

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 10 July 2009 09:54  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 10 July 09

## Press Cuttings Summary

Friday 10 July 2009

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print Mentions

An article in Pulse magazine features an interview with GMC Chair, Professor Peter Rubin. The main focus of the interview is revalidation.

<http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=35&storycode=4123217&c=2>. The full interview can be found here: <http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=20&storycode=4123218>

*Medical News Today (online)* features the launch of the consultations into three pieces of supplementary GMC guidance: Good Practice in Research, Consent to Research and Making and using audio and visual recordings of patients.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/156930.php>

*HSJ* briefly mentions the CHRE's annual review and that the performance of the nine health regulators in the UK, including the GMC, 'are mostly effective' although 'there is more to do to secure public confidence in regulation'.

*GP* reports how the BMA Conference has condemned the GMC registration fee as 'too expensive for its purpose'. However delegates at the event 'rejected motions demanding that the government help pick up the bill'. The article concludes with a quote from a GMC spokesman: 'We have worked hard to ensure that we are an efficient and economic organisation'.

A letter from Roger Goss, Co-director of Patient Concern (*GP* magazine), responds to an earlier letter written by Jane O'Brien, GMC Assistant Director of Standards and Fitness to Practise around patient confidentiality. The letter notes how Patient Concern responded to the GMC consultation on confidentiality and how they argued that 'confidentiality constantly conflicts with competing objectives, notably public interest, and seeking consent was proving too time – consuming or expensive'.

*GP* has a clinical review article on Hypothyroidism. The article mentions how a particular treatment should only be prescribed by 'GMC accredited endocrinologists'.

*The Portsmouth News* continues its coverage of the fitness to practise case of Dr Jane Barton.

*This is Grimsby (online)* reports how Dr Devi Vedulta is under investigation by the General Medical Council after being suspended for 18 months.

<http://www.thisisgrimsby.co.uk/cleethorpes/news/Resort-doctor-faces-investigation/article-1151581-detail/article.html>

*Healthcare Republic (online)* reports how the GMC has published a timeline to 2012 for the roll out of revalidation. The article notes how the 'GMC insists that revalidation will be phased in only when local systems are ready'.

<http://www.healthcarerepublic.com/news/GP/919183/GMC-unveils-timeline-revalidation/>

### Broadcast Mentions

There are no broadcast mentions today.

### Times Letters page and GMC published responses

There are no letters to note.

## Other News

*The Times* reports on a memo it has obtained which contains the details of potential problems faced by the NHS in adapting to the swine flu epidemic.

The *Daily Mirror* reports on an inquest yesterday, which heard how a women died while waiting for an ambulance after a GP, Dr David Price, ruled that her condition was not an emergency.

Dr Miriam Stoppard in the *Daily Mirror* discusses the issue of organ donation. She mentions how 'we can all do something very important to help relieve the shocking organ shortage in the UK – and that's to put ourselves down on the national Organ Donor Register' and it is the 'perfect time as it's National Transplant Week'. She says that she would like to see an 'opt-out system introduced'.

## Headlines:

### NHS issues

The Times

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 1103

#### NHS weaknesses laid bare in leaked memo on flu response

Details of potential problems faced by the NHS in adapting to the raised intensity of the swine flu pandemic are set out in a leaked memo. The document, sent by a senior executive responsible for emergency planning, warns that box-ticking bureaucracy could impede key policies such as the rapid distribution of anti-viral drugs.

Doctors

Daily Mirror

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 79

#### Mum in 999 delay death

An inquest has heard how sick mum Georgina Britton died waiting for an ambulance after a GP ruled her condition was not an emergency. In a home visit, Dr David Price said the 34-year-old should go to hospital, but told ambulance control the mother of three was not a priority. By the time paramedics arrived three hours later she had died from internal bleeding due to alcoholism.

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 309

#### GMC registration fee 'too expensive'

The GMC registration fee has been condemned as 'too expensive for its purpose' by the BMA's annual representative meeting (ARM).

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 96

#### Confidentiality breached often or barrier to carers

Readers letter from the co-director of patient concern regarding the GMC's consultation on confidentiality advice.

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 1484

#### Hypothyroidism

Clinical review of hypothyroidism, mentioning the guidance from the GMC in this area.

GMC

HSJ Health Service Journal

Delivery date : 09/07/2009

Number of words : 55

Regulators review

Health regulators are performing well despite " high profile incidences of weaknesses", according to an annual review by the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence. The GMC is mentioned.

GMC

The News

Delivery date : 08/07/2009

Number of words : 444

Drugs could have led to death: expert

Drugs could have caused the death of an elderly patient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, a panel has heard. Expert professor Gary Ford told a General Medical Council hearing that high doses of powerful painkillers and sedatives are 'highly likely' to have contributed to Elsie Lavender's death.

GMC

The News

Delivery date : 08/07/2009

Number of words : 159

'No justification for giving painkillers'

At a GMC hearing yesterday, Prof Ford also said there was no justification for giving Gladys Richards, another patient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, the powerful painkiller morphine.

Miscellaneous

Daily Mirror

Delivery date : 10/07/2009

Number of words : 1090

What would you give to save a stranger's life?

Miriam Stoppard salutes the 22 people who have donated kidneys to strangers since the law allowed it in 2006. She also notes that ALL of us can do something very important to help relieve the shocking organ shortage in the UK - put ourselves down on the national Organ Donor Register.

**Web links:****National Newspapers:**

[The Times](#)

[The Independent](#)

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[The Daily Mirror](#)

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**Medical Press:**

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