

**Code A****Code A**

**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 15 March 2009 10:09  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 15 March 2009

#### Press Cuttings Summary

Sunday 15 March

#### Direct Mentions

#### Print and Online Mentions

The Independent on Sunday reports that an inquest into the suspicious deaths of ten elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital will begin this week. The patients died ten years ago from high doses of sedative and painkiller. The article states that a hearing last year highlighted 100 other similar cases at the hospital. It also relates criticism of the GMC over the investigation of the matter, particularly over the time taken to investigate and the investigation of Dr Jane Barton. A GMC Spokeswoman is quoted saying that 'It was necessary for us to wait for the outcome of the various investigations.'

#### Broadcast Mentions

There are no broadcast mentions in the monitoring today.

#### Times Letters

There are no Times letters in the monitoring today.

#### Other News

The Daily Star Sunday carries an article about NHS compensation claims. It states that the NHS has paid out £2.4 billion in claims since 1997.

The News of the World reports that 454 patients have received compensation payments from the NHS of £1 million each. The article quotes Roger Goss of Patient Concern saying that people 'should deplore the negligence, incompetence or carelessness that causes the claims'.

The Sunday Times and News of the World report that anyone from outside the EU applying for a student or work visa for the UK will now have to pay a 'migrant tax' of up to £50 which will be used to fund local services.

An article in the Sunday Telegraph on the case of two dentists who left children requiring painful corrective work states that negligence experts believe that 'fundamental reform' is needed to close loopholes in insurance policies covering dentists and doctors.

An article in the News of the World states that a report from the Chief Medical Officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, into new pain clinics, published tomorrow, will call for doctors to pay more attention to the needs of patients.

The Sunday Express reports that a surgeon, Joseph Peters, who was wrongly suspended on accusations of falsely claiming sick pay, has been suspended on full pay for four years at a cost to the taxpayer of £3 million.

The Sunday Express carries an article about accusations against the NHS by the mother of Dan James, the 23 year old rugby player who died in what the paper calls 'a Swiss death clinic' after being paralysed. She claims that better treatment of her son could have prevented his paralysis.

The Sunday Mirror relates criticisms of Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust in a report by the Healthcare Commission. The report into above average death rates at Stafford General Hospital makes several criticisms, including one on the inexperience of staff.

#### Headlines:

Adhoc report Extracted from MorethanNews.com

Folder : Today's cuttings

Delivery date : 15/03/2009 to : 15/03/2009 Sector : All Keywords :

#### NHS issues

Daily Star Sunday

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 285

ANGER OVER NHS COMPO

Ailing health bosses have coughed up £2.4 billion in compensation claims - as cash-strapped hospitals struggle to pay heating bills. The shocking dossier shows NHS compo claims are costing every working person in Britain £15 a year.

#### Doctors

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 271

'Migrant tax' to be introduced

Anyone from outside the European Union applying for a student or work visa will be required to pay a tax levied on migrants. Ministers will this week announce the details of the fee, expected to be up to £50. The money will be handed to local authorities struggling to cope with the impact of immigration on schools, GP surgeries and other public services. The government hopes the tax will raise £70m over the next two years.

#### Doctors

The Sunday Telegraph

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 819

Lost years of the dentists' victims

Dozens of children were left in agony after dentists botched their care and fled the country in a case that has exposed flaws in the NHS compensation system. The children, who were fitted with braces by an Italian couple who worked as NHS orthodontists, were left to endure painful corrective work. Negligence experts say that the case, and others that have left patients with dental bills of more than £30,000, show that "fundamental reform" is needed to close loopholes in the insurance policies covering dentists and doctors.

GMC

Independent on Sunday

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 2027

92 dead. Who's to blame?

An unprecedented inquest will this week begin to examine the suspicious deaths of 10 elderly patients who died unexpectedly after being given high doses of powerful painkillers and sedative drugs at a hospital in Hampshire.

Doctors

News of the World

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 119

£70m UK migrant fund

COUNCILS struggling to cope with thousands of immigrant workers will get help from a new £70 million government fund. Migrant workers applying to come to Britain will be forced to pay extra fees before getting a visa. And that cash will then be handed directly to local authorities across the country to subsidise overloaded public services such as schools, GP surgeries and housing.

Colleges &amp; Regulators

News of the World

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 156

CHRONIC PAIN AID

Hundreds of "pain clinics" will be set up across England to help those who suffer chronic pain, under plans unveiled tomorrow.

Doctors

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 129

Suspended doctor paid for 4 years

A surgeon wrongly accused of fraud has been suspended on full pay for over four years at a cost to taxpayers of £3million. Joseph Peters, 59, was ordered to stop working in 2004 after NHS bosses accused him of falsely claiming sick pay. He was cleared by a crown court two years later but has still not been allowed to return to work at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Harlow, Essex.

NHS issues

News of the World

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 307

500 GET £1m NHS COMPO

Horrific blunders by the NHS have led to almost 500 patients being paid more than £1 MILLION compensation EACH, the News of the World can reveal.

NHS issues

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 334

NHS 'failed our suicide rugby son'

The mother of a talented young rugby player who took his own life in a Swiss suicide clinic has criticised the "disgraceful" care he received from the NHS. Julie James claims the "indifference" with which son Dan was treated after a devastating rugby accident wasted 30 hours and resulted in him becoming paralysed from the neck down.

#### NHS issues

Sunday Mirror

Delivery date : 15/03/2009

Number of words : 116

NHS trust rap over death toll

An NHS hospital trust will be blasted this week over its "abnormally high" number of patient deaths. The Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust is criticised in a report by the Healthcare Commission.

#### Web links:

National Newspapers: Other Regular Newspapers: Medical Press:

The Times The Scotsman Pulse

The Independent The Herald BMJ

The Guardian The Press & Journal HSJ

The Daily Telegraph The Manchester Evening News The Lancet

The Daily Mail Irish News

The Daily Mirror Belfast Telegraph

The Daily Express News Letter

The Sun South Wales Echo

The Financial Times South Wales Evening Post

Online Media: Western Mail

The BBC

Channel 4

Sky

The Press Cuttings Website