

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 19 March 2009 09:40  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 19 Mar 09

## Press Cuttings Summary

Thursday 19 March 2009

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print Mentions

The *Western Daily Press* covers the recently concluded fitness to practise hearing of Dr Martin Searle, who was suspended for a year for drink driving offences.

The *Times Higher Education Supplement* briefly mentions the GMC and Medical School's Council's 'Student Fitness to Practise' guidance. The article can be read at:

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=405829&c=1>

#### Broadcast Mentions

There are no broadcast mentions today.

#### Times Letters page and GMC published responses

There are several letters calling for further action after the deaths at Mid-Staffordshire foundation NHS Trust. Although they do not mention the GMC, they can be read at:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/letters/article5934043.ece>

#### Other News

*The Irish News* reports that the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast is dealing with three urgent referrals a month from people who have experienced problems with weight reduction surgery carried out in private European clinics. The full article is attached.



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Several of the national newspapers report on the Healthcare Commission's findings into the high number of deaths of patients admitted from A&E at Mid Staffordshire NHS foundation trust. The Health Secretary Alan Johnson has rejected calls for a public inquiry.

*The Daily Telegraph* reports that an inquiry into the deaths of 10 patients, who died whilst receiving palliative care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital a decade ago, is to be held after the Justice Secretary Jack Straw gave special permission for it to go ahead. Dr Jane Barton, who was involved in the care of some of the patients and who has not been charged with any offence following a police investigation, will be one of the witnesses giving evidence.

The *Daily Mail* covers the court case of Dr Rajinder Aggarwal who has been accused by four female patients of sexual assault by touching. One patient, who visited the doctor after having panic attacks, claimed he advised her to paint the town red and find a man to have sex with to cure the problem.

The *Oldham Evening Chronicle* (online) reports on local MP Michael Meacher's call for there to be an open debate on the subject of assisted suicide. The full article can be read at:

<http://www.magentanews.com/cache.asp?n=5754574>

**Headlines:**

**Adhoc report Extracted from MorethanNews.com**

Folder : Today's cuttings  
 Delivery date : 19/03/2009 to : 19/03/2009  
 Sector : All  
 Keywords :

NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 19/03/2009

Number of words : 1168

What the horrors of Stafford tell us about the ills of the NHS

Mary Riddell comments on the report into failings at Stafford Hospital, and its wider implications for the NHS as a whole.

NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 19/03/2009

Number of words : 95

Board at death scandal hospital should go ,says Tory

The board of directors at a hospital trust where standards of care were said to be "appalling" and up to 1,200 patients died unnecessarily should have been sacked a year ago, the shadow health secretary Andrew Lansley said yesterday.

NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 19/03/2009

Number of words : 496

Inquest into 10deaths at hospital 'that over-used painkillers'

The deaths of 10 elderly patients at a hospital at the centre of an investigation into the alleged over-use of painkillers are to be examined at an inquest. The 10 were among 92 deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital investigated by police, but no prosecutions were ever brought. As the inquest opened yesterday, the families of those who died at the hospital in Hampshire a decade ago said they hoped the hearing would "get to the truth".

NHS issues

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 19/03/2009

Number of words : 1378

WHY DOES THE NHS HATE THE ELDERLY SO?

The Mail has a feature on what it claims is a failure in the NHS to treat the elderly with adequate care and attention.

GMC

Western Daily Press

Delivery date : 18/03/2009

Number of words : 423

Drink-drive doctor is banned from practising

A drunk doctor who was prosecuted after a drunken car crash on the M4, but failed to tell the General Medical Council, has had his licence to practise suspended for a year.

**Doctors**

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 19/03/2009

Number of words : 548

GP smacked our bottoms and quizzed us about sex say women

A family doctor prescribed a 'good screw' to a woman who was suffering from panic attacks, a court heard yesterday. Dr Rajinder Aggarwal, 54, also allegedly gave unnecessary intimate examinations, smacked patients on the bottom and questioned them about their favourite sexual positions. A female colleague also complained that he boasted to her about visits to sex parties before asking how often she had intercourse. The case against him continues.

**Web links:****National Newspapers:**The TimesThe IndependentThe GuardianThe Daily TelegraphThe Daily MailThe Daily MirrorThe Daily ExpressThe SunThe Financial Times**Online Media:**The BBCChannel 4Sky**Other Regular Newspapers:**The ScotsmanThe HeraldThe Press & JournalThe Manchester Evening NewsIrish NewsBelfast TelegraphNews LetterSouth Wales EchoSouth Wales Evening PostWestern Mail**Medical Press:**PulseBMJHSJThe Lancet**The Press Cuttings Website**