

Re: How often should I pressure my doc?

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Is there any way you can get the Internet deal set up yourself? Some docs have to have their hands held through a change like that, and you seem like the most likely person to be the handholder, since you have the most to gain or lose from the situation. If this is your sole source of income, it might be worthwhile to do it.

Anne

Carol A wrote:

Fact #1: This is my sole source of income, and I depend on it to save up to move out of an abusive household. (I currently live with my parents, and my father is psychologically abusive.)

Fact #2: When I first started working with this doc, he was *all excited* about going Internet, and told me to research equipment. I did, and he purchased his equipment, and I purchased mine...and we're still doing tapes seven months later.

Fact #3: I had bronchitis for a month and was knocked flat on my back and barely able to produce. He hired a production company to pick up the slack. They brought in some equipment that required only one step instead of three to send his dictations to the transcriptionists, so when I was well again, he fired them and wanted me to get my computer guy over there to figure out a way to get that company's equipment to send work to me instead of the method we had originally purchased together. GRRRR....

Fact #4: The production company came last month and took their equipment back. His office manager's son is "working on setting us up with the Internet." I have been hearing that line since the equipment was originally purchased.

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Fact #5: The doctor's practice is approximately two hours from where I live and work. He uses the orthopaedic equipment supplier who travels between here and there on a weekly basis to deliver the tapes to me. This person is becoming less and less reliable on both ends. This person also plans to move to where my doctor is in September.

My question: How often should I bug my doctor (I usually talk to him through his office manager, of course) to get this Internet thing going?

I mean, last time, they had to send the tapes to me UPS because the orthopaedic equipment guy didn't show up. They had called and asked me to *drive* to pick them up, two hours before the end of their business day, when gas prices had just gone to their highest ever, and I was, like, "Um, sorry, but, I'm down to less than \$100 in both accounts and have health and auto insurance coming up...Can't do it." I didn't tell them that much, but these people act like I can drop everything and come running! It's almost like they're constantly saying to me, "How badly do you want this job? Hm? Gotta work for it!" Doc said he didn't want to mail the tapes because he was afraid they'd get lost. That's understandable, but he's sent them Fed-Ex before, so why couldn't he this time?

Any suggestions for negotiating these points in a non-combative (very difficult for me for obvious reasons), business-like manner would be greatly appreciated.

Carol-A