

## Practice 12

1 Complete the text by writing a verb from the box in each space.

want	advised	appears	argue	arrange
avoid	considered	decide	encouraging	estimated
expected	help	involve	needs	prefer
risks	shows	suggests	thought	waiting

## Medical tourism

Many people in the UK, who do not (1) *want* to waste time (2) ..... for an operation in an NHS\* hospital, and who (3) ..... not to pay the high prices for private surgery in the UK, (4) ..... to travel abroad for expensive medical procedures. Research (5) ..... that this is becoming an increasingly popular way of having medical treatment, with more than 50,000 people travelling abroad from the UK in 2007. It has been (6) ..... that the cost of medical tourism is worth around £161 million, and this is (7) ..... to rise year on year. Patients who feel that their treatment (8) ..... to take place sooner rather than later can (9) ..... to visit a hospital in another country through private companies which (10) ..... them to choose a suitable package abroad.

Country	Price	Saving %	Travel and hotel 7 nights	Package saving %
Malaysia	£2205	72%	£1000	60%
Bulgaria	£2000	87%	£475	69%
France	£5689	29%	£480	23%
Hungary	£4450	44%	£380	40%
Tunisia	£3000	63%	£505	56%
India	£3547	56%	£560	49%
Spain	£5695	29%	£485	23%

Hip replacement UK price £8000 (2007 prices Information: Treatment Abroad)

The table (11) ..... that costs vary considerably from place to place. Travelling a long distance, to Malaysia for example, may (12) ..... spending more on travel and accommodation costs, but the patient will (13) ..... paying a high price for the operation itself. Nearly 75% of treatments abroad are (14) ..... to be dental and cosmetic procedures. Anyone who needs complex dental treatment in the UK (15) ..... having to pay out a great deal, and cheaper treatment in Europe or further afield has become popular. The increasing popularity of cosmetic procedures (16) ..... to have come about as the result of changing attitudes. They are now (17) ..... to be more acceptable, although some commentators (18) ..... that advertising has played a role in (19) ..... people to feel uncomfortable with their appearance. Younger people are (20) ..... not to have such treatments before consultation with a doctor.

\*NHS = UK National Health Service

- 2 Complete the text by putting the verbs in brackets into an *-ing* form or an infinitive.

### Having a hip replacement in France

Jane Taylor, an active 70-year old who always enjoyed (1) *walking*..... (walk), had her hip replacement done in France. In the UK she faced (2) ..... (have) to wait nine eight months for her operation. 'I finally stopped (3) ..... (worry) about the cost of private treatment and opted for an operation abroad. I had always hoped (4) ..... (have) it done at home on the NHS, but my doctor explained that there was a long waiting list, and I wasn't an urgent case. Besides, a lot of people I knew who went into the local hospital seemed (5) ..... (pick up) infections, so I decided (6) ..... (have) it done privately. My doctor warned me (7) ..... (make sure) I chose a reputable company, and I started (8) ..... (do) some research, which mainly involved (9) ..... (surf) the Net. I couldn't make up my mind, but then a friend suggested (10) ..... (get) in touch with FranceMedical because they were a top-rated organization. I read through their prospectus, and then arranged (11) ..... (go) to France for tests. I remember (12) ..... (be) so surprised when I was greeted at the airport by one of their representatives, who was holding a bunch of flowers! I stayed in Toulouse for two nights and I really didn't expect (13) ..... (enjoy) it so much. Everything was so well organized and they treated me so well. Two weeks later I went back to France for the operation, and follow-up physiotherapy. I couldn't imagine the hospital staff (14) ..... (be) any better, and the operation went smoothly. I was well looked after there, and then went to a rehabilitation clinic where I spent three weeks (15) ..... (have) physiotherapy. I was taught (16) ..... (walk and balance) correctly, and given an exercise routine. In the end I couldn't help (17) ..... (wonder) how the company did it all at the price! Ten months later I am free from pain and have just been on a walking holiday in Italy. I would recommend treatment abroad without hesitation. I only regret (18) ..... (not take) control of my own treatment much earlier.'