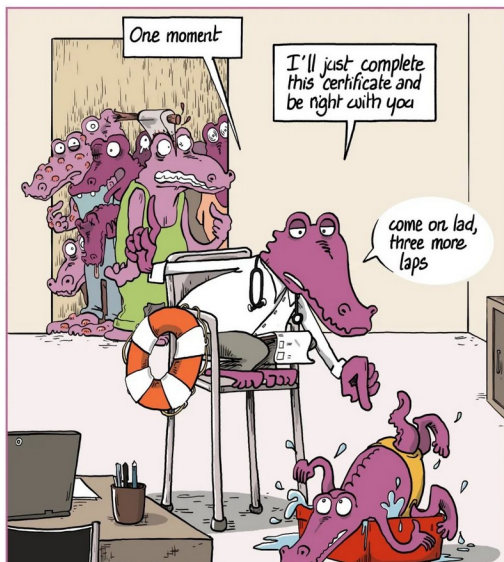


Beware of the PURPLE CROCODILE

Absurd certificates drain GPs' medical time and patients' access to care across Europe

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OUR PROBLEM

GPs across Europe are buried under certificates of little or no medical value, demanded by insurers, employers, schools, sports clubs, public bodies, etc.:

- doctors made controllers, not caregivers
- no legal basis for many requests
- every signature is time taken from care



Lost medical time = lost access to care.

Some European GPs were surveyed for the *European Atlas of General Practice* (€20 at the congress, what a steal!)

IDENTIFY → RESPOND → ACT



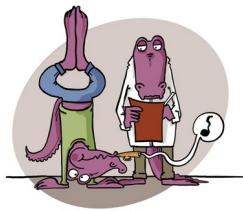
IDENTIFY No medical value or legal basis



RESPOND Decline with legal arguments



ACT Report & challenge; act locally / nationally



OUR TOOLS & RESULTS

certificats-absurdes.fr & .be

- Free posters + reusable stamps; public registry of reported certificates.
- 100s of institutions & insurers challenged (no legal basis).
- Annual Purple September campaign in France; contacts with institutions.

SICK LEAVE WITHOUT A CERTIFICATE

Country	Self-cert	Country	Self-cert
Albania	No	Moldova	No
Armenia	No	Montenegro	No
Austria	No	Netherlands	none
Azerbaijan	No	N. Macedonia	No
Belarus	No	Norway	3 d×4
Belgium	1 d×2	Poland	No
Bosnia & H.	No	Portugal	3 d×2
Czechia	No	Russia	No
Denmark	free	Serbia	No
Estonia	No	Slovakia	No
Finland	1–3 d	Spain	No
France	No	Sweden	7 d
Georgia	No	Switzerland	~3 d
Germany	~3 d	Tajikistan	3 d
Ireland	No	Türkiye	No
Italy	No	Ukraine	No
Kazakhstan	No	UK	7 d
Kosovo	≤3 d		

LOW-VALUE CERTIFICATES

Reported examples (non-exhaustive)

- School lift/locker; home-shower; insurer & nursing-bed renewals
- “Not allergic to milk” for a dairy-farm trip; school readmission
- Proof-of-life; firearms; bank loan; court; adoption; driving licence
- Aqua-aerobics; marathons; music school; lay-judge; foster care
- Fitness to use a swimming pool; children's summer camp
- Special diet at work; how long a patient sat an exam
- Back to school/kindergarten after a minor illness; travel notes
- Day-1 sick note for apprentices; school-absence note for a flu
- School-absence notes; sports clearance; admin declarations
- “Fitness for work” for office jobs; summer camps & school trips
- Return-to-work after self-limiting illness; fitness-to-travel
- Rarely asked — sick leave only by the doctor (by phone)
- ...
- ...
- ...

A “wasted medical-time” yardstick

In France (50 000 GPs), 1 GP ≈ 5 000 consult/yr = 1 “doctor-year”.

A useless one × 1 000 000 = 200 doctor-years lost/yr.

→ Score every rule in **medical-years freed or wasted**.



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