

Code A**Code A**

From: Code A
Sent: 21 April 2009 10:15
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 21 Apr 09

Press Cuttings Summary

Tuesday 21 April 2009

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

There are several mentions in the national press and online about the inquest into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, which found five elderly patients were given high doses of medication that hastened their deaths. There are comments within the articles asking what the GMC and other medical bodies will do now the inquest has concluded.

The *Yorkshire Post* mentions the recent court case of Dr Robert Manley, who was found guilty of possessing images of child pornography. The article mentions the doctor is currently suspended by the GMC's Interim Orders Panel.

There is a brief mention of the Fitness to Practise hearing of Dr Robert Briggs, who was erased last week for various charges relating to the mismanagement of drugs. (*The Press & Journal*)

Broadcast Mentions

There were several mentions yesterday afternoon and this morning across the TV and radio networks about the Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquest.

Times Letters page

There are no letters to note.

Other News

The Bishop of Birmingham has criticised plans for certain Oxfordshire schools to introduce a scheme where teenage girls can 'text' for the morning after pill. Bishop William Kenney says the plan does nothing to address the causes of teenage pregnancy (*Daily Telegraph*).

The Scottish Council on Human Bioethics has criticised MSP [Code A] proposed assisted suicide bill as "dangerous and unnecessary". They claim that appropriate palliative care can relieve pain and suffering in all but the rarest of cases. (*The Press & Journal*)

The BMA have stated that "urgent action" is needed over doctors working hours, following the implementation of the European Working Time Directive (*Daily Telegraph*).

The Times (Scottish edition) reports that the family of a teenage girl who died following a massive overdose of radiation during cancer treatment have been granted legal aid to sue NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde health board. Lisa Norris was given a dose of radiation 58% higher than she should have received.

Headlines:

GMC

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 832

Doctor faces probe over drug doses on 'ward of death'

A senior doctor faces an inquiry after an inquest ruled five patients on a hospital ward died after being given excessive doses of morphine. The Government's chief medical officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, also commissioned a clinical audit to examine death rates at the hospital in September 2002 which has never been made public. But Hampshire Police said yesterday it was not considering reopening the investigation. Richard Samuel, of NHS Hampshire which now runs the hospital, said: 'I would like to apologise to the families concerned.'

GMC

The Times

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 590

Excess of painkillers hastened deaths of five elderly patients

Five elderly patients who died at a hospital in Hampshire were over-prescribed strong painkillers that hastened their deaths, a jury has said. The inquest jury of five women and three men looked at the deaths of ten patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1996 and 1999. They were among 92 suspicious deaths at the hospital investigated by police, over which no charges were brought.

Miscellaneous

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 350

Bishop attacks 'text to get morning after pill plan' for schoolgrils

A bishop has attacked a council-led plan that could result in teenagers at a Roman Catholic school obtaining the morning after pill by texting.

GMC

Yorkshire Post

Delivery date : 18/04/2009

Number of words : 605

GP jailed over child porn dossier

A family doctor who downloaded nearly 90,000 indecent images of children has been jailed for three years. Recorder Michael Elsom also ordered the GP, who has already been suspended by the General Medical Council, to be disqualified from working with children and to sign the sex offenders register.

End of Life

The Press and Journal

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 211

Ethics body attacks assisted suicide bill

PROPOSALS to legalise assisted suicide were branded "dangerous and unnecessary" yesterday by a medical ethics body.

GMC

Daily Express

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 514

Drug overdoses that 'killed three patients'

Three elderly patients died after they were given an overdose of painkillers at a hospital which became known as the "end of the line", an inquest jury ruled. The inquest into the deaths of 10 pensioners at the community hospital found that Robert Wilson, 74, Elsie Devine, 88, and Geoffrey Packman, 67, were given inappropriate medication which contributed to their deaths. Another two, Elsie Lavender, 83, and Arthur Cunningham, 79, were given drugs for sound medical reasons, but which still contributed to their demise, the panel said. The unprecedented hearing followed inquiries by police and the nhs into almost 100 deaths on what came to be known as the "death wards" at

Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial hospital during 1998 and 1999.

Doctors

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 51

Doctor training 'at risk with new rule'

The British Medical Association has claimed that the health service has 100 days to save doctors' training or face generations of surgeons less skilled than their predecessors.

GMC

Metro

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 328

Drugs killed patients at 'end of the line' hospital

Patients who died at a Hampshire hospital dubbed 'the end of the line' were given the wrong medication, it was ruled yesterday. The families of five patients who died as a result of lethal morphine overdoses called for the doctor involved to face prosecution, and accused the government and General Medical Council of a cover-up.

GMC

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 572

Families seek inquiry over 'death wards'

Relatives of five patients on a hospital's "death wards" have called for a GP to face a new investigation after an inquest jury decided excessive doses of morphine contributed to their deaths.

GMC

The Sun

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 293

5-DEATHS DOC 'IS A MONSTER'

A doctor was branded a "monster" yesterday after an inquest ruled large doses of painkillers HAD contributed to the deaths of five elderly patients. Families of the five had campaigned for more than ten years to have their cases heard ? and now want a public inquiry into the hospital scandal. The inquest in Portsmouth had spent four weeks looking at ten deaths at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

Doctors

The Press and Journal

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 61

Doctor struck off for 'recycling' drugs

A doctor who "recycled" drugs left over after the death of a cancer sufferer and supplied them to another terminally-ill patient has been struck off, it emerged yesterday.

Miscellaneous

The Times

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 355

Legal aid for family of teenager given radiation overdose

The family of a Scottish teenager who died after receiving a massive overdose of radiation has been granted legal aid to sue the health board that treated her.

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](#)