

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

**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 10 September 2010 09:55  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 20 September 2010

## Press Cuttings Summary

Friday 10 September 2010

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print & Online Mentions

A comment piece by Chris Lancelot in *GP* magazine suggests doctors under pressure from time-wasting patients for extra attention or referrals feel they can be threatened with the prospect of complaints to their PCT or to the GMC. Yet the PCTs are pressuring doctors to reduce unnecessary costs and use of secondary care. The author suggests a statutory offence of 'wasting NHS resources' and an enforcement unit to deal with offenders.

A feature in *GP* magazine explores what to do with a patient who refuses a chaperone for an intimate examination. The GMC's Maintaining Boundaries guidance is mentioned a source of advice.

A letter to *Camden New Journal* from Great Ormond Street Hospital's head of communications explains why the hospital's chief executive, Dr Jane Collins, took herself off the medical register.  
<http://www.camdennewjournal.com/letters/2010/sep/why-dr-jane-took-herself-register>

#### Fitness to Practise

The *Islington Tribune* website covers Dr Freddy Patel's hearing and his three-month suspension.  
<http://www.islingtontribune.com/news/2010/sep/pathologist-dr-freddy-patel-who-failed-spot-abuse-suspended>

#### Revalidation

Reports on the OnMedica and Pulse Today websites follow the GMC's post-Council press release and briefing, highlighting that the GMC's revalidation consultation has found strong support among doctors and patients for a streamlined revalidation process. Niall Dickson is quoted: "We will review our proposals in light of the feedback. The final plans have to be simple and straightforward and will continue to involve doctors and employers to ensure revalidation works for them."

<http://www.onmedica.com/newsarticle.aspx?id=7d883622-f57f-4b67-8f1f-dc5e3c219e18>

<http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=35&storycode=4127016&c=2>

#### Letters pages

*The Daily Telegraph* carries a further letter on the European Working Time Directive, which they highlight in a news article. John Black, the president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and others, suggest that limiting doctors working is like stopping athletes or musicians training.

*The Times* also carries letters on the European Working Time Directive. A cancer specialist writes that junior doctors no longer get to see the evolution of diseases in patients, only snapshots, and Shree Datta, chair of the BMA junior doctors committee, responds to yesterday's letter from Peter Zambon, who left medicine to become an accountant. She rejects Mr Zambon's criticism that she is not listening to concerns about the EWTD. It has been a major issue, Dr Datta says, which the BMA has warned repeatedly about. But increasing hours is not in itself a magic wand to solving training problems, she warns.

#### Other News

*The Times* reports that a Trust chief exec was summoned by a coroner to explain night-time staffing levels at a hospital where two elderly patients died. Jo Cubbon, chief exec of Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation, told Michael Rose that staffing rotas were under review, the paper says "after the pressure of the European Working Time Directive".

Nottingham University Hospitals has paid a "substantial" undisclosed sum to a man whose brain tumour their doctors failed to spot. The *Daily Mirror* reports that medics told Adrian Underwood that he was suffering migraines and advised him to take migraine pills, but his cancer was spotted later when he visited Nottingham's eye hospital concerned by his deteriorating sight.

The *Evening Standard* reports on the Patients' Association's concern that A&E doctors are failing to spot broken bones and fractures in children.

The *Daily Telegraph* reports on a BMJ online article by Gordon Caldwell, a consultant physician. Mr Caldwell believes doctors do not often have the time to diagnose patients properly, leading to poorer outcomes. More time must be available to achieve accurate diagnoses first time, he argues.

#### Headlines:

GMC 4 article(s)

#### The new crime wave of wasting NHS resources

If the government's plans for an efficient NHS are to succeed (especially at a time of economic stringency), they need to deal with those who abuse or manipulate the system.

*GP Magazine* - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

#### Patient refuses a chaperone

The set of clinical circumstances suggests the patient is much more worried about the breast lump than the cough she initially presented with - not an uncommon situation for GPs.

*GP Magazine* - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

#### MP demands public inquiry

A public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients is being demanded by the Gosport MP.

*Southern Daily Echo Hampshire* - United Kingdom - 08/09/2010

#### A year after 'Bloodgate', has Richards found a way to get back into the game?

Rugby news, noting: "Last month, [Code A] was given leave by the General Medical Council to resume her career..."

*The Independent* - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Doctors 9 article(s)

#### RCGP confirms plan to slim down revalidation

GPs undergoing revalidation will have to submit only one multi-source feedback (MSF) questionnaire and one patient survey every five years, the RCGPhas confirmed.

*GP Magazine* - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

#### DOCS MISS TUMOUR THE SIZE OF A LEMON

A cleric has been left disabled after blundering doctors failed to spot a tumour in his brain that grew to the size of a lemon. Medics told Adrian Underwood he was suffering migraines when he first visited with crippling headaches.

*Daily Mirror* - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

#### Busy A&E doctors fail to spot broken bones in children

Children and babies are at risk because overstretched hospital doctors are failing to spot breaks and fractures, it was claimed today. Patient groups claim NHS cutbacks are partly to blame, along with a national shortage of paediatricians.

Evening Standard London - United Kingdom - 09/09/2010

Life has got worse for junior doctors

A letter regarding junior doctors.

Evening Standard London - United Kingdom - 09/09/2010

Training young surgeons

Letter about junior doctors' hours and the effect on surgical training.

The Daily Telegraph - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Surgeons: work limits on doctors is like stopping athletes training

In a letter to The Daily Telegraph, senior surgeons today compare the effect of cutting junior doctors' working hours to limiting the training time of world-class athletes.

The Daily Telegraph - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Patients dying 'because of pressure on doctors'

Patients are being harmed or even dying because doctors do not have time to diagnose them properly, Gordon Caldwell, a consultant physician at Worthing Hospital, warned yesterday.

The Daily Telegraph - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Junior doctor rota review after deaths

Jo Cubbon, the chief executive of Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust where an elderly woman died during a night shift led by a single junior doctor, told an inquest yesterday that staffing rotas were being reviewed after the introduction of EU limits on working hours.

The Times - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Continuity of care and junior doctors

A letter from medical notables including Dr Shree Datta, Chair, Junior Doctors Committee British Medical Association, concerning medical training.

The Times - United Kingdom - 10/09/2010

Colleges & Regulators 1 article(s)

RPSGB boards attack GPhC over 'contradictory' fees

The RPSGB national boards have attacked the General Pharmaceutical Council for failing to justify proposed fees.

Pharmacy Business - United Kingdom - 09/09/2010

**Web links:**

**National Newspapers:**

[The Times](#)

[The Independent](#)

[The Guardian](#)

[The Daily Telegraph](#)

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**Medical Press:**

[Pulse](#)

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The BBC  
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