

Code A

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From: Code A
Sent: 20 January 2010 10:22
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 20 Jan 10

Press Cuttings Summary

Wednesday 20 January 2010

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

In an article placed by the media team, the *BMJ's* careers section mentions the report by Lord Patel into the future of medical education and training. This notes his main recommendations and that the GMC's Chief Executive Niall Dickson is calling for comments on this until 9 March 2010.

Pulse (online) also reports on the independent review led by Lord Patel on recommendations for the future regulation of medical education and training. The article focuses on the proposals that affect EU doctors who qualify outside the UK which 'would see significant new training hurdles put in the way' of these doctors. The article quotes GMC Chief Executive Niall Dickson: "We have a great opportunity now to create a system in which every stage of education and training is fit for purpose, successfully prepares the doctor for the next one, where standards are constantly rising and which treats all doctors fairly, wherever they come from and whatever stage they are at in their careers".
<http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=35&storycode=4124791&c=2>

Independent Practitioner Today (Jan 2010)

- The BMA is fighting Ministry of Justice plans to cap the fees paid to doctors who act as expert witnesses.
- The magazine reports on the revalidation conference for independent sector doctors. GMC Chair Peter Rubin reassured delegates that, for the majority of good doctors, the process would be without issues. Dr Judith Huff, vice-chair of the Academy of Royal Colleges, warned that doctors would "miss a trick" if they did not use revalidation as an opportunity to demonstrate they were fit to practise
- Ben Jones, GMC Assistant Director Strategy & Planning, answers readers' questions about revalidation
- A feature on the issues facing doctors with a private practice, looks at the issue of fraud. The authors note that the profession stands united against doctors who commit fraud and that they should face the consequences, whether through the courts or the GMC

There is a further online mention about the Customs and Excise scheme to encourage medical professionals who are not paying the full amount in tax to voluntarily come forward. The article notes this scheme only covers those regulated by the GMC. The full article can be read at:
<http://greenitdepartment.itweek.co.uk/accountancyage/news/2256327/medical-tax-amnesty-toothless>

The Telegraph (online) reports on a study by the School of Pharmacy at the University of London, summarised yesterday, which found hospital doctors make mistakes in more than one in ten prescriptions written for children. This article notes the GMC's research on the prevalence of prescribing errors in junior doctors, published last year:
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/7019369/Childrens-lives-being-put-at-risk-by-prescription-errors-in-hospitals.html>

There is an online mention that Dame Janet Finch has been appointed as a non-executive director for the Office of the Health Professions Adjudicator (OHPA). The article mentions that the GMC will transfer its adjudication function to OHPA in 2011:
<http://www.webnewswire.com/node/498598>

The following fitness to practise hearings are mentioned:

Dr Josaiiah Adenugba – registered with conditions for 12 months (*Birmingham Mail*)

Dr Ewan Crawford – suspended for 12 months (*Evening Post – Wigan*)

Dr David Hickson – hearing to open today

<http://www.thisishullandeastriding.co.uk/news/Bridlington-doctor-faces-hearing-alleged-affair-patient/article-1728901-detail/article.html>

Dr John Hines and Dr Paul Timmis – hearing continues

[http://www.thisislocalondon.co.uk/news/4859703.WOODFORD GREEN Doctors should have waited Carmel Bloom hearing told/](http://www.thisislocalondon.co.uk/news/4859703.WOODFORD_GREEN_Doctors_should_have_waited_Carmel_Bloom_hearing_told/)

The News (Portsmouth) notes that the fitness to practise hearing for Dr Jane Barton resumes in public session today.

The *Daily Echo* reports on the closure of a local surgery following the dismissal of a GP, Ralph Vadas whom is currently awaiting a GMC fitness to practise hearing in June.

This is Derbyshire (online) reports on the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Louay Al-Alousi. He is alleged to have made a series of errors in post-mortem examinations.

<http://www.thisisderbyshire.co.uk/news/Doctor-accused-series-errors/article-1724804-detail/article.html>

The *Lancashire Telegraph* (online) reports that Dr Mdimu Ngoma, suspended by the GMC, has been suspended by his employers:

[http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/4859608. Dishonest East Lancashire doctor kept from work/](http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/4859608.Dishonest_East_Lancashire_doctor_kept_from_work/)

The *Leicester Mercury* reports that the parents of a girl who died after being prescribed several types of epilepsy drugs are calling for a public inquiry into the doctor involved. The article mentions that the GMC has investigated the actions of Dr Andrew Holton and had placed conditions on him from 2006-2007.

Broadcast Mentions

There are no broadcast mentions today.

Letters pages

Dr Laurence Buckman, Chair of the BMA's GPs Committee, writes in *The Times* about GPs providing out of hours care. He criticises the call for GPs to again provide out of hours care, noting that many family doctors were left exhausted by being on-call 24 hours a day. The BMA calls for the system to be reviewed, but with PCTs commissioning out of hours care with more involvement from GPs and more rigorous monitoring of such services.

Another letter from a retired GP is in support of GPs providing out of hours care as they feel this is better for patients.

Both letters can be read at: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/letters/article6994257.ece>

The original article these letters relate to can be found at:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/letters/article6994257.ece>

Other News

A study of the health systems in each of the four countries of the UK by the Nuffield Trust has found that the NHS in England makes better use of its resources. However, Scottish patients had better access to doctors and nurses:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/7031551/Scotlands-health-not-as-good-as-Englands-despite-higher-proportion-of-doctors.html>

Headlines:

GMC

Birmingham Mail

Delivery date : 18/01/2010

Number of words : 152

[GP shamed over drugs to relatives](#)

A Midlands GP is to work under restrictions after writing prescriptions for his Nigerian mother and family friend not even eligible for the NHS. Notes the General Medical Council.

GMC

Daily Echo (Bournemouth)

Delivery date : 15/01/2010

Number of words : 308

NHS criticised on surgery decision

Councillors have accused the NHS of failing to carry out a proper consultation over the closure of a surgery in Poole following the sacking of the GP. Notes the General Medical Council.

Doctors

The News

Delivery date : 19/01/2010

Number of words : 124

GP's hearing back in public

A hearing into the fitness to practice of the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is to resume in public.

NHS issues

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 20/01/2010

Number of words : 167

Scots patients better off than English for GPs

Scot patients receive better access to doctors and nurses than people in England, according to a study of the 'striking and troubling differences' in health care across Britain.

GMC

Leicester Mercury

Delivery date : 18/01/2010

Number of words : 665

10 years on, Hollie's family want inquiry

The family of a young girl who died after treatment by a doctor has called for a public inquiry into his actions. Notes the General Medical Council.

Web links:**National Newspapers:**

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