

Dear Helen

Another GP on the Divisions list has stated:

I would like to add my voice to the growing number of GPs who are disgusted by the supposedly simplified new TDRs. The level of detail is staggering and there are requests for extensive additional documentation such as specialists reports and laboratory results.

Your typical complicated disabled person would have enough information in his or her file to keep me occupied for at least several hours. These are usually people who are living in poverty and who cannot afford to pay.

I agree with the above comment. If extensive additional documentation is required, perhaps centrelink should contract doctors? HSA - to do such medicals/reports. As I mentioned at the forum, often a patient will come in for a form - eg TDR - to be completed and then say 6 weeks later with the same form to be again filled in. I feel at times Centrelink staff give such forms to their clients as a way of 'buying time' for the Centrelink staffer without thinking of the cost on the patient and the doctor.

If one has a problem with Centrelink, as I mentioned I can never get through to sort the problem out without the patient going back to Centerlink and arriving back often with yet another form. Perhaps experienced GP's could be involved in training Centrelink staffers ??

With regards to the 'new' forms - it is incomprehensible that they have not been provided in eg MD - medical director - (and other) format such that I can call up the patient on the computer and my MD package will insert many required details automatically - a significant saving in time for the doctor.

cheers

Glynn