

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 19 May 2009 09:47  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 19 May 09

## Press Cuttings Summary

Tuesday 19 May 2009

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print & Online Mentions

##### *BMA News* (16 May 09)

- The GMC's draft guidance on confidentiality is mentioned, in regards to a council meeting item on the secondary use of patient data. GMC Chair Peter Rubin is quoted as saying: "We have taken on board the concerns of the research community, who had been concerned they were being prevented from getting access to data that was important".

##### *BMJ* (16 May 09)

- MPs have been told by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence that, with the right training and support, GPs could help patients who over-use alcohol.
- There is a printed debate about whether hospices should be exempt from CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) guidelines. One side argues that it is not a suitable treatment for end of life patients, the other side that its inclusion in hospice treatment plans ensures plurality of care.
- There is an interview with Sir Christopher Edwards, the new chairman of Medical Education England, who will thus be in charge of medical training in England. Medical Education England will have the responsibility for pharmacy, medical, dental and healthcare science training.
- A letter asks if the GMC's new chair will look into the issue of abolishing the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF). The author feels that the ethos of using this approach to treat diabetic patients has an adverse effect on their health.
- A second letter quotes from the GMC's *Good Medical Practice* guidance about the matter of incentives – the author notes that, despite this, GPs are being paid by the Department of Health to undertake duties they should be performing anyway.

The *Evening Chronicle* reports on the fitness to practise case of Dr Krishnan Prasad who was erased after conducting sexually motivated examinations on three women.

The *Manchester Evening News* reports that Dr Jane Barton is due to face a fitness to practise on 8 June.

The *Daily Mail* interviews Code A the father of Code A who died 20 years ago from undiagnosed Addison's disease. The article states that charity Action Against Medical Accidents (AvMA) has been granted a judicial review that could see the GMC investigate the doctors involved in Code A care. The article states "For the past six years, the GMC has refused to investigate a formal complaint about Code A GPs on the grounds that too much time has elapsed since Code A death".

#### Broadcast Mentions

BBC Radio Highlands ran news mentions yesterday about the GMC's road show in Inverness around the draft *End of Life* guidance consultation. The event sought to gather the opinions of medical personnel and members of the public about how they felt doctors should act when dealing with patients nearing the end of their life. GMC Senior Policy Adviser Sharon Burton was interviewed, saying that the GMC "wants the guidance to be supported by patients and the wider public".

#### Times Letters page

There are two letters this morning. The first relates to the European Working Time Directive that will see junior doctors' weekly hours reduced to a maximum of 48. The authors say this is not enough time to train for some specialities. They feel the health and safety considerations of reducing a doctor's weekly hours will be offset by the risks of reducing continuity of patient care:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/letters/article6314288.ece>

The second letter, from Professor Malcolm Johnson writing about his recently completed study *End of Life Care in Care Homes*, notes that many care homes and their staff provide excellent resources for elderly patients nearing the end of their lives and that this work is undervalued and underexplored:

[http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/court\\_and\\_social/article6314316.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/court_and_social/article6314316.ece)

## Other News

There are several reports in the national press about the inquest to the deaths of two women that has opened today. Amy Kimmance and Jasmine Pickett died on the same day and at the same hospital (Royal Hampshire) from a similar infection (*Guardian*).

The *Daily Telegraph* run a brief news mention noting that [Code A] delivered a lecture yesterday entitled "Fairness in end of life care: quality, quantity or both?"

## Headlines:

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### End of Life

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 949

Should hospices be exempt from following national CPR guidelines?

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation is traumatic and often unsuccessful in seriously ill patients.

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### GMC

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 935

The BMJ, of all places

I t was 25 years ago but seems like yesterday—the day I stepped out of the Air India Boeing, feeling awkward in my brother's black jacket.

### GMC

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 278

Time to abolish QOF

Diabetes has become an industry, with a host of jobs ultimately dependent on the idea that intensive treatment will achieve better outcomes.

### GMC

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 220

When is a target an inducement?

I wrote to the General Medical Council six years ago asking about the matter of incentives, 1 and the

### Doctors

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 264

o deal with patients' alcohol problems, MPs are told

It's not an inevitable juggernaut."Interventions and screening tools that were known to work need to be

Miscellaneous

BMJ (British Medical Journal)

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 2136

Medical Education England

It's a tough job but someone has got to do it— and in this case that someone is Sir Christopher Edwards, chairman of the Chelsea and Westminster Foundation Trust.

Doctors

The Times

Delivery date : 19/05/2009

Number of words : 273

Fewer hours do not mean better doctors

A letter from Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, President, Royal College of Physicians (1989-92) and Sir Terence English, President, Royal College of Surgeons (1989-92) on the subject of the hours worked by junior doctors.

GMC

BMA News

Delivery date : 16/05/2009

Number of words : 186

GMC issues patient data guidance

Revised guidance on the secondary use of patient information has been drawn up by the General Medical Council, after concerns were expressed by the BMA and researchers.

Miscellaneous

The Guardian

Delivery date : 19/05/2009

Number of words : 674

Inquests open into women who died days after giving birth at same hospital

An inquest opened yesterday into the deaths of two women who died within a day of each other shortly after giving birth at Royal Hampshire county hospital, Winchester. The same bacterial infection, with group streptococcal A, was implicated in both deaths, triggering pneumonia in one case and severe toxic shock syndrome in the other. However, at the time, a spokeswoman for Winchester and Eastleigh healthcare NHS trust said the deaths appeared to be separate and unconnected with the hospital.

End of Life

The Times

Delivery date : 19/05/2009

Number of words : 478

It's better to die in a care home

A letter from Professor Malcolm Johnson of the Department of Social and Policy Sciences, University of Bath, on the subject of end of life care.

End of Life

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 19/05/2009

Number of words : 110

### LECTURES

The Royal Society of Medicine Code A delivered the Stevens Lecture for the Laity, "Fairness in end of life care: quality, quantity or both?" yesterday evening at The Royal Society of Medicine.

GMC

Evening Chronicle

Delivery date : 15/05/2009

Number of words : 355

Groping doctor is branded a disgrace

A doctor has been struck-off for groping his patients. Dr Krishnan Prasad massaged one female patient's breasts and inappropriately pressed the buttocks of another while working at practises in Newcastle and Sunderland. And a GMC panel yesterday decided the GP should be struck-off the medical register, describing Dr Prasad's actions as "a disgraceful abuse of his professional position".

GMC

Manchester Evening News

Delivery date : 15/05/2009

Number of words : 77

Doctor will face GMC over hospital deaths

Dr Jane Barton, who worked at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, is to face a General Medical Council hearing expected to last 11 weeks starting on June 8.

GMC

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 19/05/2009

Number of words : 2427

Why were lying GPs allowed to cover up our son's death?

Feature article asking why lying GPs were allowed to cover up for a son's death.

### **Web links:**

#### **National Newspapers:**

The Times

The Independent

The Guardian

The Daily Telegraph

The Daily Mail

The Daily Mirror

The Daily Express

The Sun

The Financial Times

#### **Online Media:**

The BBC

Channel 4

Sky

#### **Other Regular Newspapers:**

The Scotsman

The Herald

The Press & Journal

The Manchester Evening News

Irish News

Belfast Telegraph

News Letter

South Wales Echo

South Wales Evening Post

Western Mail

#### **Medical Press:**

Pulse

BMJ

HSJ

The Lancet

The Press Cuttings Website