

A short comment on GP forms after Helen Owens presentation at the ADGP forum.

1. All of these forms should be compatible with the medical software. We have been encouraged to become paperless and it makes an irony when Centrelink have produced with a lot of publicity a new form that does not work with medical software.

2. I never now fill in the boxes at the bottom of the form that ask how long it has taken to fill in this form. I used to do it a lot but nothing ever changed and I wondered if they ever achieved anything.

3. The worst form I had to fill in was for the ABS. they sent it in August and it was a very complicated form on the practice's earnings for the last financial year. I ignored it and was hounded to fill it in. I explained that my tax return did not get completed till December and they said I would have to get my accountant to do it at my expense. It was research on practice earnings from the PIP and other. I never got any feedback from the form. I remember it took about two hours to fill out and I never even received a copy of the report they were writing. My point from this diatribe is that the ABS form was complicated and poorly designed. Surveys from government need to be few in number, well designed forms and some acknowledgement made of the effort to fill these in. eg. A copy of the paper that the research produced.

Regards, Linda McQueen. GP.