

Sir

In his otherwise admirable look at how he has dealt with cancer (*I don't need a war to fight my cancer – December 30 2009*), Mike Marqusee unfairly criticises travel insurers for overcharging cancer patients.

Travel insurance exists to provide protection against unexpected events while you are travelling abroad. It provides competitively priced cover to as many travellers as possible. But if you do have a pre-existing medical condition, such as cancer, then the increased likelihood of making a claim means that the price of travel insurance is likely to be higher.

There are, however, several specialist insurers who provide travel insurance that includes medical cover for pre-existing conditions, including cancer. The ABI is already working with several major cancer charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support and Breast Cancer Care, to help improve access to and information about these specialist insurers.

It is important that people with a history of cancer who are seeking travel insurance shop around to get the best deal. The main cancer charities have excellent guidance and details of insurers who provide this type of cover on their websites.

Nick Starling

Director of General Insurance and Health

Association of British Insurers

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