



URGENT INTERACTIONS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In response to the November 2023 Letter From the Editor in Chief Joshua W. Russell, “Broader Issues Surround ‘Work Note Seeking’”

I just read your article, and a few points hit home. 1. Patients are not always forthcoming with their primary motivation for the visit [...] 2. Patients with upper respiratory infections, stomach bugs, etc. are unnecessarily exposing medical staff, providers, and other patients to communicable disease [...]

We are spending nearly \$1 billion a year, taking up time, and spreading disease just for a paperwork formality!? So what’s to be done about this? For the provider, perhaps leading with the question: “Do you need a work note?” And if the answer is yes, consider less/no testing and avoiding contact with the patient. Of course that’s not what a good medical provider would do, but it’s practical. Maybe a screening question upon check-in? Maybe [it’s a] refusal to provide “work notes” and just provide discharge paperwork stating the patient was seen that day. Have any other UC and EM providers had any good ideas?

Boris Temkin, MS, PA-C



“Call 911 immediately if a patient seems unstable. Better to have them and not need them than to need them and not have them. They can always decline transport if the situation stabilizes.”

— Joshua W. Russell, MD, MSc, ELS, FCUCM, FACEP

JUCM Editor in Chief



“A brilliant diagnosis dims when the patient does not fill their prescription.”

— Michael Weinstock, MD

JUCM Senior Clinical Editor

A WORD OF THANKS

The Journal of Urgent Care Medicine would like to thank the dedicated group of urgent care professionals listed below who graciously contributed their time and insight to review recent articles for publication. The peer reviewer status is worthy of inclusion on your curriculum vitae, so if you’re interested in becoming a peer reviewer, reach out to the JUCM team at: editor@jucm.com.

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