

Code A**Code A**

From: Code A
Sent: 10 June 2009 09:28
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 10 June 09

Press Cuttings Summary

Wednesday 10 June 2009

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

In a piece placed by the press office *The Belfast Chronicle* reports on the GMC's End of Life Care consultation:

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/caring-for-the-terminally-ill-your-views-sought-by-medical-council-14332506.html>

Medical News Today and OnMedica mentions the date for the introduction of licenses to practice, in an article placed by the press office:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/153134.php>

Medical News Today reports that legislation has been passed to transfer the functions of the Post Graduate Medical Education Training Board (PMETB) to the GMC by April 2010. The full article can be read at:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/153135.php>

The *Evening Chronicle* runs an article about the "Conscientious Index" which will award or deduct points from medical students according to factors such as their attendance and communication with teaching staff whilst at university. Professor John MacLean, lead author of the research into the index, says: "Most complaints to the GMC are about doctors' behaviours, not their lack of knowledge".

There are mentions of the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Jane Barton in *The Sun* and some regional newspapers. The Portsmouth News also carry an online mention about this hearing:

<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/newshome/Dr-Jane-Barton-gave-patients.5347802.jp>

The Times briefly mentions the Code A fitness to practise hearing (sexual assault on female patients). Dr Tate's fitness to practise has been found to be impaired.

People Management (online) reports on the BMA's concern that revalidation could lead to more bureaucracy for doctors. The full article can be read at:

<http://www.peoplemanagement.co.uk/pm/articles/2009/06/doctors-propose-alternative-to-competency-revaluation-scheme.htm>

A letter about the Working Time Directive in the *Shropshire Star* says that 'justice has been done' to the junior doctors with a reduction in their working hours and that the 'BMA and the GMC are the appropriate bodies to look into this matter'. The press office is considering a response:

<http://www.shropshirestar.com/2009/06/09/doctors-must-tell-truth-on-hours/>

Broadcast Mentions

Northern Ireland radio stations Downtown Radio, City Beat and BBC Radio Foyle all feature the GMC's End of Life Care Consultation as part of their news bulletins today to coincide with the consultation event being held in Belfast.

Jane O'Brien pre recorded interviews for Downtown and City Beat last night. This morning, Lady Christine Eames is due to be interviewed live as part of ten minute package on the EOLC on BBC Radio Foyle.

BBC One Northern Ireland's 'Newline' ran a story yesterday evening about the parents of Billy Caldwell lodging a complaint with the GMC over the way his care was handled. They claim the doctor offered them morphine and did not refer the child to see a specialist. An online version of the story can be found at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/newline/content/articles/2009/06/09/home_to_die_1_feature.shtml

BBC One Southampton continued to run news bulletins about the Dr Jane Barton fitness to practise hearing yesterday afternoon.

BBC One South East covered the fitness to practise hearing of Code A

Times Letters page

Other News

The Daily Telegraph and *The Evening Standard* mention the inquest into the death of a woman who died after surgeon Chinh Nguyen cut an artery in her heart. Dr Nguyen is currently suspended by the GMC's Interim Orders Panel, though the article does not mention this.

A report from the BMA has stated that the fight against 'super bugs' is hampered by hospital's having to meet strict patient treatment targets. They say this gets in the way of proper cleaning and limits infection control.

The Guardian reports that the Care Quality Commission's investigation into the case of Dr Ubani, the doctor whose mistakes when "exhausted" after travelling to work here from Germany killed patient Code A is to be widened. They are looking into the care provided by Ubani to two other patients and to the management of Take Care Now, the company who hired Ubani.

The *Edinburgh Evening News* of 8 June trails a seminar to be given by Code A MSP to the Legal Services Agency on 23 June. The seminar will be on Code A private Member's Bill to legalise Physician Assisted Suicide: <http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/health/Margo-talks-on-assisted-suicide.5343675.jp>

The *Scotsman* reported on 9 June that Sir Neil Douglas, President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, has been elected Chair of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. The article is attached.

Headlines:

GMC

Evening Chronicle

Delivery date : 08/06/2009

Number of words : 140

Score is just the tonic for medics

A new way of monitoring the professional conduct of medical students could help them become better doctors, according to North East researchers. Lead author Professor John McLachlan, from Durham University, said: "A doctor's behaviour is as important as his or her knowledge. Most complaints to the General Medical Council are about doctors' behaviours, not their lack of knowledge."

GMC

The Birmingham Post

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 135

Prescription 'left elderly in comas'

Elderly patients were left in "drug-induced comas" after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives, a disciplinary panel heard. Dr Jane Barton is accused of a series of failings in her treatment of 12 patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire between January 1996 and November 1999. Representing the General Medical Council, Tom Kark said the wards on which she worked provided longer-term care for elderly patients who expected to be rehabilitated and sent home. Many had never been given opiates before, but Dr Barton wrote prescriptions for drugs, including diamorphine which allowed nursing staff to massively increase

dosage if they saw fit.

GMC

The Sun

Delivery date : 10/06/2009

Number of words : 77

DOC'S FATAL DOSES

A doctor accused over 12 deaths gave patients painkillers to "keep them quiet", a hearing was told yesterday.

GMC

The Times

Delivery date : 10/06/2009

Number of words : 67

GP's misconduct

A Sussex GP who asked a patient with a sore throat to take off her top and bra and touched her breasts was found guilty of misconduct by the General Medical Council.

Doctors

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 10/06/2009

Number of words : 194

Woman died after surgeon cut artery

A woman bled to death after a surgeon, who had previously been banned from carrying out spinal surgery, damaged an artery attached to her heart during a routine operation at a private hospital, an inquest heard yesterday.

NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 10/06/2009

Number of words : 584

Patient targets 'hamper battle with superbugs'

The fight against hospital-acquired infections is being undermined by NHS targets, according to doctors' leaders. Measures designed to speed patients through casualty departments or off waiting lists were limiting the time hospitals had for cleaning, the British Medical Association (BMA) said yesterday. Official figures show that one in 18 hospital trusts is still failing to meet infection control standards and has been threatened with fines or closure by the new regulator, the Care Quality Commission.

NHS issues

The Guardian

Delivery date : 10/06/2009

Number of words : 448

Inquiry into GP who killed man to be widened

The NHS watchdog will today announce that its inquiry into the case of a foreign doctor who accidentally killed a man on his first UK shift will involve other cases where patients may have suffered harm. The Care Quality Commission says further incidents involving the same company that hired the German doctor in the "tragic" case of 70-year-old Code A have been identified by NHS bodies.

Web links:

National Newspapers:

[The Times](#)

[The Independent](#)

[The Guardian](#)

[The Daily Telegraph](#)

[The Daily Mail](#)

[The Daily Mirror](#)

[The Daily Express](#)

[The Sun](#)

Other Regular Newspapers:

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[South Wales Echo](#)

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The Financial Times

Online Media:

The BBC

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South Wales Evening Post

Western Mail

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