

Code A

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From: Code A  
 Sent: 20 August 2010 09:50  
 To: Code A  
 Subject: Press Cuttings - 20 August 2010

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## Press Cuttings Summary

Friday 20 August 2010

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print & Online Mentions

Medical News Today reports on a study in the Postgraduate Medical Journal that reveals only half of NHS Trusts have an established chaperone policy. The article notes that between March 2006 and April 2009, "35 complaints directly attributable to a lack of adequate chaperoning were brought to the General Medical Council (GMC)".  
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/198216.php>

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain have criticised the General Pharmaceutical Council for not justifying the proposed annual registration fee for pharmacists of £262. The article mentions the fees set by other medical regulators, including the GMC's of £420  
[http://www.chemistanddruggist.co.uk/c/portal/layout?p\\_l\\_id=259751&CMPI\\_SHARED\\_articleId=4262572](http://www.chemistanddruggist.co.uk/c/portal/layout?p_l_id=259751&CMPI_SHARED_articleId=4262572)

#### Fitness to Practise

- *Metro* and the *Evening Standard* report on the hearing of Dr Freddy Patel. Dr Patel should not have been registered as an expert and was "well aware" he had made misleading claims on his CV, Simon Jackson for the GMC told the hearing.
- The *Birmingham Mail* reports that Dr Martin Sandler, a Solihull doctor who admitted not following procedure in signing cremation forms, has had his suspension from practicing lifted and conditions placed on his licence. Dr Sandler is back at work.
- The *Oxford Mail* reports the GMC is considering an investigation into Dr Mark Huckstep, following a statement from his employers, NHS Oxfordshire, that they have referred him to us. NHS Oxfordshire have not revealed the nature of their concern. A petition in support of Dr Huckstep has attracted 500 signatures.
- The lawyer for families of patients who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has criticised the Crown Prosecution Service for not bringing charges against Dr Jane Barton in relation to the deaths of 10 elderly patients. Dr Barton, now retired, was found impaired by the GMC earlier this year, prompting a police case review. But the CPS decided there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

#### Revalidation

*GP* magazine reports on the consultation on the future of OHPA. Includes Niall Dickson quote from when the consultation was announced last month.

#### Broadcast Mentions

BBC Radio 4's *The Report* looked at the decision made by the Crown Prosecution Service not to prosecute the police officer who pushed Ian Tomlinson at the G20 protests in April 2009. The programme was critical of the coroner Mr Williams and the CPS. It also looked at the work of Code A who carried out the first post-mortem on Code A and mentioned that Dr Patel altered his notes a year later to 'fluid with blood' which completely undermined the subsequent post-mortem reports.

BBC One Oxford report that GP Dr Mark Huckstep is being investigated by the GMC. Local patients have started a petition to keep the surgery open amid fears the two surgeries he ran single-handedly might be closed.

## Letters pages

No letters to note today.

## Other News

A *Daily Telegraph* leader calls on Scottish Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill to resign over his role in the release of Lockerbie bomber, Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi. The basis for his cancer prognosis "was, at best, questionable", the paper says. "If we are to take Mr MacAskill at his word, and accept that the decision had nothing to do with any outside pressure, then he quite clearly failed to ensure that the medical advice he was receiving was as comprehensive and expert as possible."

## Headlines:

MTN - Broadcast,GMC (Press) 2 article(s)

### THERE IS CONCERN OVER FUTURE OF GP SURGERY IN OXFORD AFTER ITS RESIDENT DOCTOR IS SUSPENDED

Dr Mark Huckstep has now been referred to the GMC. Reporter - mystery surrounds why Dr Mark Huckstep has been suspended.

**BBC 1 South (Oxford) - South Today** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

### CONCERN OVER FUTURE OF GP SURGERY IN OXFORD

Its resident doctor Dr Mark Huxtep [PHONETIC], was suspended and referred to the GMC. VISUAL: NHS. Reporter - people having being seeing locum doctors instead. VOXPOP: residents - older people need a local doctor / having a doctor on the doorstep is vital. Reporter - NHS Oxfordshire says it expects Dr Huxtep to hand in his notice soon.

**BBC 1 South (Oxford) - South Today** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

GMC 6 article(s)

### G20 death doctor was 'not qualified'

**Code A** the Home Office pathologist who said **Code A** died of a heart attack at the G20 protests, should not have been registered as an expert, a tribunal heard. **Code A** was "well aware" he made misleading claims on his CV, said Simon Jackson, for the General Medical Council.

**Metro London** - United Kingdom - 20/08/2010

### DOCTOR IN DEATH FORMS BREACH IS BACK AT WORK

A Solihull doctor who admitted signing off death certificates without following proper procedures is being investigated by a medical watchdog, but has been allowed back to work after a suspension.

**Birmingham Mail Midlands** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

### Murkiness in Mattu case

Correspondence regarding the case of Dr Mattu, with mention of the General Medical Council.

**Coventry Telegraph Midlands** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

### GMC INQUIRY ON SUSPENDED GP

The General Medical Council has launched an investigation into a city doctor suspended by NHS Oxfordshire, it emerged last night.

**Oxford Mail South** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

### GMC may keep adjudication role under DoH plan

A key plank of reforms to the GMC prompted by the Shipman inquiry could be scrapped, the DoH has revealed.

**GP Magazine** - United Kingdom - 20/08/2010

### Outcry as GP faces no charges

The lawyer for families of patients who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has criticised police and prosecutors for not bringing charges against a GP.

**The News Hampshire** - United Kingdom - 19/08/2010

Doctors 1 article(s)

**MacAskill should resign**

Editorial calling for the resignation of Kenny MacAskill over the release of Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed al-Megrahi. Mr MacAskill maintains that he ordered the release of Megrahi "in good faith" because he was told by doctors that he did not have long to live.

**The Daily Telegraph** - United Kingdom - 20/08/2010

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**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**