiva exploration and removal of Pseudo Membrane, the insurance asked to change to Eye Dressing changes.
- 277 Admitted for gastritis but denied endoscopy
- 278 Awake fiberoptic intubation
- 279 Pt with Hypertensive bleed
- 280 Hernia surgery, Final GL declined after Initial GL approved and surgery was done
- 281 Almost one third admission from emergency department
- 282 After an admission for an infection amd total parenteral nutrition as touted mot related
- 283 Back pain

284

[REDACTED]

285

admitted as pharyngitis by medical officer but I suspected pneumonia and asked for CXR and had to explain back and forth before finally approved after almost a day

286

as above - acute stroke denied in a 22 month old policy

287

Patient was under [REDACTED] insurance with [REDACTED] as the TPA. Patient acquired the insurance about 6 months prior. She was involved in an MVA and sustained mandible fracture. Initial GL was approved, however final GL was decline on the basis of nasal polyp was reported. The patient did not go any nasal surgery during her stay. Due to this she could not afford follow up in my centre. She also can't afford the rm35k bill. Eventually the doctor did not get paid and no body cares. Not the insurance, hospital or the government.

288

For an appendix case from [REDACTED]

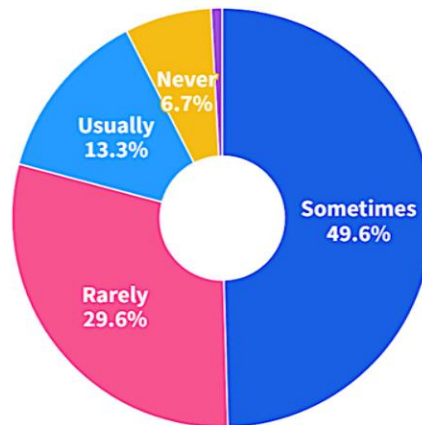
Question 10

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 79% say appeals to health insurers are only successful sometimes or rarely

When an insurer denies coverage for your patient, how often is it successfully appealed or reversed?

n=825

Sometimes Rarely Usually Never Always



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 825 | Skipped: 30

Answer Choices	Responses	
Sometimes	49.58%	409
Rarely	29.58%	244
Usually	13.33%	110
Never	6.67%	55
Always	0.85%	7
Total Respondents: 825		

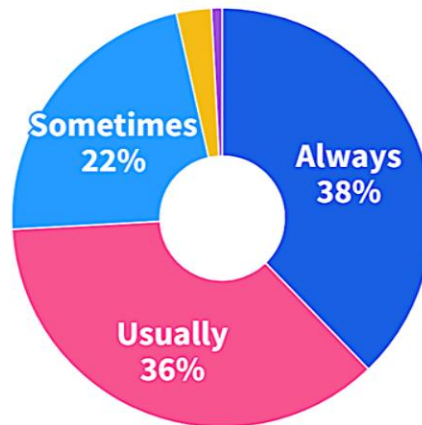
Question 11

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 74% say health insurers always or usually ask them irrelevant questions

How often do insurers ask questions that are not relevant when clarifying admission or coverage?

n=855

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
	Percentage	Count
Always	37.78%	323
Usually	36.37%	311
Sometimes	22.34%	191
Rarely	2.69%	23
Never	0.82%	7
(Optional: Please provide one example of the kind of irrelevant question you have encountered)		300
Total Respondents: 855		

#	(Optional: Please provide one example of the kind of irrelevant question you have encountered)
1	for a sebaceous cyst a request for confirmatory biopsy confirmation was requested before approval . A cyst biopsied ruptures and exposed patient to incomplete removal and infection and 2 separate procedures . I can understand if the request was for an ultrasound . Makes you wonder if the person on the other end has any medical knowledge at all
2	Details of treatment carried out elsewhere more than a decade ago which the patient cant remember
3	Why admitted for chest pain? Treat as outpatient
4	Immunodeficient
5	Pt has a breast abscess but unmarried and insisting ot is breast feeding?!!
6	Dumb questions
7	Why are there charges from the anaesthesiologist for post operative pain management such as Patient controlled analgesia.
8	Asking what is the causes of the condition even though even in research , we unable to determine the cause. Asking about MRSA condition in patient with pneumonia.
9	Denied admission because no iv medication-
10	Patient has painless left lower chest wall subcutaneous lump, increasing in size from 2cm to 5cm within 5 months. Applied GL for image guided biopsy under daycare. TPA ([REDACTED]) deferred GL approval by asking HPE result.
11	Almost near always questioning Dr's opinion when the person asking g questions has no medical background or exposure
12	Patient has no iv medication. Kindly justify admission.
13	Asking HPE result upon admission when patient is actually being admitted for the biopsy to be done
14	Paediatric patients post fall /mva that sustained facial lacerations wound being query the need to admit for gcs monitoring
15	How much IV infusion am I giving?
16	Which organ is affected by the diabetes? Why is the pt needs tamiflu - asking in patient who is positive influenza? Why renal function need to be done in this patient?
17	Being asked if intravenous paracetamol and Esomeprazole will be used for angina investigation.

18	is the patient pregnant? (patient is a man!)
19	(1) is the autistic child claustrophobic
20	why need to admit child with acute gastroenteritis even when child in need to hydration through intravenous drip
21	Surgery on foot- "is this cosmetic indication:Yes/No", please provide photograph (violation of confidentiality), can GA case be performed as outpatient
22	Why is ECG abnormal, since when it was abnormal, who were the first doctor who diagnosed the abnormalities
23	For vaginal hysterectomy asking for site of surgery
24	I stated skin graft procedure but always ask whether I will be using synthetic skin substitute
25	Does patient have fever for sinusitis
26	Fasting Blood Sugar Definition For DM
27	Patient admitted with head injury under Neurosurgeon with epistaxis... Neurosurgeon refer to ENT for epistaxis... question asked why need ENT referral for epistaxis??
28	Inguinal hernia in a male in 50's, they ask whether it is congenital. PT for scopes insurance ask whether PT had treatment before doing procedure - looks like PT must try treatment with GP before coming to specialist to do scopes. Another time denial of ultrasound abdomen for ?Acute Appendicitis case.
29	Whether diarrhea / abdominal pain is related to pregnancy ?
30	Asking for imaginasi or investigation report that are not clinically I dicat ED.
31	1 . Despite showing the visual field defect , they still say it is cosmetic. They even question my surgery , I did a complicated surgery using multiple procedures, they just willing to pay one. Claiming other consultant only use one code. The issue is I am a surgeon who provide advanced / revision surgery and hence have to use complicated and multiple surgery . They refuse that
32	Expected discharge date. Rehabilitation is based on goals, actual discharge date is difficult to pinpoint
33	Why coronary angiogram cannot be done as out-patient procedure!
34	having to repeat answers already mentioned on preadmission form
35	A patient with recent abdom pain and altered bowel habits needs an endoscopy(stomach and colon). Questions asked included any vomiting of blood, fever >38, need for urgent surgery, hypotensive of on the verge of collapse. This is nonsense

- 36 although I write details of failed outpatient treatment eg for high fever 5 days or cough for 2 weeks I am still asked why need to admit.for bronchitis I am asked blood gas results as if a child needs to have an abnormal blood gas result to qualify for admision, or asked capillary refill time for bronchitis.I was also asked to explain my diagnosis of ASthma as the insurance company said the chest Xray report was normal!
- 37 why do patients need some medications, e.g. pain relief post surgery and prophylactic antibiotics and have to state duration of treatment and doses
- 38 Asking the same question repeatedly. Asking irrelevant questions not related to patients problems
- 39 Why the child does not have IV medication when it's not needed clinically
- 40 Why admit, why not daycare. Pt is from far of place.
- 41 One particular insurer repeats the same question again a few times. When I told them this was the last time I am replying they removed me from their panel. Harassment is a common tactic
- 42 Only happens with [REDACTED] insurance
- 43 Kindly state iv analgesia, reason for admission
- 44 Why do a full blood count on a patient with gastroenteritis
- 45 Number of vomiting, number of stools
- 46 Asking repeat question.in.initial.submitted form
- 47 Asking about small liver cyst, asymptomatic and reported as benign on ct Scan. Operation was for TAHBSO for fibroids , 16 wk gravid size
- 48 Why need to use iv Ig to treat Kawasaki Disease. Why needs admission when no CT brain is done. Consultation fee cannot be charged as “after office hour” rate
- 49 List the medications given to the patient
- 50 Assume all mastitis are due to preganncy
- 51 Open fracture treatment declined due to high uric acid level
- 52 What is the cause of diabetes
- 53 Is the procedure related to cosmetic

- 54 They always repeat question already mention in initial GL application. Also like to ask question that obviously has no answer, like the causes of certain diseases.
- 55 Repeated question asked even already stated in the first insurance application
- 56 Pls provide CT report for something that can be clinically/endoscopically diagnosed
- 57 State all the medications you plan to give to the patient/is there anynpolice report done for the mva/
- 58 Eg is the bartholins abscess in a seventy year old lady , congenital or sexually transmitted
- 59 Pt admitted for perforated appendicitis, but QA - when was hypertension diagnosed? WHO first diagnosed?
- 60 Same question repetition in different ways
- 61 Asking the same questions all over again despite clearly stated in insurance form
- 62 Why was this done? Why add an extra charge when same area of anatomy (it was a different wound)
- 63 Patient coming to me for daycare scope for GERD, I have to fill up a 2 page questionnaire to check whether a scope is really indicated
- 64 asking for imaging study of lump and bump which can diagnose clinically, relied for ct report of appendicitis, and ignore patient clinical condition
- 65 Questions are repetitious in nature,GL forms sometimes filled up multiple times,asking similar questions in different way,wasting precious time
- 66 Viral fever with severe dehydration and AKI. Insurers asking for lipid levels, blood glucose. Given capillary blood glucose level as patient deemed low risk for DM and is young fit and healthy premorbid. Bedside DXT normal. But still insisting for lipid profile. Completely irrelevant to admitting diagnosis.
- 67 After stating clearly indication they ask the same question without reading PAF
- 68 repetitive question which already asked in the form prior
- 69 Such as tumour for non-surgery treatment
- 70 Post traumatic knee oa in elderly, based on clinical examination and xray we can access ligament laxity and what is the ideal treatment in elderly, but insurance providers request for MRI which is unnecessary and will incur more cost to them. Whereby we can just omit the mri and proceed straight to the treatment

- 71 Most questions reflect a complete lack of understanding of the condition and treatment
- 72 Patient admitted for surgery but have underlying well controlled hypertension for instance
- 73 History of diabetes and hypertension for an Orthopaedic trauma case, what will happen if a tumour is not excised
- 74 Request for a biopsy report when it has not been done
- 75 Indication to give analgesia in patient has acute pain
- 76 Asking why after office hour charged.
- 77 Diagnosis clearly written as recurrent bleeding pyogenic granuloma. Asked whether is it aesthetic reason to treat
- 78 When patient experience this symptoms, but already stated in the application form the same symptoms and when the duration being already stated.
- 79 Indication of starting inotropes
- 80 why do you remove the 2 ovaries for your 60 year old women with right cyst ?
- 81 If you don't treat the patient , what will happen.
- 82 Mirena is for contraception. This is not true-Mirena is to controlled abnormal uterine bleed
- 83 I dont mind anwering it once as my practice is very subspecialised and I understand many dont understand the procedure that an ortho oncoloigt do. But at times we get same question asked again and again.
- 84 Why a pregnant patient admitted for AGE or dengue fever under the care of obstetrician and not physicians.
- 85 Request mri wrist to diagnose carpal tunnall syndrome
- 86 What is the underlying cause of idiopathic scoliosis? (which I have explained many times.)
- 87 I had an early pregnancy patient admitted for shortness of breath likely panic attack induced (patient have history of anxiety disorder) TPA asked me if panic disorder is related to pregnancy. I said no, but they refused to accept my answer
- 88 In patient with active RA— question asked : is patient's worsening condition related to any high risk behaviors?
- 89 Young man with acute colitis. One off sugar that is high, 4 page letter of query to find out if pt was diabetic or known diabetic .
- 90 Adult patient with tumour in the colon, " Is this a congenital problem"
- 91 Is CVL indicated for CABG?

- 92 Can patient be treated as outpatient? Patient oxygenation is 88% and on HFMO and hourly nebuliser.
- 93 Is patients kidney stone related to a congenital hemangioma of the liver
- 94 Have you ever tried conservative treatment? Is open surgery an option for this patient?
- 95 Enquirinf the number of tablets provided when clear prescripion was given.
- 96 Routes of medication given (Parenteral versus Enteral)
- 97 Please explain why patient in icu needed invasive monitoring and more frequent reviews
- 98 Vaginal discharge - candidiasis - Pls clarify if this is STD linked. Similar question for UTI
- 99 Example of a case that I replied to ██████████ read as below “ This 55-year-old lady was diagnosed with L4/L5 and L5/S1 spondylosis, accompanied by sciatica — There was no delay in the scheduled surgery — with insurance triggered on 07/09/25, planned admission on 10/09/25, and surgery on 11/09/25 — your team’s exceptional insight led to the initial GL being denied on 09/09/25. Why? Because apparently, spinal surgery is something one could just walk in and out of, like a salon appointment. Out patient treatment ????? Due to this brilliant assessment, an appeal had to be submitted just to request basic coverage for a legitimate inpatient procedure. Thankfully, someone somewhere saw reason, and the GL was eventually granted just in time, allowing the admission and surgery to proceed as planned. Thanks to the hurdles thrown in for dramatic effect. Let’s be clear: the treatment plan faced NO delays. The only disruption came from your side, which did a commendable job of making things unnecessarily complicated. Attached please find the non - issuance GL and appeal letter
- 100 they just deny GL
- 101 Almost all investigations mentioned in PAF but sometimes they reiterate same question
- 102 Starting Duphaston (3rd gen oral progestogen) for abnormal uterine bleeding.
- 103 Refer to the primary doctors admitting patient
- 104 Insurers frequently asking insensible questions, none specific to patient
- 105 To dictate procedure to be done under LA instead of GA. Clinical indication needs to be done under GA
- 106 Doing a minor gynae surgery on a child under local anaesthetic
- 107 Patient planned for ACL reconstruction surgery, insurance asked whether using cartilage scaffold implants, BMAC etc (totally irrelevant for ACL surgery)
- 108 Insurers are asking for indications and anaesthesia and sedation for scopes patients which are scheduled either due to their physical status or comorbids

- 109 Often arguing that patient is not indicated if no intravenous medications are prescribed, ignoring the importance of observing certain clinical progress is crucial in averting complication like cases of severe hypertension.
- 110 They kinda repeat the question as if they have no medical knowledge. And keep says follow the 13th schedule. If its not inside, you are not allowed to claim anything extra.
- 111 Daily vital signs, input and output chart
- 112 Ask for blood work up or vital sign record when it is irrelevant to my diagnosis.
- 113 Asking same questions which have already been answered in the admission form
- 114 Why charge for post-op review? (for anesthetist)
- 115 10 year old sustained cerebral concussion during a football game at school. Asking , was he playing for a professional league
- 116 Please get a mD to do screening not paramedic. Syllabus is not the same
- 117 Can a pneumonia be managed as an outpatient in a child
- 118 Why need to do regional anaesthesia when surgery is done under GA
- 119 Can this disease be congenital
- 120 Can tonsillectomy be done under LA or outpatient
- 121 Is torsion of testis related to sexual transmitted infection
- 122 Pelvic infection were always need std investigation which not necessary
- 123 Why does a spinal cord injury patient require neurogenic bladder management and training in activities of daily living (which is jaw dropping)
- 124 I was asked if condition (acute tonsillitis) may be related to pregnant. Patient was 7years old
- 125 Is this HPV sexually transmitted disease.
- 126 Asking repetitive question even when the symptoms were already given during initial application
- 127 Insisting that large spine operation can be done as day care. Once again [REDACTED]
- 128 Op on Monday morning. I do very major ops and they will ask why admit on sunday
- 129 Why does the patient with fibroids need to do myomectomy or hysterectomy. Can the surgery to be done as day care?
- 130 FROM [REDACTED] - always ask what IV, IM ORAL medication will you order
- 131 What medication to be given, in what frequency and what dosage.
- 132 Asking what medication is prescribed by GP for hypertension, dyslipidemia etc
- 133 Is the patient smoker or diabetic, which doctor diagnosed and treated the condition

- 134 Despite repeated explanations in earlier admission , the same questions will ask in subsequent admissions !!
- 135 RBS 8, asking about diabetic history, when applying for lap appendicec
- 136 Or.newly diagnoed DM
- 137 Fluid regime for dengue fever as it's not fixed, we need to manage fluid accordingly
- 138 surgeries that are deemed unnecessary by insurance therefore was told not to be charged
- 139 Asking for driver's license in 15 years old in MVA
- 140 When patient admitted for food poisoning, the insurance ask for lipid or sugar test
- 141 Why nasal sprays given for otitis media? Request CT scan when clinically not indicated. More often where patients are planned for CT/MRI insurers insist imaging done first before processing insurance request. Forcing patients to pay for imaging first before admission.
- 142 Request for blood report eg ct scan report before approval
- 143 Clear Abscess but ask for ultrasound
- 144 Underlying cause of appendicitis
- 145 Does this condition needs hospitalisation? Which obviously it does, as to the very reason why we applied an admission GL in the first place.
- 146 Admission for pneumonia ask for lipid profile
- 147 Reason for investigation if troponins are negative. Not understanding pathophysiology of unstable angina.Asking for CKMB (We rarely do this). Asking for results of an Echocardiogram in the face of a newly admitted patient, without any heart failure.
- 148 Driving licencse, mostly foolish questions only
- 149 1. Patient with positive stress test. Planned for elective angiogram in a week or two. Insurance ask why not immediately and can wait 1-2 weeks. 2. Patient has PVCs and need to be ablated, insurance ask is it WPW? (Not relevant at all).
- 150 2 year old with foreign body in the nose . After many unnecessary question . The final one pissed me off 'how did the foreign body went into the nose' : parents and I were furious . As the child was crying (fasting)
- 151 Please provide the HPE report of the lesion for consideration (before even did the excision??)
- 152 see my answer to 9.
- 153 Which GP does he/she usually visit and for what ailment. When is the onset of disease exact to the year month and date, otherwise reject
- 154 Some questions are ridiculous... example u have a renal tumor with it extending into the ivc.. they ask why do u need to do a thrombectomy... u have a fish bone stick on the throat.. why did it happen the fish bone in the throat are a few simple examples ..

- 155 Admission Diagnosis and plan of treatment already answered in initial form but questions repeatedly asked to delay admission or deny, within next 24 hrs. tial Admission Form-insurer will repeat same questions, repeatedly, over next 24 hrs, to delay or decline admission. If admitted, one insurer will insist on specifics eg route of drug admin, dose, times per day, duration. Eg T PCM 1gm TDS for 5 days--has to be stated. Asks for DAILY Temp, BP, Vitals etc. Asks for plan when to discharge when not even 3 days in ward. Asks " what is CT brain"? be specified exactly
- 156 The Question already answered in their form
- 157 please explain how the accident occurred
- 158 Asking similar questions multiple times despite answers being clearly stated in the initial GL application form
- 159 Admit for cerebral concussion sinusitis on ct brain. Ask to explain on sinusitis
- 160 They ask to give MMA code in situation or emergency or to list down all investigations or medications which is irrelevant.
- 161 The particular reason for admission was already written in the insurance admission form, but yet again it is being asked
- 162 Name of drugs n duration of treatment
- 163 Asking for the treatment plan when it's clearly stated . Exact drug and Dose of drugs etc
- 164 quite often ask stupid questions even the layman would feel ashamed to ask
- 165 Why is it necessary to remove the ovaries in a post menopausal woman undergoing hysterectomy?
- 166 7-8 questions repeated religiously for back pain admission. Half of it already written in GL request form
- 167 Patient fell fell down when hiking - what was the name of the hill ?
- 168 Asking if d condition is directly or indirectly related to the problem being from birth
- 169 Reason For IV fluid / Same question asked in 3 different ways (Same answer for all 3)
- 170 So many stupid questions. List is too long
- 171 Patient admitted for scope as suspicious of cancer and approval was delayed because query on hypertension
- 172 Favourite question: Is the condition related to eye examination?
- 173 They questions asked are relevant but often the required info was already given in the initial application form. Eg. how long has patient had the symptoms when it had already been clearly stated. or what is the reason for colonoscopy when it was already stated the patient has per rectal bleeding.
- 174 Why patient did not go to check her ovarian cyst earlier???

- 175 Asking questions not related to admission diagnosis
- 176 asking for letter from GP do not trust the diagnosis of specialist. asking for radiological results which are not covered as outpatient.
- 177 About pregnancy status in male patient. Repeated questions for which we already provided answers during request.
- 178 Why was xray not done for a pt with diagnosis of trigger finger
- 179 They normally ask back the same questions which already been answered during first application.
- 180 [REDACTED] every UTI, prostatitis is suspected STD
- 181 Querying blood results. For example, raised glucose in a febrile fit. Asking if patient has diabetes!!!
- 182 What iv, im, oral meds n what dosage and frequency. Already written clearly in initial GL
- 183 Patient referred with a kidney stone. Multiple questions about lipid levels, hypertension, diabetes and asked to provided all details of diagnosis and treatment for these conditions - despite the patient never having been diagnosed with any of them!
- 184 Why can't an anterior resection be done as a day case?
- 185 Denied admission if investigation normal
- 186 Buy saying are oral amd facial injury due to trauma- 'is it dental related?'- the usual query by them
- 187 Depends on provider
- 188 Patients on adjuvant hormonal therapy oral tamoxifen 20 mg od was asked whether she is in remission . If the the answer is yes , then the coverage was revoked . !!
- 189 The staff often repeat the same questions as if they have not read the previosu reply. A lot of time is wasted with these companies and they should be charged for each time when they send us a new form to answer. This woll reduce them from asking nonsense without thinking.
- 190 Culture results to decide for admission which is not applicable in 99% of cases
- 191 The need to molecular studies for haematological malignancy
- 192 What brand of equipment will be used
- 193 Asking same questions again in QA which answers already been stated in the duly filled IGL form.
- 194 Why this child need treatment when results are normal
- 195 Justify "Excision" for infected Epidermal cyst
- 196 Why was leukaemia patient admitted for induction chemotherapy ?

- 197 A lot of silly questions
- 198 Repertoire questions such as iv medications and dosage and duration
- 199 Asking complete medical histories even for company insurance where they should cover previous illnesses but don't cover (pre existing illnesses)and yet ask all complete medical histories
- 200 Requesting for imaging reports for AGE; Lipid profile for dengue
- 201 Test rejected (influenza swab, adenovirus swab, covid swab) for a patient who presented with URTI symptoms with neutropenic sepsis post chemotherapy, denial of posaconazole generic post AUTO transplant
- 202 Did the patient fall from a mountain or a hill. What was the address where the injury occurred? Why is you diagnosis always the same?
- 203 asking acute causes if it is related to an congenital causes in a 66year old patient
- 204 Patient with a viral wart. Was the wart bleeding. I will look for actual letters received from them for this survey
- 205 Those people are like robots, diagnosis already stated infected epidermal cyst or abscess, and yet i still received question, what's the cause/pathology, so what's the cause for abscess??
- 206 Patient diagnosis is viral fever. Insurer asking for imaging report to prove the diagnosis
- 207 Thyroid cancer surgery. Question was if it was congenital
- 208 The operator has limited medical knowledge and asking irrelevant and trivial question that will only delay GL approval
- 209 Any gynaecological treatment a common question is asked whether the treatment is related to fertility
- 210 Request for results of investigations that's not already done - you admit, do the investigations and then make a conclusive diagnosis and start treatment!! What's so difficult? Why need to provide bits and pieces of certain investigation??
- 211 questioning admission for transient ischemic attack or stroke
- 212 Repeated and same question asked
- 213 Patient passed away. All written in the final GL by doctor, yet insurance gave deferment to ask if the patient condition will relapse again, what was the diagnosis and explanation for prolonged stay,etc. Patient passed away in ICU and if a qualified, well trained doctor vetting the hosp bill and using common sense will know why there was prolonged stay for acute myeloid leukaemia with severe sepsis. These were supported with stacks of blood and imaging investigation. Clearly these are not qualified to be even deal with medical related documents, bills, GL, appeal letters, etc. They have no clue what they are looking at, and just wants to waste our doctors' and business office time, giving a mini lecture in writing on how patient was treated in hosp. Insulting to us doctors who took years or even decades in training, but need to explain ourselves to unqualified people.

- 214 Repeated asking similar question about diagnosis. Could this diagnosis present prior to certain date (date of patient obtaining her insurance, that may even be more than 1 year ago)
- 215 Did the exostosis (incidental finding on XR) at the distal femur cause the fracture at mid shaft, despite the patient clearly being involved in a road traffic accident
- 216 Patient was Menopausal (mentioned in the pre-admission submission) and yet they asked "is this problem related to pregnancy?". I didn't know whether to laugh or cry!!!
- 217 Patient need inguinal hernia operation. Insurer asked irrelevant question like - what's the size of hernia. What is the ultrasound finding and what's the VAS score of patient BEFORE operation even done. Another example , patient require excision of infected cyst and some insurer asked to provide Hpe (before the surgery was done)
- 218 Haemorrhoid surgery ... asking as to why choice of one procedure over another . Entirely a clinical decision based upon symptomatology and findings and decision mutually between myself and my patient... THERE SHOULD NOT BE INTERFERENCE IN CLINICAL DECISION MAKING
- 219 Asking for pain score
- 220 What is the dose of antibiotics and for how long?
- 221 Can IV biologic infusion which is administered over hours be given as outpatient?
- 222 Blood test fairly normal so why admit even though patient is already very weak and dehydrated
- 223 Why need admission for blood transfusion
- 224 What will happen to a patient with infected sebaceous cyst if it is not excised
- 225 requesting for blood and other investigations when the patient is awaiting GL approval to perform those investigations
- 226 Asking non related questions
- 227 pt planned for daycare but asked why pt needs admission, is patient dehydrated?
- 228 Correlation between pregnancy and dengue
- 229 Asking if patient has h.pylori when Colonoscopy planned
- 230 Is the neck node related preauricular sinus tract
- 231 Diagnosis on admission is thyroid cyst. Question is " is this related to thyroglossal cyst " so as to deny coverage.
- 232 Patient has old rib fracture but presented with a lung infection , insurers try to relate old rib fracture with a lung infection and deny admission
- 233 To furnish investigation results; am I the doctor or are you the doctor here?

- 234 Patient has diabetes : what are the evidence pancreas is failed?
- 235 patient persistence raised alp post lap cholecystectomy. insurance asking why is mrcp indicated despite informing to look for obstruction
- 236 More like always but I don't want to be rude
- 237 Why can't the treatment be done by GO?
- 238 Justify why patient with abscess needs I&D? Have you tried medication first?
- 239 young patient with pancreatic cancer, was asked if she has pre-existing diabetes.
- 240 Request for MRI / x-ray report, if GL declined, patient has to bear the cost of procedure / treatment
- 241 Request for hba1c for patient who is non diabetes
- 242 Newly investigated abd pain and needed scope for ?ibd but question from insurance was how long pt already had ibd. Always with this particular company.
- 243 Most of the times questions irrelevant to the diagnosis, or none of their clinical understanding
- 244 Certain major surgery and insurers said they will cover only as a daycare procedure.
- 245 The insurers query the acute infection originate from underlying congenital condition, e.g. perceived Acute Tonsillopharyngitis as chronic congenital condition.
- 246 Cause of hypertension
- 247 asking why total gastrectomy was indicated when the diagnosis was gastric cancer
- 248 All rfa, or ha gel- all insurance will ask- no prp? Steroid? Stemcell, waste of time, u know those are not covered
- 249 Asking the same questions on every cycles of chemotherapy. Example of question: this is which cycle of chemotherapy, how many total cycles is needed
- 250 Is Bartholin's cyst an STD
- 251 Admitted for pelvic infections. Insurance asking for std screenings
- 252 Why patient need to do CT simulations. ? But this procedure is necessary when we need to plan for radiotherapy. - this is like asking why do u need to use waze when u are driving in unfamiliar areas
- 253 Why one fracture site requires more than one surgical acces
- 254 Patient age > 40 presents with upper GI pain(dyspepsia) , but no red flags , questions on if there is bleeding , history of h pylori , history of previous consults , etc
- 255 Patient on oxygen face mask . They asked whether can treat as outpatient . Child has dengue with warning signs , they ask why can't manage as outpatient .

- 256 A 7 year old admitted for abdominal pain, insurer asking if it is pregnancy related
- 257 When multiple procedures are performed on the same pt, whether pt is pregnant when she's post menopausal etc etc
- 258 [REDACTED] company
- 259 Asking for HPE before biopsy done
- 260 I was just this week asked why was a particular medicine given which had triggered an allergy some years ago. Obviously this was not relevant to the current admission.
- 261 Insurance ask me the cause of anemia for a patient that I am ordering peripheral blood film, iron profile and Hb analysis and whether patient is a known case of thalassemia. The thing is right - how the hell I know the cause of the anemia without sending these investigations first.
- 262 For Iv chemo that needs day care, they love to ask why cannot do outpatient
- 263 We already stated that patient is dehydrate and require iv hydration. Deferment comes back asking why does this patient cant receive outpatient treatment.
- 264 Ask re temp/Bp/pulse- all already written under initial submission
- 265 This question- Kindly clarify diagnosis od adenoidectomy-
- 266 Admitted for Dengue but asking about hypertension and dyslipidemia status
- 267 A patient with allergic asthma. Insurer asked eosinophil count and allergy testing delaying treatment.
- 268 Anaemia
- 269 Admission for dengue fever but GL delayed due to QA regarding mildly raised cholesterol levels.
- 270 Since when the dyslipidemia detected
- 271 What is the exact diagnosis when we are still trying to workout the parent's problem
- 272 Lower gastrointestinal bleeding for colonoscopy/ogds
- 273 Can dengue fever with severe dehydration be treated as out pt. Pt already has low platelet and temp more then 38
- 274 Kindly state if tonsillar hypertrophy is a congenital disorder
- 275 After office claims denied by [REDACTED]
- 276 Why is the procedure done by me and not another speciality
- 277 Asked if the CT or MRI really required. They ask for X ray report.

- 278 Asking doctors to investigate cause of trauma when it is not part of doctor's job scope
- 279 To know the details of the medication including the dose and frequency
- 280 History or questions on past history nit relevant yo current diagnosis
- 281 ask about anemia while patient admit for pneumonia
- 282 Post surgery nerve block for pain relief denied reason being oral analgesic is adequate.
- 283 investigations or procedure related to the working diagnosis
- 284 Conjunctiva exploration and removal of Pseudo Membrane, the insurance asked to change to Eye Dressing code; [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] insurance
- 285 Patient that has relapsed refractory AML needed admission for salvage intensive chemotherapy for flag protocol- got a deferment asking why cant this treatment be done in outpatient/daycare despite already mentioned in paf input that it s a infusion medication with twice a day multi day protocol and pt requiring blood transfusion support as well.
- 286 Patient having a Hb of 4.0 with hemolytic anemia. I was asked the relevance for admitting the patient.
- 287 Why bone marrow biopsy required for a patient with suspected acute leukaemia
- 288 Repetitively questions despite of already filled up during part 2 form admission
- 289 Is this haemangioma congenital? Admission was for pain unrelated to haemangioma
- 290 Insurance asking for lipid profile or glucose level when patient is admitted for a fracture or accident case
- 291 Can this be done as outpatient (5 days 24 hours chemo infusion)
- 292 See question 5
- 293 What happens if the patient is not operated
- 294 Asking whether gastroenteritis is congenitally acquired for my patients
- 295 Why does a viral fever have to stay more than 3days? Even after explaining the circumstances it took a while to get approval
- 296 Requesting for patients driving license and police report
- 297 Asking for information which has already been given in the form

298 Refusing coverage for a test when that test was not ordered by doctor . Doctor ordered stool virology and culture for AGE with high fever but insurance refused coverage for GI panel test which is a microarray test and more costly .

299 Insists a procedure be done as outpatient instead of daycare when sedation is required and observation of bleeding post procedure.

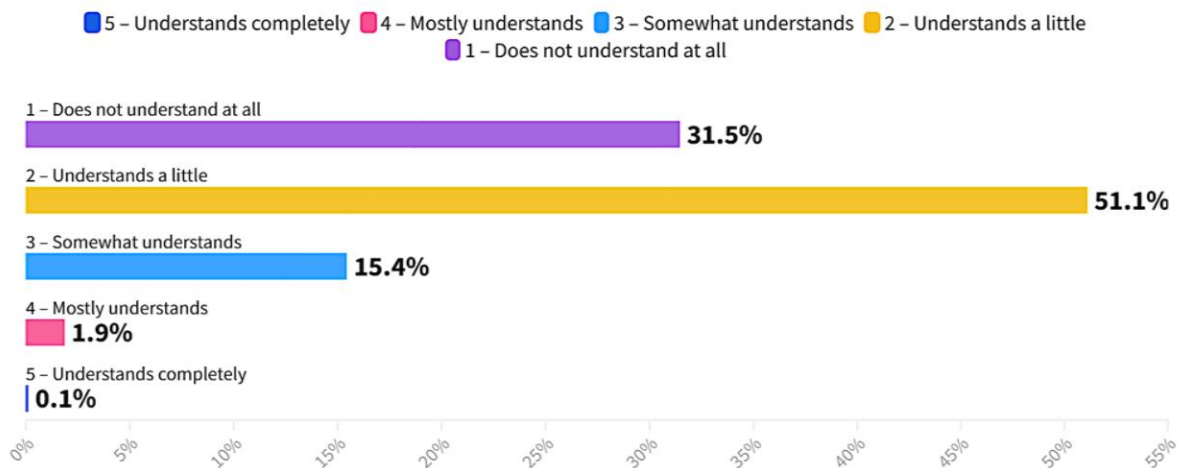
300 Whether a scan was done for a clinically palpable lump- sebaceous cyst

Question 12

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 83% find that health insurance claims officers have little or no understanding at all of diagnosis/treatment

To what extent do you believe insurance claims processing officers understand the diagnosis and treatment being sought, especially for more complex cases?

n=855



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
1: Does not understand at all	31.46%	269
2: Understands a little	51.11%	437
3: Somewhat understands	15.44%	132
4: Mostly understands	1.87%	16
5: Understands completely	0.12%	1
Weighted Average	1.88	
Total Respondents: 855		

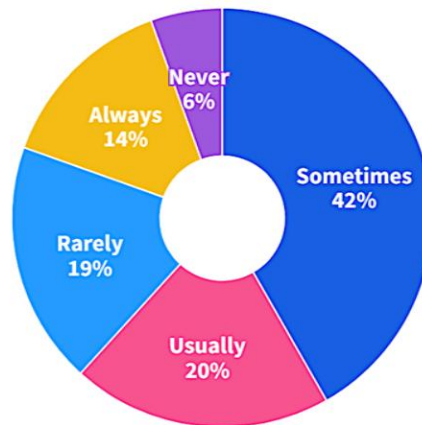
Question 13

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: 62% say they sometimes or usually face pressure from health insurance agents seeking coverage

How often do you face pressure from insurance agents who seek coverage for patients whose policies exclude certain conditions or pre-existing illnesses?

n=855

Sometimes Usually Rarely Always Never



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Sometimes	41.75%	357
Usually	20.00%	171
Rarely	18.71%	160
Always	14.04%	120
Never	5.50%	47
Total Respondents: 855		

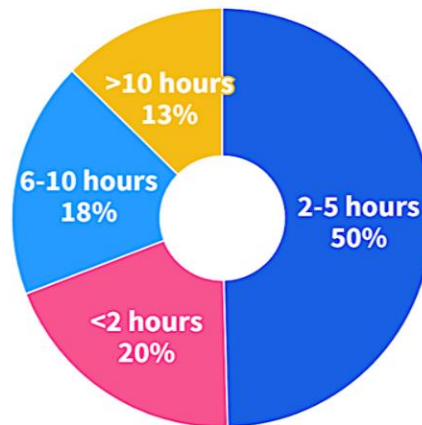
Question 14

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: Half say they spend two to five hours each week on health insurance paperwork for their patients

How much time do you or your staff spend each week handling insurance paperwork, guarantee letter (GL) requests, or appeals?

n=855

■ 2-5 hours ■ <2 hours ■ 6-10 hours ■ >10 hours



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

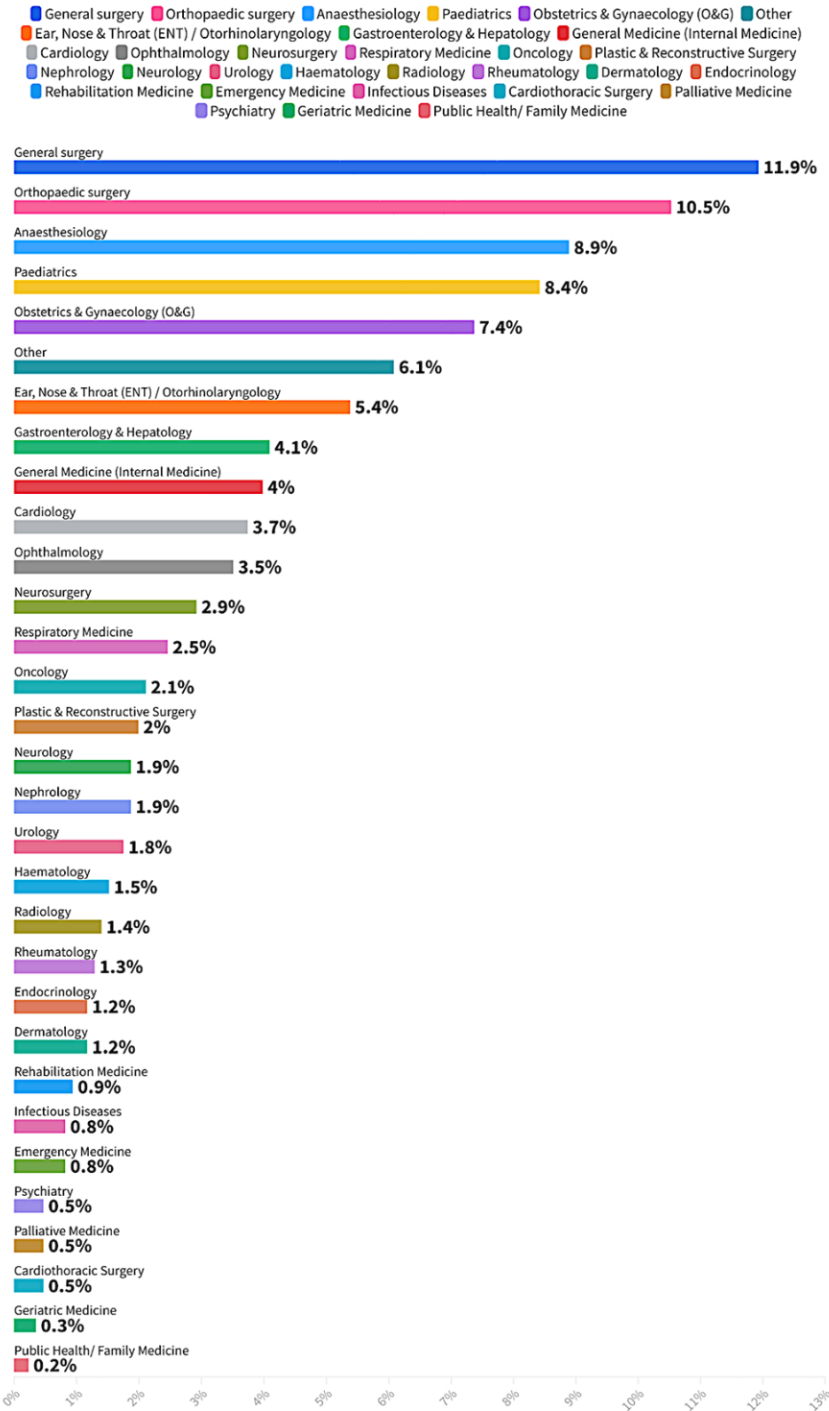
Answer Choices	Responses	
2–5 hours	49.59%	424
<2 hours	19.53%	167
6–10 hours	18.25%	156
>10 hours	12.63%	108
Total Respondents: 855		

Question 15

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: General surgery most common among respondents, all major specialities were represented in the poll

What is your specialty?

n=855



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across speciality in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients in Private Hospitals" - Graphic by CodeBlue. Numbers in this chart are rounded up.

Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
General Surgery	11.93%	102
Orthopaedic Surgery	10.53%	90
Anaesthesiology	8.89%	76
Paediatrics	8.42%	72
Obstetrics & Gynaecology (O&G)	7.37%	63
Other (please specify)	6.08%	52
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) / Otorhinolaryngology	5.38%	46
Gastroenterology & Hepatology	4.09%	35
General Medicine (Internal Medicine)	3.98%	34
Cardiology	3.74%	32
Ophthalmology	3.51%	30
Neurosurgery	2.92%	25
Respiratory Medicine	2.46%	21
Oncology	2.11%	18
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery	1.99%	17
Nephrology	1.87%	16
Neurology	1.87%	16
Urology	1.75%	15
Haematology	1.52%	13
Radiology	1.40%	12

Rheumatology	1.29%	11
Dermatology	1.17%	10
Endocrinology	1.17%	10
Rehabilitation Medicine	0.94%	8
Emergency Medicine	0.82%	7
Infectious Diseases	0.82%	7
Cardiothoracic Surgery	0.47%	4
Palliative Medicine	0.47%	4
Psychiatry	0.47%	4
Geriatric Medicine	0.35%	3
Public Health/ Family Medicine	0.23%	2
Total Respondents: 855		

#	Other (please specify)
1	Critical care
2	Breast
3	Interventional Radiology
4	Pain specialist
5	Paediatric Surgery
6	Oculoplastic
7	paediatric surgery

8 maxillofacial surgery

9 Oral and Maxillofacial

10 Pain Management

11 vascular surgery

12 Paediatric dermatology

13 Nuclear medicine

14 Pain management

15 Paediatric surgery

16 Paediatric Surgery

17 Neurospinal surgery

18 Trauma & General Surgery

19 Pediatric Surgery

20 HPB Surgeon

21 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

22 And intensive care

23 Thoracic Surgery

24 Gynaecological oncology

25 Spine Surgeon

26 Thoracic Surgery

27 Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

-
- 28 Paediatric Surgery
 - 29 Sports Medicine
 - 30 Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
 - 31 Interventional radiology
 - 32 Paediatric Surgery
 - 33 ugi & bariatrics
 - 34 Paediatrics and Paed Neurology
 - 35 Breast and endocrine surgery
 - 36 Breast Surgeon (subspecialty of General Surgery)
 - 37 Breast Surgery
 - 38 Interventional Radiology
 - 39 Sports Medicine
 - 40 Hand surgery
 - 41 Transplant Physician and Haemato-Oncologist
 - 42 Intensive Care
 - 43 Interventional pain medicine (subspeciality)
 - 44 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
 - 45 Interventional Radiology
 - 46 Oral and Maxillofacial surgery
 - 47 Pain management/anaesthesiology

48 Interventional radiology

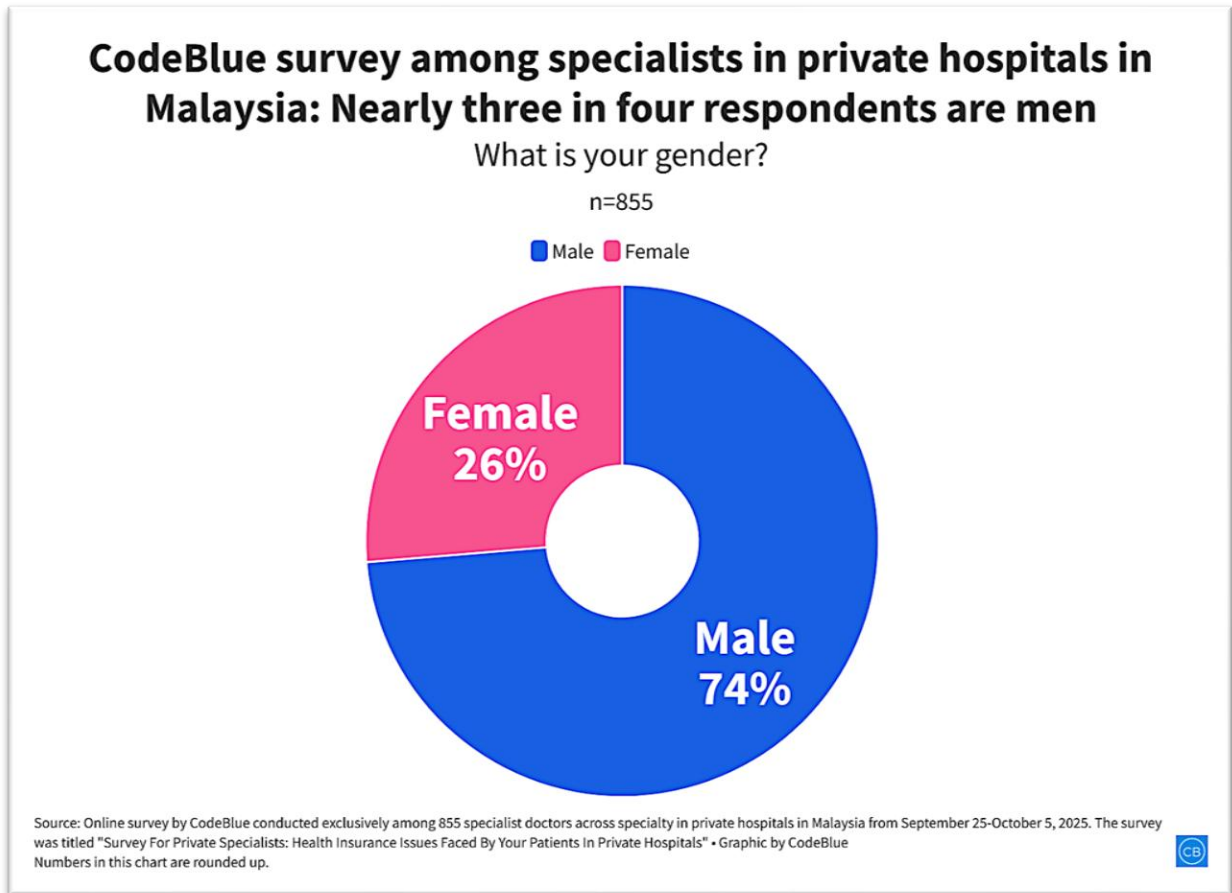
49 Intensive Care Medicine

50 Pain management consultant

51 Interventional radiology

52 Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

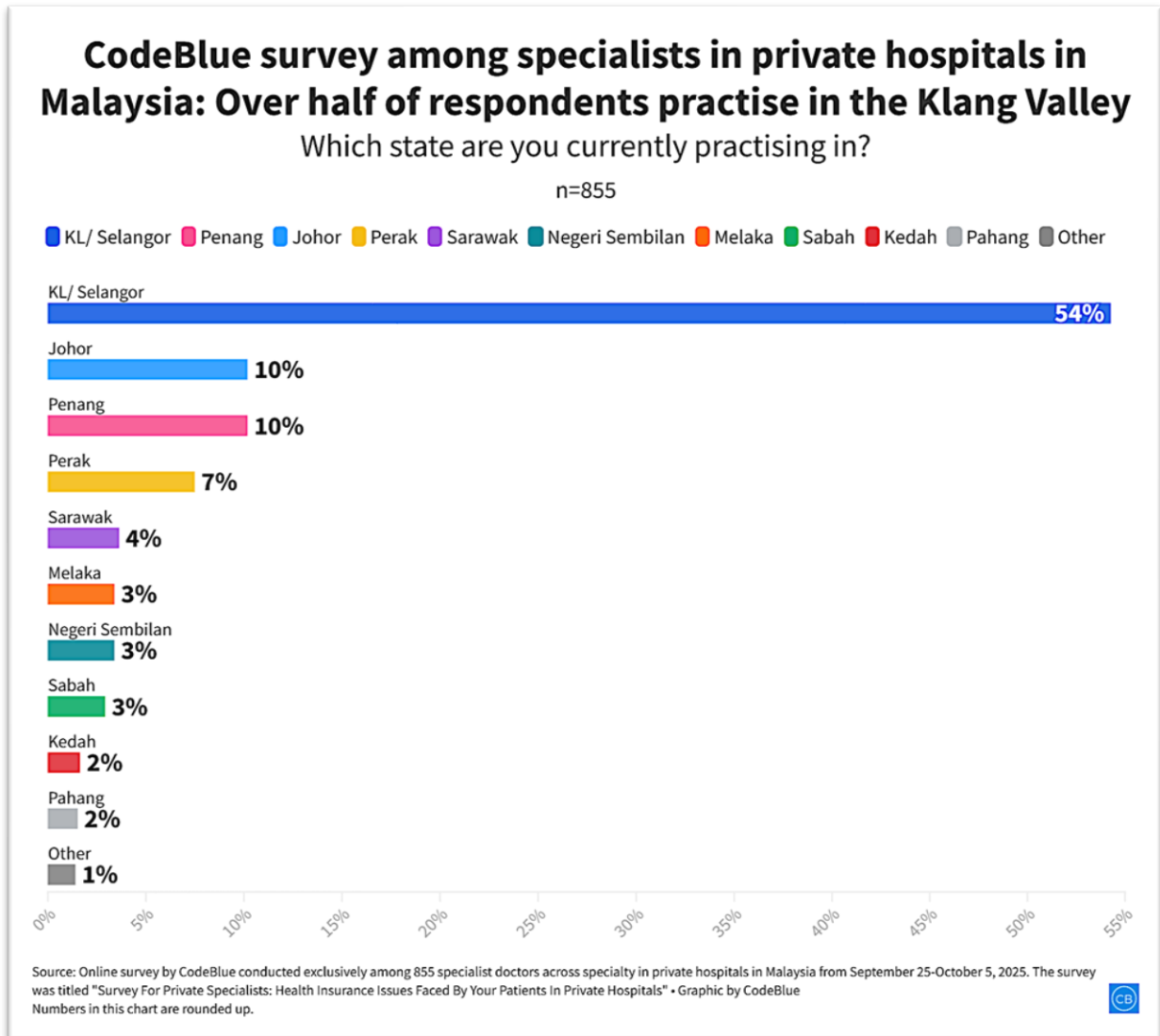
Question 16



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	73.68%	630
Female	26.32%	225
Total Respondents: 855		

Question 17



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
KL/ Selangor	54.27%	464
Penang	10.18%	87
Johor	10.18%	87
Perak	7.49%	64
Sarawak	3.63%	31

Negeri Sembilan	3.39%	29
Melaka	3.39%	29
Sabah	2.92%	25
Kedah	1.64%	14
Pahang	1.52%	13
Other (please specify)	1.40%	12
Total Respondents: 855		

#	Other (please specify)
1	Perlis
2	Perlis
3	-
4	North Malaysia
5	Kelantan
6	Kelantan
7	terengganu
8	East coast
9	Kelantan
10	East
11	Terengganu
12	Perlis

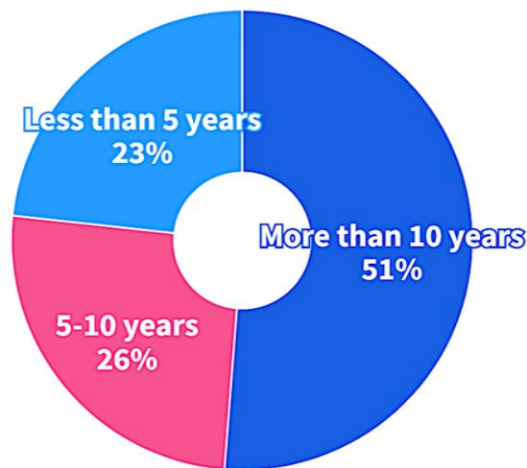
Question 18

CodeBlue survey among specialists in private hospitals in Malaysia: Most respondents are senior specialists. More than half alone have over a decade's experience in private practice

How many years have you been in private practice?

n=855

More than 10 years 5-10 years Less than 5 years



Source: Online survey by CodeBlue conducted exclusively among 855 specialist doctors across specialty in private hospitals in Malaysia from September 25-October 5, 2025. The survey was titled "Survey For Private Specialists: Health Insurance Issues Faced By Your Patients In Private Hospitals" • Graphic by CodeBlue
Numbers in this chart are rounded up.



Answered: 855 | Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
More than 10 years	51.23%	438
5-10 years	25.50%	218
Less than 5 years	23.27%	199
Total Respondents: 855		

Question 19

What other problems or opinions do you have about health insurance in Malaysia? (This is optional).

Answered: 446 | Skipped: 409

#	Responses
1	Premium too high. Also medical investigation and treatment(drugs etc) are now virtually beyond the well to do not to mention the ordinary people.
2	They are dangerously deciding on what treatment the patient should or should not have and what's worse is the private hospital's are in full support of this . There's a symbiotic relationship between the two . Insurance claims charges are high and points the finger to the consultants when in actual fact charges are regulated .
3	Frankly I am comfortable with my cash paying patients. Insurance Companies feel we are not honest all the time! The agents keep blaming us to their clients when their admission is not approved!
4	Difficult on line application systems which are often incomplete programs with poor data entry options
5	Trying to control decision making
6	PIC not aware of medical condition
7	In the recent passed getting approvals can take upto 48 hrs with documents and QA s only to find its been decline with NO REASONS GIVEN. WHICH IS FRUSTRATING
8	The regulator must police these insurance companies
9	Premiums are going up but coverage is restricted more.
10	Health insurance company care more on profit rather than safety of patient. They are trying to influence the decision of the doctor to make decision.
11	No cap for their annual profit makes them too commercialize ignore patient rights and privileges
12	Most doctors are sincere doing work n sacrificing their time for Caregiving n our medical fees regulation havent been revised since 2003 ; that very unfair ; but cost of consumables ; medication n hospital charges have invreased more than 300% since then ; moreover if u dont concur or Follow the insurance companies then u might be blackisted ; so this is white coat blackmailing ; which is unethical n pure bullies ; insurance companies dictate the medical profesion so where is the Logic ?
13	Too many red tapes (pre-procedure GL application, deferment, post procedure GL application, payment delayed with further deferment even pre-procedure GL was approved) imposed by the insurers/TPA/MCO on patients and health care providers causing a lot of time is wasted in GL applications, answering deferment, waiting for

- approval rather than in providing the care. Time spent for insurance work is not compensated.
- 14 Question not relevant as agents not even medically knowledgeable
- 15 It's making health a commodity. It's being run with profits and the bottom line in mind instead of providing their clients with what's due to them after paying every month.
- 16 Inadequate coverage. Slow payments.
- 17 [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- 18 Eq cancer patient who prefers to be in a center with all facilities eg 1 stop center, not allowed to chose.
- 19 Insurance companies doesn't seem to be regulated enough compared to hospitals and doctors
- 20 Certain Insurance company insisted on filling online application forms for new admissions with format that are not user friendly or Options which are limited or incomplete. This causes difficulties and increase time required to process patients
- 21 Being pressured to accept discounts on doctor's consultation fees, denied charges for procedures done
- 22 Very late response
- At least 1 insurance company put me on their " watch list " for discharging patients with mild but very symptomatic infections (e.g AGE, flu , URTI) within 24 hours of admission after they responded very well to aggressive treatment. They also put my on the watch list for using more broad spectrum antibiotics (which are of course more expensive) which is totally not fair .
- As an ID phsician, I am treating the most difficult infections aither as primary consultant or often being referred by my colleagues. Our hospital also follows WHO and KKM recommendation to put certain antibiotics under RESERVE list which only I can use/authorize.
- 23 Furthermore, they did not inform me or query me directly before putting me on their secret watch list. Only hospital administrators knew but I was not informed. I only heard it indirectly through leaked news. Insurance companies cannot compare subspecialists treatment to others because we manage patients with different profiles/diagnoses. [REDACTED] denied patient admission GL for 4 diseases- dengue fever, acute bronchitis, pneumonia , and if not mistaken viral fever.
- They denied the GL remotely sitting in their office without seeing the patient playing GOD. These diagnoses are dynamic and presents with variable severity. They can be very symptomatic and need in patient care but the blood results may not be very abnormal.
- Especially for dengue patients, [REDACTED] set their own warning sign criteria and request us to tick. They will decide remotely who gets GL. If patients presented early, they

may not fulfill all the warning signs criteria yet. But the disease will evolve. They may deteriorate at home.

Then we as consultants have to face the medicolegal consequences for not admitting patient prior to their deterioration simply because admission GL is denied. [REDACTED] only allowed out patient GL for 4 diseases above if patient is not ill enough from THEIR point of view. They are basically playing with lives.

24 The insurance doctors need higher level of qualifications preferably a specialist too and update their knowledge so they will more open up to accept claim rather than trying to find points to reject their clients claims

25 A young man who works in the claims department of [REDACTED] once came to see me as a patient. He admitted that he has to ask doctors questions, often under pressure from his superiors. Asking questions is his KPI.

26 If other practitioners have been multicoding. do not give us a bad name when we really code for the work we do

Newly detected congenital conditions such as atrial septal defect in adulthood should receive coverage, if patient and family are able to furnish documents of postnatal care.

Health insurance companies are contributing to the increasing cost of healthcare indirectly, such as, by mandating certain intravenous medication/ drips as first line or mandatory treatment to justify admission/ GL approval.

27 Doctors should not be mandated to initiate treatment mandated by insurance companies eg IV drip if clinically not indicated.

Doctors and insurance companies should be mandated to follow a constantly updated field relevant standard of practice/ playbook.

Conditions of exclusion are mandated to be informed to patients and healthcare providers.

28 Insurers are controlling and mislead drs decisions Patients are innocently follow as suggested by insurers

29 Overpromising but under-delivering!

30 should cover congenital and pregnancy related conditions (eg ruptured ectopic pregnancy which is life threatening)

- Delirium and Dementia is a medical condition, not psychiatric condition, insurance companies group it under psychiatric disorders and saying the policy not covering psychiatric illness.

31 - Older patients with falls and fractures needs proper management by Geriatricians, studies showed it save cost in long term, patient will have better QoL and outcome with Geriatric team care, insurance should not reject the Geriatricians' order especially on the rehab and osteoporosis treatment.

- please consider to cover vaccination for elderly, it will save cost for the insurance company in long term

- please revise the insurance policy to prepare for the ageing nation, engage with Malaysian Society of Geriatric Medicine for planning the insurance package for older population

32 Insurance company not transparent to their client. The agents should explain in details about the policy coverage before ask the client to sign

33 Insurance health providers does not understand the role of rehabilitation physician practice inpatient vs outpatient care

(1) it does not seem to protect policy holders (ie: patients). This seem to be unchecked.

(2) coverage seems to be on a perpetual subject to change . Generally the cover the “bare minimum”

Or do the least necessary

34 (3) insurance imply that treatment is only drugs in IV form, surgery. Post discharge consults and procedures are often not covered

(3) they have opinion sedation is less risky than general anesthesia, and demand that the charges be less.

They do not cover for procedures like regional anesthesia, thinking it is without extra risk / cost

35 Marketing soft deceive ie multi-million coverage, when the time comes for claims, the insurer will doubt the patients and doctors for reason of cost containment. In other words, marketing of large coverage doesn't not translate into pledge of coverage. Interfering with clinical care, threatening with removal of cashless facility, lobbying for discount, denying claims- this is a clear violation of the principle of healthcare managed care organization.

We are heading towards what the US is facing. As such, regulator like the MOH and bank negara shall be the check and balance in this- do be mindful of this system which is predatory to the customer: and the customer can be anybody eg the patient, the doctors, the insurer employee, the insurer executive, the MOH, the bank negara. Anyone

36 Insurance companies behaved to be looking for reasons to deny coverage for every patient. I don't believe the health care cost is the main issues. I believe that insurance companies take opportunities to use rising health care cost to increase premium, at the same time, deny coverage. So their profit actually increases. No insurance companies makes loss, it's just about whether they make less billion or not, but now they make more billions. Bank Negara doesn't scrutinize them, but scrutinize private hospitals, why? Because of the actual persons as stake holders of insurance companies are untouchable....?

Insurance companies have their own definitions of diseases and treatments required, very much based on the books rather than clinical situations, which are never the same for every patient.

37 Also, for a patient to be justified to be staying as inpatient, the patient must be having iv medication, otherwise cannot be staying in, which is ludicrous because patients may be still having abdominal drains/urinary catheter/requiring close monitoring after surgery and not safe for early discharge, that would justify ongoing hospital stays but insurance companies would refuse to accept this

38	Being a burden to patients and increasing premiums unilaterally
39	They are not updated on latest evidences. Poor knowledge regarding certain treatments. Confused that certain procedures (ogds) is therapeutic
40	Insurance Agents Interfere
41	MCO/TPA irrelevant questions/involvement in clinical decision-making and usually compromised patients care and treatments... TPA usually decided based on profit-driven dictation and not based on patient safety to improve patients outcomes
42	Follow old charges fee like 2013 mma 13th schedule instead of 2020 schedule and starting to argue with us. Even asked us to give discounts because of the differences.
43	It's rubbing and cheating patients and healthcare providers
44	Health insurance companies are interfering PT treatment nowadays compare to more than 10 years ago, sometimes they ask repeated questions and sometimes they want to see HPE before approve claims
45	Agents don't inform patient on insurance clauses eg - not for investigation, coverage only after 2 years (not 3 months as they state).
46	Asking for discount of doctor portion as well . Though dr portion is only little part compared to hospitals one. Dressing can't claim. CBD insertion can't claim. Very hard to get insurance coverage for pregnant lady who unfortunately having medical issues during pregnancy e.g AGE, food poisoning, diarrhea as the insurance company always related those deseases due to pregnancy. Though actually they are not related to pregnancy. Whether or not someone is pregnant, she may get AGE, food poisoning.
47	Not paediatric friendly when a child requires an operation. If a policy is less than 2 years in force, the operation will be denief . Another major issue is the focussing and assumption by insurers that all paediatric pathology requiring Surgery is congenital, since this is an absolute criterion to decline a GL request. The concept of congenital coditions being denied insurance coverage is archaic and requires urgent review and amendment.
48	deny medical charges after office hours despite procedure done after office hours.
49	1. The insurer are the king now. They ask for discount for some hospital and if the hospital give , they become panel hospital . Panel doctors in a particular hospital do not always provide needs suitable to a particular patient . This limits patient's choice . The concept of panel hospital is a form of scam. It is purely decided with financial agreement rather than quality and service .
50	They are now threatening blacklisting for doctors who dont comply. A physcian was recently threatned by an insurance company that they will blacklist the doctor if the physician dont comply by reducing imaging
51	TPA/MCO'S delay issuance of GL unnecessarily and ask repetitive irrelevant questions
52	Insurance should not dictate what doctor's management or treatment

- 53 Medical conditions like obesity and iron deficiency without anemia should be covered by insurance. Preventive medicine should be covered as well.
- 54 None
- 55 Rehabilitation Medicine which is a key aspect of multidisciplinary management according to WHO is denied admission GL from insurance leading to hurried discharge or delayed intensive rehabilitation leading to poor functional outcomes which most times is irreversible
- 56 Insurance claims processing officers insisted on further investigations which are not indicated and overriding the opinions of doctors. For example, patient was asked to do cardiac enzymes study for elective coronary angiogram!
- 57 Please get all insurance companies to educate their agents that they have no fxxing right to tell what and how the doctor to fill insurance forms. They should become a doctor first before advising any doctor
- 58 Insurance Companies, Patients & Doctors all contribute to the problems. What I find is that insurance companies are unable to differentiate honest/trustworthy doctors/patients/agents from perhaps a few with patchy records to enable faster smoother hassle-free approvals.
1 other almost universal problem is the forging of patients' signatures by agents when applying for medical reports.
- 59 Generally, they hire non medical graduates to screen and issue the GL for admission. Lower salary.
- 60 Insurance companies cannot decide what treatment should be given in patients and determine which patients can be admitted despite giving reasons for admission and clinical data as the reviewers are ALL medically untrained. Unnecessary iv drips and iv treatment in children to qualify for admission despite their clinical condition requiring close observation and oral treatment .
Outpatient benefits for 5 major diagnosis from [REDACTED] are very limited and hard to use RM250 a day for influenza treatment or acute gastroenteritis or bronchitis is hardly adequate. It is very inconvenient to do outpt nebulised treatment 4-6x a day especially at night as [REDACTED] insists on outpt unless I write an appeal for every case of bronchitis. [REDACTED] insurance is the easiest to deal with.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] usually lots of questions. patients who request transfer of care from public to private care also face difficulties to claim and I have to justify or explain why they are treated in our hospital.
Insurance bought during pregnancy does NOT cover babies till 30 days old and the parents are not aware till they try to claim. Coverage for neonatal jaundice in most insurance dictates bilirubin level of 15mg/dL irrespective of days of life or risk factors , so hard to claim if result of a 2 day old baby is 13 mg/dL.
- 61 the cap for postnatal coverage for parents who invested in the antenatal premium for birth defects is way too low to cover the costs for medical treatments and surgery at private hospital, resulting in parents bearing most of the costs or have to arrange for transfer of care to the public service for continuation of treatments

- 62 Insurance agents don't explain the coverage in the policy but blame doctors when coverage is denied. Insurance companies do not have a clue of the disease process but ask completely irrelevant and repeat questions
- 63 Misuse by public & healthcare
- 64 Slow pay masters
- 65 Nuisance
- 66 Insurance agent and company interup with consultant management.
- 67 1. Refusal to pay for procedures such as spirometry, non-invasive ventilation etc which are not mentioned in the 13th schedule of PHFSA.
- 68 The underwriters atenot medically clear and need to be taught by us on the jobwhen they dont understand.
- 69 Some insurers are good and consistent, depends on the management and who they employ
- 70 Most insurance currently still reasonable. The ones that are problematic are [REDACTED] which rejects all the above said diagnosis even after appeals and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] takaful which rejects the same and does not entertain appeals
- 71 Mma code needs reform.
Many drs over service
- 72 [REDACTED] Insurer, [REDACTED] Insurer often decline patient claims.
- 73 No cap in the private hospital profits. Surcharge in OT can go up 40% and not based on a tier profit system.
- 74 Premium is getting higher
- 75 They should stop asking a non medical personnel who doesn't understand the disease process to approve the GL
- 76 Asking patient to go to a different hospital after surgical plan already agreed upon and patient stays nearer to this hospital than the hospital they told the patient to go to
- 77 Getting worse as insurance try not to let patients admit to increase their revenue
- 78 Cover for outpatient investigation.
- 79 It's a scam.
- 80 Too much interventions in patient care
- 81 Company optimizing profit at expense of healthcare treatment that is needed yet promised everything when trying to sell the policy. Now event decide which hospital they

- can go eg. ██████████ Hospital, Preferred Hospital concepts by certain insurance company. Some even threatens to ban the doctors.
- 82 Force us to give lower cataract procedure price - otherwise delist you from panel
- 83 Getting expensive
- 84 they dictate us with pior officers sitting there not knowing the problem or core information
- 85 Rejection rate is becoming higher
- 86 Profit minded while neglecting patient care
- 87 Covers only for “healthy people”, not for people “in-need”. Profit driven and ignore primary preventive care initiatives. Provide coverage to pressure doctors to treat patients as single disease entity/organ- system entities, instead of ‘a person’ who needs holistic care .
- 88 Should not dictate on dr charges....very often, insurance remove our charges and conclude as part and parcel of the main procedure. This is nonsense.
- 89 No proper advise given to patients about the actual terms and conditions of their policies. It is nit our job to do that.
- 90 The person in charge for GL request has no knowledge on medical or surgical mx
- 91 not covering essentially dental is a huge mistake. Dental is also part of the body, and thus affects the general well being too! dental infections and trauma can cause severe implcations and can be life threatening! restorations of facial bones, dentoalveolar is also mandatory for the well being not just aesthetics, but function of speech, mastication and airway.
- 92 The medical costs, hospital charges are too high & unchecked, the insurance companies are adjusting their ways to run the business, the ultimate victims are the insured clients
- 93 They think some Medical illness can be treated as outpatient.
- 94 High premiums
- 95 My personal insurance has been denied me coverage for Prostate related as one Cardiologist incidentally wrote that I have BPH when I went in for Gastritis
- 96 ██████████ claim to have outpatient benefit for back pain.only cover for rm350 total only.how to diagnose pid without MRI?when ask for admission,as pt have neurology and severe pain,its denied,saying can treat out patient,but cannot order mri...What kind of officer sitting there that write this policy rules. ██████████ just lying to thier policy holders
- 97 Cheating poor patients and cheating strained healthcare providers and cheating the whole population and country in general
- 98 Some insurance specify must seek treatment within 24 hours

- 99 Business first, patients irrelevant
- 100 They're becoming more difficult and bossing the doctors on what can and cannot be done
- 101 They raise premiums but reduce coverage whilst their buildings get bigger with coffee machines everywhere
- 102 Unnecessary meddling by insurance agents
- 103 It is getting less affordable to the middle income group
- 104 Insurance should work together with us to contain cost while providing good care, and not against us. Sometimes they ask for unnecessary investigations that do not affect decisions to cover. Extra cost involved.
- 105 continue education the staff handling GL process, basic medical knowledge is a must, do not blindly stick to company flowchart protocol then asking lot of unrelevant idiotic questions, wasting window of treatment for patient, make sure the IT gadget working 24 hours, emergency case usually came after office hours, cant afford wait until next day.
- 106 Patient's being cheated of treatment that is necessary, drs being stressed with repeyitious paperwork ,time could be spent better treating patient adds to overall stress of practitioners
- 107 Implementation of ██████████ Hospital by ██████████ is irrational as they only select certain hospitals and only certain doctors
- 108 sometimes they denied after office hour charges even for emergency open fracture case
- 109 They are unreasonable
- 110 Denies payment for doctor's fee despite performing the procedure. Often irrelevant old outdated circular to claim it is under MOH directive.
- 111 In a troubling trend, insurance companies are retrospectively auditing and clawing back payments from doctors for procedures they had previously approved. After initially authorizing and paying for certain medical services—sometimes up to three years prior—these insurers are now conducting post-payment reviews. They subsequently determine that the procedures, which surgeons performed in good faith based on prior approval, are not covered. Consequently, they are demanding significant refunds from the doctors, creating financial instability and challenging the foundation of trust in pre-authorization.
- 112 Doctors/ clinician should decide what treatment is best for pateint, not someone sitting behind the desk with no experience in treating the condition dictating how a treatment should be done. Patient should be treated how the insurance provider wants himself or his own parents to be treated. Patient safety is utmost important. Insurance provider should never interfere . After all patient have been paying for the policy with their hard earned money. And when they are desperate and need the treatment urgently, they are put through so much hassle, which is unethical.
- 113 Insurance companies have been withholding payment for justified and resonable treatment to patients eg removal of chest drains, inseertion of CBD, complex wound dressing, etc

- 114 They do not cover sleep or obesity related health issues
- 115 Health insurance companies are getting ridiculous in controlling doctors and hospitals in term of management of the patients, threatening doctors management in term of cost of insurance and transfer the stress of patient management which they promised their clients to the care givers.
- 116 Refuse to pay for after-office-hour(AOH) charges for emergency cases done at night, excuse given was patient was admitted during office hour but surgery done at night/ surgery performed >6hours after admission. This reflects insurance do not know how things work in a hospital / patient needs to be worked-up, emergency OT not always empty.
- Insurance refuse to pay for certain procedures and claimed that it should be 'part and parcel' of one main procedure. They have no idea how complex is the surgery/ what surgeons are explaining, hours of long complex surgery etc. The person who manage claims are not even doctors or only junior doctors who do not understand medical procedures.
- 117 They are dictating medical. Care and interfering with what ought to be done hence jeopardising patient safety
- 118 it needs input from experienced clinicians, who are still practicing and up todate with current treatment modalities.... not policies and instructions from inexperienced Medical Officers who are in charge with no clinical experience
- 119 Insurance company delisted specialist without reason for example [REDACTED] Insurance .This Insurance delist many hospital and specialist without proper reason
- 120 Unnecessary deferment questions. Not user friendly online website design for filling in GL/DISCHARGE
- 121 -
- 122 Unnecessary deferment just because they need to fulfil the quota to raise questions to doctors. Same deferment for the same diagnosis and same treatment on each follow up.
- 123 They are using their patients as bargaining power to push the price of doctors fees down and even to below the recommended MMA rates. They are also pressuring hospitals to lower the rates and favouring their panel doctors and hospitals that have capitulated to their demands and willing to compromise in treatment .
- 124 Educate patient and insurance agent and underwriter staffs.
- 125 Insurance agents should never tell patients that if doctor write "properly" then can claim. I think all insurance company must send a strong letter to all agebts that the approval process is the discretion of the insurance company and not the decision of the doctor and the doctor should never be presured by the agent to write "properly"...
- 126 At all times, imagine you or your loved one being in a hospital expecting medical care that they deserve, after paying for insurance for years, and being told, you don't deserve the care.

- 127 People vetting the coverage has no knowledge of what they are asking - there are not updated with latest clinical practices and just rely on KKM 13th schedule and MMA 5th schedule
- 128 The whole healthcare system should learn from the Singaporean model. Health insurers should not interfere with the treatment process. Instead, patients themselves should play a more active role in deciding their treatment options and understanding their financial capacity.
- 129 No one has authority to control the TPA, especially [REDACTED]
- 130 1. Should have 3rd party to monitor their questionnaire to doctor
2. Have a platform for doctor to ask for help and support
- 131 Discuss and Seek the treatment doctor opinion first before amending any decision
- 131 Patient admits for surgery. After review it was noted that pt was unfit for general anesthesia. Alternative options for anesthesia was given to the patient but patient refused option and no surgery was performed. I had a deferment letter asking why was there an anesthesia preservative consult when no surgery was performed. I answered exactly what I wrote here. My consultation fees was still rejected. I wrote back 2-3 times but still rejected. It is baffling how they think.
- 133 Bank the MCO's
- 134 To be fair, most of the problems lie with TPA, eg [REDACTED]. What irritates me is their medical claim underwriters are not medical staff and yet they want to question your medical judgement just for the sake of reducing payouts. I strongly suspect that their underwriters are given incentives if they successfully reduce claim payouts (either given a small cut of the amount they managed to reduce or they have a certain KPI of cost reduction to achieve bonus payouts) such practises will no doubt encourage staff efficiency but of course also encourage medical underwriters to commit fraud for monetary reasons.
- My suggestion is the appointment of medical underwriters should be subject to training and also certification/credentialling by governing bodies with proper laws instead of just appointing any tom dick or harry clerk to handle medical claims
- 135 Too many exclusion criteria makes health insurance point less. Eg. AVM not covered even patient is 40 years old & non cover of congenital.
- 136 The pay and claim policy post hospitalization is a burden to patients who require specific medications that are expensive, such as biological medications, which costs several thousands. Patients who do not have much cash reserve are unable to continue with the treatment when they are required to pay upfront
- 137 Delisted from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- 138 PENNY WISE POUND LOSS — targeting on small group of patients with severe illness that will require more advance treatment to prevent permanent disability, often leading to worsening patient outcomes ended up with more health care costs incurred

2. Outdated mindset and knowledge — limiting / restricting the usages of advance therapies (as per standard of care in many countries)

3. Finger pointing culture— shifting the blames to doctors when it comes to increased health care cost , yet not understanding the majority of medical bills do not directly come from doctors.

The elephant in the room seems to be the discrepancy between doctors charges and hospital charges. Hospital charges are not scrutinised and have unlimited mark up, especially when pharmacy is involved. The profit that hospitals are seeking does not have a ceiling. Intensive Care patients are the worst example.

139 When speaking to an insurance agent about this matter, there is some reluctance to disclose what the financial relationship between the hospital and the Insurer. The bill is not broken down to reveal individual details of items, in other words billing is NOT ITEMISED. This leads to double charging, charging of items not used, items charged to another patients etc etc.

The only part of the hospital bill that is scrutinised is the room rate, a very small proportion of the bill. Hospital CEOs and Insurance CO financial controllers should meet on a regular basis to discuss these issues and a framework of graded and capped hospital charges should be constructed for each speciality and hospital.

It seems that the money that the insurance companies hold is to be divided among these parties : hospital and doctors, with the former acting as some kind of middle man that does not seem to have any interest in the outcome of the patient.

140 Insurers and TPAs have a covenant with the patient. They have every right to limit coverage according to their contract with the patient. They do not and should not have the right to dictate medical treatment. If there is a grievance, it should be filed after the fact to the doctor, hospital, MMC or via legal means. Additionally, every grievance or question from these organizations should be signed by a medical professional who will then be responsible for any consequences of non coverage.

141 Health insurance should NOT interfere with medical doctors decisions. Nor they should hire some in experience medical officers to be medical in charged of insurance claims

142 More and more coverage denied

143 I work in a public university hospital that includes a private wing. Increasingly, I encounter patients with illnesses whose treatment has been delayed because they were turned away by private practitioners due to denial of insurance. With no other options, they eventually seek care at our public facility—often when their condition has worsened.

If this issue remains unaddressed, it risks overwhelming public healthcare resources and denying timely treatment to patients who need it most. Urgent attention is needed to ensure equitable access to care and prevent avoidable suffering.

144 Insurance agencies are making profits we year but yet they pressure doctors and hospitals to give massive discounts. They can spend so much to entertain their agents with parties etc. why can't they just pass those savings to the patients as well. By denying certain claims, patients are just gonna walk into government hospital that are already filled to the brim. Can't they exercise some social responsibility and compromise instead of threaten private hospitals.

- 145 I need to write a separate letter or request for procedure like Chest XR and ultrasound since last year. I have not encountered this issue before. I don't order much imaging.
- 146 Too defensive and always ask multiple irrelevant questions
- 147 Health insurers are for profit organisations, and their aim is to deny claims to their bottom line is met or exceeded. It is starting to become nefarious the way clinicians are pushed to render inefficient or substandard care just to satisfy insurance companies
- 148 Insurance company always use loop hole with certain case to deny payment. One scenario, the company will use an adult case as example to deny Peadiatric procedure code payment. Forced us to use adult code to charge for Peadiatric procedure where MMA schedule has a specific code for the Peadiatric procedure. Eg- IV line insertion for children less than 12 years old. We are asked to charged using adult code.
- 149 Insurance does not cover investigations as outpatient whereas it saves a lot of cost as a whole.
- 150
1. Breast or Ovarian Surgery in a patient with genetic abnormalities (BRCA 1 & 2)
 2. Breast reduction surgery should not be considered cosmetic as some patients have severe symptoms and require surgery. They should be covered by insurance.
 3. Some policies exclude DCIS ; this should not be allowed as these patients require proper similar treatment (surgery, radiotherapy & endocrine therapy) as those with invasive carcinoma except for chemotherapy and targetted therapy.
- 151 No coverage at all for obesity related treatment
- 152 Insurers should get experienced medical specialists to decide if claims are appropriate
- 153 Their cost saving measures are affecting patients outcome
- 154 I feel they have KPI in rejecting claims
- 155 Very low opinions. They want us to fill up the insurance form BEFORE we see the patient on the grounds that only then would a GL be given. They then stress the patient about the fact that the GL would only be given if they are happy with what the doctor has written
- 156 Overstepping boundaries that compromise medical professionalism.
- 157 It has to be comprehensive and patient friendly. Not just when they want the customers to buy but provide continuous care throughout
- 158 Do not cover congenital disease
- 159 Coverage
- 160 I think they are hiring substandard? doctors... sometimes it is so stupid reply and we wonder who are the clowns

- 161 Refused to pay certain anaesthetic procedures and always ask for discount
- 162 Insurance companies are basically finding any excuse under the sun to deny claims. Their staff are commonly clueless about the disease that the client has, and thus it results in them trying to deny coverage for treatment.
- 163 Interfering with medical decisions and managements
- 164 Regulate TPA
- 165 Most of the time, the insurers do not have deep understanding regarding each patient's surgery and different techniques of anaesthesia, particularly when involved measures for pain relief postoperatively. They normally apply a blanket rule for every patient not knowing that, No one shoe fits all
- 166 Threats and demands of paying them back for cases performed 2-3 years back. Threats of being blacklisted if not conforming to their demands.
- 167 Expensive and irrelevant rejection
- 168 Good panel doctors with advanced knowledge on recent medical advances in all TPA's.
- Insurance companies need to be honest with their policyholders. If you sold castles with empty promises and now find that your actuaries made a mistake and didn't anticipate the biotech revolution and new costs, admit your error and be honest and fall back on the policy clauses that allow you to reduce coverage or raise premiums.
- 169 Stop trying to squeeze hospitals and doctors to close the gap and delay the inevitable. MOH and Bank Negara are both trying to be populist to hide the fact that both have abdicated responsibilities. Stand up to them and call a spade a spade. Allow a revision of outdated charge codes and pay doctors a reasonable fee for the skill they bring to the equation so they don't feel the need to upcode or multicode to justify the risk and effort of what they do. Two wrongs don't make a right, four wrongs are no better.
- 170 They should move to honour every client with a 30-day pay and claim reimbursement policy
- 171 The insurance industry is more focused on money saving and profit rather than genuine interest in patient's safety and health. They employ doctors with qualifications but minimal or no clinical experience to process the insurance claims
- 172 Insurance agents demanding MCs to be extended for their clients.
- 173 False Interpretation of preexisting condition
- 174 Medical Professionals should not be at the mercy of Insurers. A system or avenue should be in place for both Clinician and Patients to submit cases for review in the event of emergency and semi-emergency cases that require attention following an initial denial of approval from Insurers. Valid cases should be allowed to obtain their claim later rather than asking patient to pay-and-claim later or worst being referred out to MOH facilities and over crowding the public sectors further.

- 175 They do their best to decline a GL
- 176 Not inclusive to all specialty. Some insurance only approve certain investigations only if admitted. Not covering rehabilitation is denying patient's rights to improve their functions after debilitating illness or conditions.
- 177 Some insurance are very particular and rigid with the claims from doctors. But they never query anything charged by hospital side. How weird is that.
- 178 Over ruling a consultant who's a specialist in his field by a non qualified specialist from an insurance company is dangerous precedent that may harm patients
- 179 They are starting to interfere with patient management without understanding what they are doing.
- 180 Profits come first
- 181 Government must Regulate the unethical practice of insurance company from pulling clients from old plan to a new plan that will cause existing non-qualified clients to experience hiking of premium
- 182 It does not cover congenital and rehabilitation cases
- 183 [REDACTED] becoming very bold
- 184 Generally ok.
- 185 Insurers should not interfere in clinical management.
- 186 Delisted famous doctor as to save their cost .Once doctor delisted ,patient reluctant to pay and claim will choose other doctors
- 187 recently insurance telling us to do LA then GA. We always prefer LA. Don't force us to decide on some patients who definitely need GA
- 188 The insurance should approve stand alone ACC if they are really serious to reduce cost by converting most procedures to day surgery.
- 189 Most important the Agent need to explain the policy to their customer properly, and need to declare any pre existing illness. And dont try to lie .
- 190 Oral and certain Maxillofacial procedures are not covered though they are not dental treatment/dental care
- 191 It's getting more expensive and harder for approval for the same common illness as before.
- 192 Poor coverage
- 193 Compromising health care and the well being and effecting long term care of every individual in this country as they cannot receive the best care

- 194 Insurance should not interfere with clinicians in best clinical practices, however a guide in the options of the costs of treatment would be practical and helpful to the clinicians. Most of the time clinicians make decisions based on what is best for the patients on individual needs and basis.
- 195 I think they are rather helpless due to depleting funds. Hospital charges are unregulated. That is the elephant in the room. Hospitals may charge in manner which is competitive to them. The billing format must BE STANDARD, the coding must be standardized. That means, any one can easily compare the bills of treatment from Hospital A and B. PLEASE DO A STUDY HOW MANY DOCTORS CAN UNDERSTAND HOSPITAL BILLS! The bills should be understandable and can be compared by layman/insurance companies. This will put pressure on Hospitals to be competitive. Otherwise, patients and doctors become the victim.
- 196 The GL processing should more prompt, especially for emergency cases. There must be more medically sound personnel handling insurance claim requests.
- 197 Agents telling patients the doctors can manipulate the answers to questions in insurance forms so that the insurance is approved. Example is to admit a patient although can be treated as outpatient
- 198 Investment linked medical insurance policies are the biggest scam for the general public. When first introduced to medical insurance policies, agents will claim that with a certain amount of yearly premium , the policy is sustainable until a certain age. beyond that, the premiums that go to the investment fund will 'make money', hence no premiums need to be made beyond a certain period.
- However, there is no regulation or key performance index for these fund managers and investment funds. Therefore policy holders are given a rude shock when they hit 50 years old that their premium need to be increased to maintain sustainability. Failing which, the policy is expires.
- This is false advertisement by insurance agents as they market the policy based on best case scenarios and not reality. Easy to blame policy holders for not reading fine print. however unregulated insurance agents and investment linked policies are huge scams with the beneficiaries being the agents, insurance companies and fund managers. Every year all insurance companies treat their agents to luxurious overseas holidays , they generate huge profits but the man on the street is left reeling from rising premiums and expired policies leaving them without medical coverage during their 'golden' years
- 199 Now a days insurance ia doing profit not giving benefit enough to the patients
- 200 Needs to limit the power of TPA
- 201 Broker is not full medical knowlegable and sometimes insincere
- 202 Too much variability between the various agencies and how they address issues faced by patients
- 203 non inclusivity of rehabilitation in insurance policies in a whole denies patients' accessibility for a hollistic/ thorough care and solves only "acute" issues periodically and results in non-referral to rehab, then ends up in re-admission for complications or patients' dissatisfaction for lack of understanding of prognosis; worst case- debilitated in

- function and becomes a burden in healthcare & finance then overloads to public health care
- 204 It does not cover the patient's rehabilitation management which is not fair for the patient and reduces quality of life
- 205 New targeted chemotherapy is oral base...somehow our insurance only covers iv infusion. Targeted chemotherapy is expensive. In my practise..rm 24 k for 1 month for 24 months..this is not available in government hospital.
- 206 Insurance company holds too much power over malaysian healthcare. They are now dictating the fate of many patients and also doctors' welfare
- 207 Bank Negara Malaysia must have a body that comprises the head of MMA and also Bahagian Amalan in MOH to oversee and control the insurance companies. Recently a whole slew of Specialists have been removed from cashless police by ██████████ at ██████████ for no rhyme or reason. In Singapore there is such a body. We should emulate.
- 208 Healthcare cost rise is mainly due to innovative drugs , diagnostic tests and advanced technologies that will be a herculean task to control healthcare cost.
- 209
1. They lack qualified drs to understand or explain the issues to them
 2. Unrealistic expectectations set when policy sold
 3. Pre sale screening not done yet patients get rejected for congenital cause that are not overt and patient been paying for policy for years
- 210 The insurance company's adjusters are always trying the utmost to defer or reject GL requests
- 211 They should reduce the numbers of their agents and provide better services to their clients. They have to reduce their commission to lower rate only only allow to get it for 3 yrs.
- 212
1. Patient are often sold "upgrades" over the phone without underwriting, patient in the meantime developed bare chronic disease which was undeclared as the insurance company is not asking for these information. The undeclared medical conditions becomes classified as pre existing conditions rendering their policy which they paid for years fraudulent.
 2. Patients who have a lapse in their policy, eventhough reinstated will affect their GL approval later.
 3. Healthcare insurance has so much power that they are influencing access to healthcare and healthcare priorities and hampering advancements in medical innovation and progress.
 4. Medical practitioners are struck off the GL list because they have many patients who claimed insurance even though ██████████ has no evidence to implicate the doctors for fraud or abuse of the insurance coverage.
- 213 Should open to conversation, sometimes is difficult to explain through a small Column in the forms
- 214 Annual limit

- 215 I feel a lot of power has been given to insurance companies / TPAs. They can control which private hospital to be empaneled, control the charges of doctors as well as influence clinical decisions.
- 216 It is very very poorly runned. There is no honest dialogue with doctors for patient benefit. Health insurance business is almost unregulated where else Malaysian doctors are highly regulated. They take advantage of disunity and lack of united will to serve their patients better
- 217 They ruin our fantastic healthcare system, make a mockery of consultants and currently dictate the healthcare practice. They are turning the beautiful private healthcare system into a disaster -making the entire system into an unethical corporate profit orientated bullies.
- 218 No
- 219 The people running the medical insurance locally are not that knowledgeable esp outside the big 3 ([REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]) eg [REDACTED] [REDACTED] etc
- 220 Screening of GL application should be done by specific government body not insurance provider themselves as conflict of interest
- 221 They should start recognizing OSA and obesity as a treatable medical condition
- 222 The clause of exclusion for supplements
Faced instances where beret folic is declined for iron deficiency anemia, calcium replacements for severe hypoglycemia post thyroidectomy. Pyridoxine with anti TB treatment.
These are treatments NOT supplements in these cases
- 223 Deteriorating. Delay, obstruct and Deny seems to be objective
- 224 insurance strike off procedures already done on patient as making us bundle up all the procedures into one code
- 225 Insurance insisted on different cheaper charging code when the appropriate code given.
- 226 Please change pay and claim scheme to full coverage regardless of the size of the private hospital as long as the patient is managed by registered specialists. This to avoid delay in treatment and patient's preference of which hospital and doctors they want to seek treatment. Tqvm
- 227 Does not cover obstructive sleep apnea treatment when it is a crucial disease and has economic impact if not treated.
Does not cover dental treatment.
The maturity period of 120 days does not cover all diseases, subject to approval, hence misleading.

Standard equipments such facial nerve monitor, immunohistochemistry staining sometimes not covered.

228 [REDACTED] the worst

229 Profiteering

230 While understanding that insurance companies need to make a profit, it should not be overboard to the extent it affects patients' health, as it is the very reason patients buy insurance to assist them when they fall sick. Another very obvious reason is the lack of governmental regulation on private hospitals as business entities. No regulations on prices of services and drugs lead to overinflation. This in turn causes insurance premiums to increase further. Doctors' professional fees has always been capped and regulated by PHFSA Act, while no one government authority take any responsibility in regulating hospitals' business models.

231 Unreasonable

232 The agents should be more educated regarding medical conditions / diagnosis as well as their treatment options so that they will be more well versed in advising their clients and help reducing false claims and unwanted admissions. Thereby reducing wasting time with healthcare providers like us!

233 There needs to be regulation of all parties, there is decent regulation of doctors via other code of ethics, hospital management and Clinical Advisory board. It feels as though patients are being short handed by their companies, and increasingly difficult parameters are set by insurance companies/TPA. Is there any clear evidence of increasing/high rates of misuse by clinicians?

234 Sickening

235 They can presume you have congenital issue if the patient is 15 years old and denied GL even before they ask the doctor.

236 1.) Certain insurance refuse to be panels for certain hospitals (if they do they want a huge discounts sometime upto 30%)

237 Getting stricter to get approved

238 Patients are not clear on their policy characteristic, limit, exclusion. Often they are enticed for insurance upgrade and then previously covered diseases became exclusion condition

239 Rising insurance cost / premium causing patients to seek treatment at government clinics/hospitals which are already crowded.

240 This notion that stones don't develop till after two years only is ridiculous.. stones can occur anytime ..the thing is these companies make great profits.. and they have screened these patients before passing them for a policy.. it just means patients have generally been ill after that and not always about something that was not declared ..and revoking the policy after a gl has been issued is non sensical..and it puts pressure on the doctors as the patient takes it out on the doctors...

bank negara should be siding the doctors and patients and not the companies .. as it is there are many people not venturing into medical studies these days.. any curtailing of doctors charges within the fee schedule(which has already been long due for a hike which seems to be stuck at the AG office forever) will be disastrous for health tourism as well as public health care as all these patients will return to public hospitals which currently do not have the expertise to manage complex cases anymore

If the underlying diagnosis is covered by the policy (eg cancer), shouldn't all aspects of the management of said diagnosis be covered? Eg management of cancer pain and other symptoms -- which is what palliative care is.

Palliative care is recognised internationally and nationally as an essential medical service.

The WHO identifies palliative care as a human right. Resolution WHA67.19 advocates for the strengthening of palliative care as a component of comprehensive care throughout the life course.

241 The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) both advocate for early access to palliative care in patients with cancer, recognizing this as a vital component in cancer care.

Locally, the National Palliative Care Policy and Strategic Plan launched by the MOH in 2019 affirms the Ministry's commitment to ensuring palliative care is integrated at all levels of healthcare and recommends that it be included in health insurance policies.

Yet, on the ground, we face denial of coverage of palliative care for our patients. Not all, but some insurers consistently decline coverage for even ward consultation charges when it comes to palliative care. I have contacted MOH about this, but they say it is out of their hands, and this is based on the insurance policies. But shouldn't insurers consider palliative care as a basic medical need when it comes to a life-threatening diagnosis? Do contact me if you want to find out more. Thanks.

242 Trying very hard to cut cost or find ways to deny patients' treatment coverage

Increase in premiums for Hospitalisation coverage rising too often, too precipitously and too high. It increases automatically every 5 year band anyway. Doesn't allow or give any advantages for clients who has never claimed at all.

243 Patient care is compromised often eg [REDACTED] has this protocol of delaying clearance for 2nd or 3rd doctors' treatment plan, until Dr 1 is cleared.

Another insurer has this protocol to ask for DAILY vitals signs, Temp etc, as well as daily progress notes and to state exactly the route/dose/duration etc of each drug used (eg T PCM 1gm QID/prn for 5 days). Cuts into doctors time n efficiency.

A National Health Insurance policy should have been implemented from way back mooted since the 1990s itself.

244 High premium but coverage is low/limited. They tend to deny coverage initially for you to justify admission. Most of the time it will approve anyway, only waste time for clinician to answer/justify each admission (time consuming)

245 Affordability of insurance premium

Very rude and nasty

246 Asking me to provide papers on why need to do a certain investigation which is part of the clinical guidelines and routine

Insurance companies often include statements claiming that if they deny payment, providers are prohibited from billing the patient or even informing them. This raises serious legal and ethical questions—who authorizes such restrictions, and are they enforceable?

247 As physicians, our duty is to treat patients, not to interpret or enforce insurance policies to which we have no access. If coverage is denied, we should not be expected to justify the cost of care. The treatment remains valid, and appropriate billing should follow.

Globally, it's common for patients to pay beyond what insurance or Medicare covers. Yet here, such practices are framed as a physician offense—an unfair and misplaced burden.

248 Accountability, reliability

249 The system needs to be revamped. Co-payment needs to be enforced with at least 20 % coming from the patients. Both patients and insurance companies need to have realistic expectations.

250 there are 2 standards. the high ranking insurance officers have no GL issues

251 Processing GL application too slowly and insurance not processing insurance GL for second doctor (referral) after office hour

252 Not fast enough approval for urgent surgery/ live saving surgery

253 They are getting worst

254 Stopping us from giving best treatment

255 Most health insurance in Malaysia do not cover sleep apnoea diagnosis and treatment (e.g. CPAP machine or bariatric surgery) when it can drastically reduce major health diseases like hypertension, diabetes, heart attacks, stroke and accidents due to sleeping off while driving. By reducing these major diseases, health insurance can cut costs of treating those diseases.

256 Necessary evil but you can't be delivering record profits and paying out record dividends while moaning about increasing costs. Then pressuring hospitals for discounts and denying payment to doctors

257 In order to save cost insurance companies squeeze the doctors' fees which is only a fraction of the total bill. perform 2 procedures but only willing to pay for one

258 They r compromising patient's care and safety and making clinical decision

- 259 I recognise there are issues relating to drs overcharging and/or making false claims too but if they are caught out, they should be referred to the relevant authorities. Pls don't paint all drs as crooks just becoss of a few bad hats!
- 260 Hospital and Insurance reap maximal profit at the expense of patient and doctors. Doctors charges slashed. Hospital insist compulsory discount for certain insurers. MOH is not helping either. The MOH officers always sides insurance and hospital insist compulsory discount complaints
- 261 Implement DRG as soon as possible. Doctor's professional fee to be separated from DRG insurance sum to hospital (follow MMA schedule). Doctor fee is already regulated. Medical inflation is due to un-controlled hospital charges, pharmaceutical and equipment suppliers.
- 262 Increasingly dictating what medicines to use (generics preferred), which hospitals to go , refuse cashless coverage for certain specialties or certain hospitals but when patient send in claims, they refuse to honour the claim akin punishing patients for choosing the 'wrong' hospital
- 263 Insufficient coverage is the norm
- 264 Some authorities should monitor each time a GL is declined to check if it was justified
- 265 Insurance companies tell customers they can get cover after 6 mths but will rarely cover if the policy is less than 2 years old.this is a con job.also insrers have packages that they brow beat hospitals to give.and specify the cheapest prosthesis or in so.e case the number of coro ary stents to be inserted and the tupe of stentsthis iscesp true of zia packages
- 266 They sell the policy with a cheap initial premium brazenly advertising that 'no medical check up is required'. Once sold, every symptom is questioned.
- 267 Totally Ban medical insurance.We only make insurance companies richer .Drs must play good role .Zero or minimum investigations or only specific investigations.Be clinically oriented discuss with colleagues.Avoid hospitalization.CEO of private hospitals are paid too high .
- 268 It is absolutely horrible and I wish I am rich enough so that I DON'T have to buy insurance. Feel so cheated
- 269 Inconsistent assessment, sometimes one charges will be approve while other time the same charges are queried or rejected
- 270 They refuse to Pay according 13th schedule too. Making their own interpretation of the schedule.
- 271 Specifically in ophthalmology: If a patient has been admitted under eg Internal medicine for their uncontrolled DM or PTB treatment. The Physician will usually refer to us for eye assessment from the ward. Almost always our request for coverage will de denied for the sole reason that such examinations can be done as outpt! Even after informing them that the pt is ALREADY admitted under another discipline. Pt will either have to pt CASH or refuse to be seen, which may affecte their care.
- 272 Liberalize medical insurance and allow foreign medical insurance companies to offer genuine reasonable premiums that are patient centric and not business centric.

Stop the insurance agent 35% 7 yrs commissions on insurance premiums, allow patients to apply for medical insurance policies online to eliminate agent commissions, stop insurance companies forcing doctors to give discounts, lots of bad debts doctors not being paid for service and procedures already rendered but claims rejected/not paid by the insurance company.

Bank Negara won't be interested to rectify this problem as long as it prioritizes investors which include GLC, EPF, state governments, state rulers etc. private hospitals try to mute doctors when they question insurance companies for silly questions and probes saying the insurance companies are their business partners.

Stop private hospitals from raising prices few times in a year for the same services(the hospital management raise the prices to show profits to investors for their own KPI, stop blaming doctors as the reason for the medical inflation, stop targeting doctors because their are the soft targets.

The private healthcare cost escalation needs to be contained, private hospitals charges(not doctors which are fixed) need to be audited and controlled. Doctors work through holidays, PH, after office hours often 5-10 times harder than other professions they are abused and under appreciated and told they earn too much.

Finally but most importantly insurance companies are not interested to cover when someone nears the age of 60 yrs and often raise the premiums to a very high price to discourage the policy holders from continuing their policies even after they have been paying for decades akin to the umbrella they paid for only to have the umbrella taken away on a rainy day when they actually need to use it. It's a dirty business in Asia.....

273 Clinical interference usually is the most annoying and another commonest issue is denying and refusing to accept certain added surgeries by using terms like part of surgery procedure is becoming very rampant recently and all this while adhesiolysis was coded separately but now they are asking us to take out without knowing our surgical procedure saying that as it's part of main surgery

274 No proper regulation/ enforcement by KKM.
Prices of premium keep increasing even when they have never been used .
Promised duration of coverage can be reduced drastically without any reason

275 Need better understanding n dialog session re insurer view n clinician view.

276 I don't understand why is it the doctors responsibility to arrange finances for the patients treatment. Doctors job is to treat. Now it seems it's also doctors job to find the money for the patient that the doctor is going to treat. We have come to accept this system, but it is inherently flawed.

277 In bad situation. As doctors in private practice we not only have to deal with higher litigation cases now we have to bear the stress insurance is imposing on us. What's right and wrong to each decisions ?

We are based on clinical acument and years of training but now have to bear the risk of blacklist and not being paid. Why don't the insurance companies come and see doctors. Have they called the doctor to explain before being blaclisted .

- They are affecting our judgement and this is risky for patient . As simple as using harmonics scalpel for appendicitis being questioned. Do we reuse or change practices that we have been trained for years? Even government can use that .
- Have they informed the patients that can't use modern and less invasive techniques due to cost? But patient are also educated now. Why put the blame on us.
1. Insurance companies dictating to specialists whether a patient's diagnosis requires inpatient or daycare admissions
 2. Insurance companies dictating to specialists what procedures should be done/charged for patients instead
 - 278 3. Insurance companies starting to make clinical decisions in terms of patient care, which should only be decided by specialists
 4. Insurance companies requesting for explanations to queries, but not understanding the clinical answers/replies to these queries
 5. Insurance companies rejecting GL applications without reasons given at all
- 279 Gynaecology coverage only extend to patient which medical card is more than 2yrs.. very bias and inappropriate
- 280 There are not regulated at all. Incompetent staff handling claims with no medical knowledge. Not informing clients about their limited cover of insurance
- Overpricing of products.
- 281 Agents forcing public to buy bigger unnecessary plans leading to wastage of resources
Co payment insurance should be encouraged to reduce public financial burden, prevent wastage of financial resources and for the public to share the burden of public health by improving one's own lifestyle and health
- 282 We are forced to give 10 to 15 % discount to the insurance companies. Which is unfair
- 283 Public-private partnerships lapsed.
- 284 I think the doctors price codes need to be published and need to show in a graph whats happening over time. All this email is all talk but no one goes and shows some surgical procedure from day 1 compared with hospital cost now.
- 285 Doctors, hospitals, insurance, pharma, medical device vendors, patients, government all have roles to play. Not a single group issues. Avoid excessive profiteering.
- 286 Delayed in payment to both hospitals and for patients who paid and claim.
- 287 Insurance companies should be taxed on profit which should be returned to public healthcare.
- 288 Should have some co-payment to prevent abuse by patients. Also patient themselves must pay cash for filling up the GL so that they also don't simply request for admission
- 289 THEY INSIST ON INVESTIGATIONS THAT THEY REFUSE TO PAY FOR PRIOR TO GIVING GL FOR ADMISSION EG MRI SCANS

- 290 Need to increase Public education health insurance- many pple r ignorant of d insurance policy they purchased only to discover problems later when they need to use it
- 291 There are problems on both sides. A few bad actors among doctors have resulted in mistrust towards us by the insurance companies, who seem to be prioritizing their bottom line rather than patient care.
- 291 While appeals are sometimes accepted, it adds to the burden of paperwork and frustration on the doctors side. There seem to be counterproductive practices, eg not covering screening tests which could prevent or detect early cancers, thus reducing overall costs.
- 292 Co-payment is a burden for patients and families
- 293 Worsening coverage. Delays in obtaining GL in emergency cases is unwarranted and detrimental to patient wellbeing. The increased premiums also causes a burden and is mostly related to high hospital rather than doctors bills or charges.
- 294 It's terrible and heavily manipulate by private hospital management and insurer .it's jeopardise patients and doctors benefit to the maximum . The fee splitting practices and unscrupulous private hospital management and insurer company will lead to negative impact on patients care .
- 295 insurance companies need to be scrutinised by Bank Negara more stringently with them focusing on just cutting cost.
- 296 Too demanding, can be tricky and the hike in policy contributions are almost always been excused in the name of medical inflation
- 297 Interference on clinical decision by insurance personnel who is not seeing the patient nor qualified to make decisions
- 298 Bank negara seems take side of insurance which prioritises profit or business target rather than the primary intention of insurance which is coverage when one is sick, and the well being of patients
- 299 Lack of understanding in the complexity of medical care of patient especially in tertiary center care
- 300 Insurance companies issue initial GL and upon completion of surgery or treatment, question need for certain procedures n charges. Secondly some dressings post surgery cannot be done by nurses or GP n the operating Dr needs to do them but are denied dressing charges.
- 301 rakan kkm is a must
- 302 Expensive with narrow coverage
- 303 Long and ambiguous cooling period.
- 304 Please put Ur officer in the private hosp to handle the GL application instead of sending us multiple queries, please ask patient information yourself to clarify patient's condition instead of asking is to clarify for U, like whether the patient's condition is pre-existing
- 305 Rediculous quiry, brainless question by the doctor who works as adjuster to the insurance/TPA

- 306** Looks like having insurance does not means can get a cover from them
Very dependent upon them
- Non transparency regarding policy and coverage
- Shifting the blame on doctors on non approval of GL
- 307** There should an avenue to lodge complaint directly to Ombudmans who are receive and prompt in their response
- Should be able to purchase medical insurance directly rather than agents to save cost and reduce the premium
- 308** Insurance companies are now becoming unreasonable in their criteria for coverage exclusion. For example, a patient during prescreening when applying to buy insurance policy was found on CT scan to have 2 tiny liver cysts (few mm), in the subsequent 1 million dollar policy, coverage is excluded for anything related to the liver.
- In another patient, who had spinal disc prolapse(benign condition) was excluded from coverage of anything related to the spine. She subsequently had breast cancer with metastases to the bones in the spine and was unable to get GL for radiotherapy to the spine mets for symptom relief.
- Patients have very little understanding about the policies they have bought and all of them are very surprised that the insurance does not cover “everything” and there are still out of pocket costs they must bear. Agents also overpromise things and get the patient to pressure the doctor into doing certain things (not the right way) to get GL.
- 309** No effective communication channels between insurers and doctors.
- 310** Insurers need to understand that many diseases/ conditions require more than basic tests for doctors to come up with actual diagnosis. Hence it is not fair to deny admission for tests some we need to exclude a lot of serious conditions
- 311** I think insurers are colluding with KKM. The opinions from KKM are also from unknowledgeable public health doctors. If opinions are asked from KKM consultants, they are also no legible to answer due to lack of knowledge
- 312** I feel the main issue is the medical officer who are reviewing the gl applications- who do not at all understand the diagnosis and the treatment that we are advocating. And incessantly asking irrelevant, stupid questions. Repeatedly. And in the end, gl being rejected or certain exclusions being applied after our detailed reply to their deferments.
- 313** I think should cover congenital conditions or hereditary disorder which is not known when the patient purchases the insurance. Especially when patient comes with emergency conditions. This is life saving situation.
- 314** Delayed payment and partial payment
- 315** Will try to slash doctor’s fees as much as possible as if the person who does that sitting in the office has done the surgery more than me or refused to pay the case which was done after office hour that was unavoidable and all these extra numbers were stated beforehand not to be collected from patients, so we are in limbo if insurance/patients are not going to pay so who’s going to pay?

- 316 Insurance will only approve for final GL if IV medications were used in ward. That cause a lot of unnecessary treatment, exp dengue fever, AGE.. all the pt needs is iv fluid. But in order for the insurance to approve, unnecessary iv medications were started
- 317 doesnt cover bariatric aND METABOLIC OPERATIONS
- 318 Some exclusion criteria are not reasonable
- 319 Autistic children denied GL although admission is for unrelated matter like pneumonia or head injury. This is blatant discrimination against disabled /OKU children. Pneumonia in children less than 6 months old often rejected as pre-existing (congenital). Absolutely disgusting.
- 320 Refusal to accept reason and always out to assume every claim is meant to cheat
- 321 Insurance agents that sell the policy , promising the world to the patient , famous line they will quote : all will be covered if patient is admitted
- 322 The quality of questions show complete lack of knowledge by the person asking questions
- 323 Patients are paying more as more and more medicine is not covered. Refuse to pay full dr consultation fees and expecting Patients to pay partly
- 324 Currently there is a trend by insurers who have jacked up the patients premiums but offer them a so called policy upgrade with lower premiums up to an older age limit However then when the patient develops a condition within 2 years of this policy upgrade their claims are denied as either a pre existing condition or no reason is given whatsoever, stating that the patient has to pay first and claim later
- 325 No organization that fights for private doctors rights. Many of us are being bullied by insurance. Insurance refused to cater to patients medical needs.
- 326 The smaller the coverage the more questions. Need to seamless transfer care between private and public services
- 327 Little coverage for psychiatric illness even though it may be related to a medical conditoon
- 328 Public and BNM are misled and brainwashed to think that insurance premium rise is solely due to rising medical cost/ hosp charges/ doctors fees, which is completely not true.
Insurance ridiculous demands and declines has led to more prolonged stay, more use of even more injectable meds (oral chemotherapy is a modern treatment and more cost effective) and insurers make excuses and refuse to accept advances in medicine and operation techniques that minimise hosp stay.
But no..... Insurers deny the modern technology. Pound foolish penny wise. The particular minimal invasive operation maybe more expensive, but the shorter stay and lesser complications will save cost. Similarly for oral chemo (more expensive) but no need for hospital admission and prolonged stays.
- 329 We feel the person deferring our request are unqualified personnel. It seems they can't grasp the need for subspecialty referral, limiting number of total visit assuming certain illnesses can be sorted in 1 review. Deferring investigation like ct, then asking us to

explain why need despite of explained during GL request. Also giving conditional GL of if investigation result positive, then it's covered under GL otherwise patient has to pay.

Always telling clients doctors wrongly wrote diagnosis, that's why claims and GL got rejected.

Always making clients ask medical reports from doctors, when actually it is the agent's job, to avoid getting charged the fee for medical reports. This, even though agents are entitled to claim for medical report fee.

When insurance company suddenly found out about pre-existing condition, they automatically reject GL or claim, even though the current diagnosis is far unrelated from that so called pre existing condition.

Insurance companies willing to hire "rejection specialists" but unwilling to cover claims by their loyal clients.

330

Hiding behind anonymity screen - when we want to clarify ridiculous queries, we do not have any contact or channel, or at the very least, a bot assistant. All we have is a piece of unsigned paper asking ridiculous and incredulous and irrelevant questions, from don't know who.

Threatening to take hospitals off their panels if don't cave in to their demands to give special rates ie Discounts. Meanwhile, clients who have not made any claims in years, do not get any NCD, but gets increased premiums.

Noone has been clear which governmental authority is regulating health insurance, hence there are no channels for healthcare providers to lodge complaints. Disguising increased premiums as "upgrades", in some instances, trying to play FOMO sentiments, so clients will play along and "upgrade", inadvertently paying higher premiums without any tangible additional "benefits".

Some companies still rejecting claims for COVID infections, even though already well past pandemic. Forcing healthcare providers to unnecessarily perform COVID test even though not indicated, in the hope that they have the excuse to reject if COVID positive.

331

Insurance are late in approving the GL this leads to delay in treatment and being done after hours and then they question why the case was done after hours ?

332

We should have national health insurance for Malaysian citizens which include co-pay mechanisms so all citizens have better access.

The specialist code of charges does not match with overseas' rate.

333

The insurance companies keep forcing the specialist to give discount, or else threaten to withdraw panelship.

334

Asking silly questions and sometimes 3-4 pages of question for routine procedure eg excision of lump and bumps.

335

While insurance agents sell the policies to clients with high promises, the company officials refuse coverage as much as possible and patients are told doctors did not know how to write insurance forms

- 336 Sadly, from the deferments and questions laid forward there is blatant ignorance in current updates in healthcare .
- 337 Openly slandering doctors in the media and to patients via their agents
Cunning questions asked repeatedly in order to trick the doctor into saying that a condition falls into their list of exclusions
- 338 Most are OK. Recently the problems are with third party eg [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that always deny essential medicine for deserved patients. They did not consider severity of patient condition and deny care due to expense if medication. This leads to using more dangerous cheaper drugs compromising care and unnecessary risks to patients.
- 339 Junior officers who do not understand my specialty
- 340 Insurance does not cover investigations like MRI if done as outpatient
- 341 With medical cost inflation, it is expected that
- 342 When the agent sells, everything is possible but the patients do not know the exclusion criteria
- 343 Inconsistent deferment or denials even within the same insurance company.
- 344 Forced consultation discounts,one sided interpretation of doctors fees
- 345 Insurance companies routinely disregard the 13th Schedule charges and assert that alternative internal guidelines—not the legally mandated rates—should apply to patient procedure fees. This problematic practice has spread across the industry, with insurers increasingly rejecting claims based on these non-statutory guidelines. Worse still, some insurers explicitly prohibit hospitals, in writing, from collecting any additional fees from patients to cover the shortfall, effectively blocking access to prescribed treatments or diagnostic tests.
- 346 Should have an audit or a 2nd party or a clear channel for patient/doctor to appeal when an appeal is declined with no valid reasons and againts clinical advise
- 347 Becoming more difficult and sometimes blocked certain specialist without any reason. Just because to reduce expenditure by reducing patinet accessing particular doctor/ treatment
- 348 I am seriously thinking od cancelling my health insurance plan.
- 349 making it more difficult to get approval for GL in a number of cases due to ridiculous requirement as noted in Q11 above
- 350 The priority of insurance company is merely the bottom line. Nothing else matters
- 351 Insurance just want the cheapest , incomplete treatment.
- 352 Multiple layers of questionnaires and this is waste of my time ,replying the questions are more than writing medical report

353 Should not be bundled with investment linked plans

354 It's all gone wrong. The whole system needs revamping. Insurance companies introduced cashless system to control the doctors' charges which unfortunately have not changed since 2006/2014. The coding system by MOH is outdated and MOH has practically washed their hand off the whole issue leaving the doctors to fend for themselves. But we are at the mercy of insurance companies who may blacklist us anytime without reason.

355 Health insurance emphasizes on their profits and revenue. They do not look at the safety for patients and also interfere with clinician treatment. Clinician fee has not changed since 2008 and we are asked to lower our fee to accommodate package for insurance patient and care of patient would be compromised one day.

356 Quick to collect premium from patients, but reluctant to reimburse doctors for the work that they have done. Always haggling.

357 Worsening

358 No cashless facility for traumatic injuries that can be treated as outpatient basis

359 Need to regulate private hospital pricing. Private healthcare is not a free market.

360 The substandard understanding of a fast-moving specialty such as cancer care

361 The insurance staff do not understand the diseases & treatment

362 Patients are often promised much but delivery is sometimes poor

363 Interfering with clinical decisions to save medical cost in order to reduce amount covered.

364 Insurance companies often comes up with creative ways to bundle several procedures as part and parcel of main procedure. There is seriously lack of understanding / misinterpretation of 13th fee schedule.

365 not covering vitamins even when used for treatment (in deficient patient) and not as supplements

366 It is becoming very costly for patients to maintain paying their premium and difficult to even use their insurance for their treatment

367 The case officer needs to be someone who is well versed and adequately trained to go through GL request.

368 They back off when their clients need them most

369 Need to update newest technology such as robotic surgery or latest pain intervention

370 Unfair

- 371 Insurance providers are more interested in hogging premium payments for themselves probably so that directors can pay themselves handsomely. They are not using resources to cover health costs for individuals as they had pledged they would do. It's an absolute disgrace.
- 372 Most irritating is the officer handling the questioning of doctors asking really irrelevant and annoying questions.
- 373 Shifting the goal post to cover less procedures which is indicated and previously can cover
- 374 Too little control over their policy and exclusion by central bank. Interference in clinical work and decisions. I suggest insurance companies bear responsibility for medicolegal implications of a patient's care if they continue in their interference.
- 375 Questions asked are at times incomprehensible reflecting a poor understanding of medical decisions making process
- 376 Not understanding diagnosis and relevant treatment
- 377 98 percent of decent doctors being prosecuted for the 1-2 percent who create the problems
- 378 Getting worse in claiming
- Health INSURANCE trying to dictate what is best for patients care despite they not assessing the patients and risking /delaying treatment/care .
- 379 AT the same time; consultants may end up giving suboptimal care and risking litigation issue.
AT the same time ; Health INSURANCE will wash ED their hand off
- 380 The insurance company do not keep themselves updated with the latest treatment which evidently have more clinical benefits, and due to that, treatment is refused
- 381 They should not pressure doctors on how to manage patients. AT the end of the day when there is a complication because a certain test or drug not done or given then the doctors have to take responsibility which is unfair
- 382 For Some expensive investigations they want in patient for the payment
- 383 it is hampering the doctor's work and treatment for patient as i see that the insurance company is dictating our patient care.
- 384 Patients are not aware that insurance denies coverage and blames the doctor
- 385 Exponential increased in premium payments, but not the coverage
- 386 They try to find every small excuse to deny coverage. They don't respect n adhere to international guidelines for treatment. They interfere with treatment n try to be too smart most times. They don't have any Medical knowledge n yet questioning experts on essential life saving treatment

387 Staff vetting admissions are poorly trained and don't know basic medical terms. Pathetic.

1..they always ask irrelevant questions.

2. All treatment related.to jaws/face they will always try exclude under bracket of cosmetic procedures

388 3. They refuse to understand the severity of fracture, including bilateral fracture

4. They are not knowledgeable but try hard to behave like one

5..they are not sincere

389 Not willing to sit down and discuss issues with specialist . Gangster mentality .
Blackmails management

390 How is it that the insurance company's had the best performing year in 2014 but health insurance is going up? This is just cooperate greed. Always blaming the doctors when our fees has not moved for the past 10 years. Overcharging is mainly by hospital charges which are not regulated.

391 My wife is denied cover for breast despite having only one benign lesion in one breast

392 Delay

393 They don't study the disease, nature of the disease and implications onthe patients and also how the patient is usually managed .

394 Inadequate for icu coverage.

395 Too many to state. Not updated or keeping up with the times. Archaic system.

396 Too much control by insurance

397 Patient had to pay higher premium rates for a lesser medical coverage. The higher difficulty for claims approval. And patient often had to pay out of pocket for pay and claim policy (only to have claim denied)

398 Unrealistic expectations of the government and insurance companies for the private hospitals and ambulatory centers to keep trying to reduce costs and yet maintain same quality of care . Our costs and charges are already the lowest in the region . It will reach a point where it is not cost effective to treat certain complex conditions and all such cases will be pushed back to the overwhelmed public hospitals .

399 25years in private practise. I find the person on the other side is leaking the depth of knowledge as the questions they ask is mind boggling. For very advance disease they will ask why no PET scan is done. Once I replied the cancer is larger than a football field can do with a simple CT scan

400 Inconsistency between different insurance companies makes it difficult us to advise patients

- More expensive mainly due to technology of diagnosis and treatment
- Medication also expensive
- More of subspecialties and interreferral and combine management add in cost
But patient get better treatment
- 401 Hospital bed also more expensive , patients themselves prefer luxury type of ward
As far as clinical there wont be 100 success, back to normal after major illnesses/ major surgery
- Very often some residual effect that need long term follow up extra medication , extra procedures later that escalate health cost care
- 402 Discrepancy between what the insurance agent advices and what the insurance HQ decides
- 403 Patients overpromised when selling+
- 404 Procedures in 13th schedule should not be denied
- 405 Poor coverage, the officer knowledge is super poor
- 406 Insurance company adopted a special version of ICD-10 which was very different from the US. Most diagnoses in their system were less favorable for a patient's claim raising the concern of fairness and social justice..
- 407 The recent hike in premiums doesn't reflect in coverage given. It's almost like insurance companies are just competing to show a bigger profit and build yet another skyscraper with their name on it in a city somewhere
- 408 Late notification of GL
- 409 Agents are not transparent/honest with clients. Agents blame doctors if GL disapproved. Insurance employ biomedic grads/junior doctors to be their panel to ask/answer QAs
- 410 they need specialist who manage to approve and concern about latest treatment in medicine/surgery treatment, able to understand and absorb the justification written/reply by surgeon, able to understand the patients needs.
- 411 Need comprehensive health insurance for all
- 412 Should look into either copay scheme or out of pocket payments if the insurance refuse to pay...
- 413 3rd party insurance providers are the worst eg [REDACTED]
- 414 As citizens get older, their health care problems. And premiums are jacked to the point patients literally have no choice but to drop oit. This system wont work in Malaysia because both insurance companies and private hospitals are driven by greed.
- 415 Insurance companies are definitely dictating how patients should be managed with the aim of decreasing payout. Clinicians are rewarded for helping insurers decrease payout

- and penalized if not. Threat of blacklisting private doctors without a fair and impartial hearing is always wielded
- 416 Undermines the patient's right to best care and their best interest as per insurance policy paid by pts and interfering in the patient's healthcare decision
- 417 Decreasing payment of doctors fees. Where are lot of unrelated procedures are now denied, stating that it's part and parcel of procedure. No basis .but no route for discussion
- 418 Health insurance providers in Malaysia often face no immediate requirement to justify or be held accountable when denying health coverage to patients. This lack of oversight can leave patients vulnerable and without timely recourse. Denying coverage alone lets them off the hook with no immediate repercussion.
- 419 treatment of standard despite according to latest guidelines would be rejected due to no FDA indication / singapore insurance are more up to date for eg allow claim for biologics for severe asthma as daycare and outpatient which in term would reduce overall hospital admission for recurrent asthma exacerbation
- 420 Questions asked are frequently not relevant to the condition. Possibility that the person who is reading the claim request is not medically trained or inadequate trained or only have theory without clinical experience
- 421 How does an insurer decide to provide healthcare when the ultimate goal is to make a profit
- 422 They are getting more picky and arrogant.
- 423 Insurance companies in Malaysia should cover for psychiatry illnesses especially depression and anxiety because these mental health problems are a leading cause of disability (loss of work productivity) in working population
- 424 They care more about not allowing claim than ensuring patient get treatment.
- 425 We need national health insurance and more senior medically trained people at the insurance approval team
- 426 No standard practice guidelines.
- 427 The rising cost in private is not related to dr s procedural fees- which had remained unchanged for years. The private hospital related charges that requires scrutiny instead. And the insurance agents too need to properly advise their client before selling those policy. Some agent promised super broad coverage that is not existent on the term and condition.
- 427 When pt got denied coverage, the agent will usually tell pt that it s dr 's fault no writing the paf properly when in fact the denial of coverage is due to their term and condition itself that ot not aware of before buying.
- And there are instances too for pt whos policy maturity less than even 6 months was told denial of coverage due to dr 's paf not properly written. The blame always on the dr. But the policy was just bought less than 6 months ago.
- 428 They dont understand severity of illness of pt admitted to hospital. They think pt in ICU should have similar care like pt admitted to general ward

- 429 Insurance companies employ extremely incompetent people to handle GL approvals. They have no clue about medicine and deny GLs based on poor understanding of the medical conditions of patients.
- 430 Too many frivolous decline and need to justify for clear cut treatment, investigations etc. It seems knee jerk decline whenever it is expensive treatment or investigation is the norm now.
- 431 Premium is becoming unaffordable
- 432 Why did we give so much power to insurance holding all that money?
- 433 Insurance is dictating what can be treated. They seem to know more than doctors
- 434 Insurance officer or company always play around with KKM issued letter, using letter specific for other diseases and age group (adult vs children) to justify payment or approval for other diseases or age group patient to not to pay for patient's treatment.
- 435 Investigation should be part of management where insurance always does not cover forrelevant investigation or follow up endoscopy
- 436 Bank negara not managing them well
- 437 Going down the drain. Employers buying cheapest cover, and insurance increasing prices but taking home large bonuses
- 438 The assessor are not doctor and their knowledge is not update thus they refer to older treatment options .
- 439 Health ministry making decision for private practitioner
- 440 Unreasonable increase in premium
- 441 Agents tend to mislead clients and blame doctors when GL gets rejected
- 442 I think some form of co payment is needed, either by patient directly or by a national coverage system
- 443 The insurers hand the 'blacklist without reason over our heads and don't bother to give reasons - many are in fear of unfair blacklisting. Blacklisting does not follow due process and is at the whim of the insurance serving to cause fear in others to 'toe the line' and appeals fall on deaf ears. The patient is the ultimate loser
- 444 The policies are written in ambiguous manner. One clause states that the coverage is complete for trauma but another clause claims dental treatment is not available. Ine such example is a clause from [REDACTED]. It is written as " dental treatment is excluded unless necessitated by accident only". Bank Negara may accept this as comprehensive and the policy is allow to be sold to the public.
- However, in reality the insurer does not cover trauma to the teeth; common procedure secondary to trauma is replantation of teeth due to trauma (mma code F0830) is constantly denied (replantation of teeth is not placement of dental implant it is

repositioning of patients own teeth back into the socket, and even after such explanation is given the procedure is still denied as dental treatment by [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

445 Claims processor do not have sufficient knowledge and training. I believe they have KPI on number of rejections or questionnaires they send out. Some of the questions are really stupid

446 Providers should be more open to newer modalities of treatment

Question 20

Can you leave your phone number/ email address for CodeBlue to contact you for further comments? (This is optional).

Answered: 255 | Skipped: 600

Responses are omitted from this report.