

Code A

Code A

From: Code A
Sent: 22 January 2010 09:52
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 22 January 2010

Press Cuttings Summary

Friday 22 January 2010

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

There is further coverage in the *Telegraph* of the inquest into the death of Code A patient of locum Code A Code A. The inquest heard that Dr Ubani failed an English test at one NHS health care trust before being accepted to work by another. The article reports that the doctor was registered with the GMC but that he is now suspended.

Following on from the inquest into the death of Code A and locum Code A *The Times* features a debate on out of hours care which considers the Conservatives plan to make doctors responsible for after-hours care, including being on-call. Dr Michael Dixon, Chair of the NHS Alliance speaks in favour of this and Dr Richard Vautrey, Deputy Chair, BMA GP's Committee explains why he opposes this plan. (Non GMC mention)

The Lancet (online)

A biography of paediatrician and researcher Edmund Hey mentions that he assisted in looking into the continuous negative extrathoracic pressure (CNEP) work of Code A. A complaint by the parents of an infant involved in this trial was made to the GMC but Hey and other researchers found there was no evidence of research misconduct. [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(10\)60120-1/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)60120-1/fulltext)

HSJ reports on the Independent Safeguarding Authority's vetting and barring scheme which means that employers will be obliged to provide any information about individuals who may pose a risk to vulnerable adults and children they work with. NHS Employers Director Sian Thomas has concerns about the scheme; "There's huge scope for confusion about what the purpose is, how it fits with regulation generally and how it fits with an overall strategy for public prosecution". A DH spokesman says: "It will contribute to patient safety though sharing of information with regulatory bodies like the General Medical Council and the Care Quality Commission".

An opinion article written by Neil Churchill, Chief Executive of Asthma UK in *HSJ* discusses criticism levied at NHS managers and why this criticism happens. He notes the figures reported by the General Medical Council that almost one in 10 hospital prescriptions contains errors.

The *Jersey Evening Post* reports how police raided the surgery of Dr Nagui Mickhael after he was thought to have left the island with thousands of medical records locked away. Unbeknown to the police, the doctor had returned to the island days earlier and confirmed that the surgery had been closed while he was away but denied that his patients had been unable to access their medical files. The doctor is registered with conditions.

The *Coventry Telegraph* reports that professor Yvonne Carter, former boss of Warwick Medical School has been chosen for an award (Chancellor's medal) three months after she died of breast cancer. The article notes how Yvonne led the School through 'the demanding General Medical Council quality assurance process'.

The following fitness to practise hearings are covered:

Dr David Hickson – *Hull Daily Mail*

Dr Louay Al-Alousi – *Derby Evening Telegraph, Leicester Mercury, Nottingham Evening Post*

Dr Adel Nessim Ghaly – *Manchester Evening News*

Dr Jane Barton – *Southern Daily Echo, The Portsmouth News*

Dr Mustafa Ansari – *Wimbledon News*

http://www.yourlocalguardian.co.uk/news/local/wimbledonnews/4862040.Doctor_who_refused_patient_a_home_visit_is_cleared_of_misconduct/

Broadcast Mentions

BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester reported yesterday on the outcome of Dr Nicholas Spicer's fitness to practise hearing. Dr Spicer was suspended for six months.

Letters pages

There are no letters to note.

Other News

The Herald reports how independent MSP Code A had formally launched a Bill in Scottish Parliament to legalise assisted suicide. If it wins the support of MSPs, her End of Life Assistance Bill would make Scotland the first part of the UK to change the law.

A news item in the *Daily Telegraph* reports that 200,000 NHS patients left hospital malnourished last year.

There is further coverage of the issue around obesity and the Royal College of Surgeons' description of an "inconsistent" response by primary care trusts which in some cases has led to "unethical" behaviour. (*Independent editorial and further widespread broadcast coverage*)

There has been widespread coverage and debate in the Scottish press following the publication of a Nuffield Trust report claiming to show lower productivity in the Scottish NHS than in other parts of the UK. The methodology used in the report has been strongly criticised by the Scottish Health Secretary and researchers. However, some commentators have acknowledged problems in NHS Scotland that the report highlights:

<http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/health/row-breaks-out-over-report-on-scottish-nhs-1.1000258>

<http://www.heraldsotland.com/comment/herald-letters/thursday-21-january-2010-1.1000263> (Second last letter).

According to the *Herald* on 20 January, the public enquiry into C.diff at the Vale of Leven Hospital in Alexandria will be widened to investigate deaths from C.Diff at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee:

<http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/health/c-diff-inquiry-extended-to-cover-ninewells-outbreak-1.1000209>

The *Daily Record*, *Herald* and *Scotsman* of 21 January all report on the case of a patient who was misdiagnosed with Huntington's Disease and refused a re-test in 1993. When the patient was re-tested in 2007 he was found not to have the disease. The patient's wife and daughter both terminated pregnancies because of the risk of passing on the gene: <http://news.scotsman.com/health/Patient-wrongly-told-he-had.6000232.jp>

A report from the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman into the case of a baby who suffered brain damage is covered by the *Scotsman* on 21 January under the headline of 'Pregnancy fears were 'ignored by doctors'
<http://news.scotsman.com/health/Pregnancy-fears-were-ignored.6000252.jp>

Headlines:

Colleges & Regulators

The Independent

Delivery date : 22/01/2010

Number of words : 378

[An ethical trap for the health service](#)

Editorial comment on yesterday's announcement by the Royal College of Surgeons that there were one million adults whose weight had ballooned to the point where they qualified under the Nice criteria for surgery and that 240,000 wanted surgery, yet just 4,300 got it. The yawning gap between demand and supply goes some way to accounting for what the RCS describes as the "inconsistent" response of primary care trusts, leading in some cases to "unethical" behaviour.

Doctors

The Times

Delivery date : 22/01/2010

Number of words : 1000

Should GPs take over out of hours care?

Report looking at the Conservatives plan to make doctors responsible for after-hours care, including being on-call.

NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 22/01/2010

Number of words : 111

200,000 leave hospital malnourished

Almost 200,000 NHS patients left hospital malnourished last year, it has been disclosed. The number rose by a record 18 per cent in 12 months, according to figures uncovered by the Conservatives.

GMC

Coventry Telegraph

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 224

TRAGIC YVONNE GETS UNI HONOUR

The former boss of Warwick Medical School has been chosen for an award three months after she died of breast cancer. It is noted that Professor Yvonne Carter "successfully led the school through the demanding General Medical Council quality assurance process to gain independent medical degree awarding status."

GMC

Hull Daily Mail

Delivery date : 20/01/2010

Number of words : 438

Doctor accused of patient affair to face hearing

A leading East Riding doctor was today expected to face a General Medical Council misconduct hearing after allegedly having an affair with a married patient.

GMC

Hull Daily Mail

Delivery date : 20/01/2010

Number of words : 236

NEWS & ANALYSIS

An East Riding doctor is to face a General Medical Council misconduct hearing after allegedly having an affair with a married patient.

Doctors

Derby Evening Telegraph

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 390

Expert says pathologist couldn't get it together

AN expert who was asked to review a number of autopsies undertaken by pathologist Dr Louay Al-Alousi has told a hearing he believed Dr Al-Alousi "at times could not get it all together".

Doctors

Hull Daily Mail

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 454

Doctor admits to married patient affair

AN EAST Riding doctor has admitted he had a sexual relationship with a married patient.

GMC

Leicester Mercury

Delivery date : 20/01/2010

Number of words : 239

Pathologist made errors in post-mortem exams

A Home Office pathologist has been accused of making errors in postmortem examinations. Notes the General Medical Council.

GMC

HSJ Health Service Journal

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 413

Fears over safeguard plans

A registration scheme to protect vulnerable people will force managers to make moral judgements about people's lifestyles and place a "significant" financial burden on the NHS. Notes the General Medical Council.

Doctors

Nottingham Evening Post

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 206

Pathologist 'at times could not get it all together'

AN expert who reviewed autopsies by a pathologist who worked in Notts has told a hearing the doctor "at times could not get it all together".

GMC

HSJ Health Service Journal

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 780

OPINION

Health comment column, noting: "Another story from the dying days of 2009 reported General Medical Council figures that almost one in 10 hospital prescriptions contains errors."

GMC

Jersey Evening Post

Delivery date : 20/01/2010

Number of words : 630

Police raid surgery for GP records

The police raided a doctor's surgery yesterday morning after a debt-ridden GP was thought to have fled the Island, leaving thousands of patients' records locked away. The doctor, who was already under supervision over his working methods, is believed to have had the records of more than 2,000 patients stored in his state-of-the-art surgery on the Albert Pier. Notes the General Medical Council.

GMC

Manchester Evening News

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 264

Psychiatrist cleared over tragic patient

APSYCHIATRIST who sent home a suicidal patient days before he killed himself has been cleared of professional misconduct.

GMC

Southern Daily Echo

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 186

Doctor 'should be struck off'

HAMPSHIRE: A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients at a Hampshire hospital should be struck off, the General Medical Council has heard.

End of Life

The Herald

Delivery date : 22/01/2010

Number of words : 603

Code A launches Bill to legalise assisted suicide

THE bid to legalise assisted suicide has been formally launched in the Scottish Parliament by independent MSP

Code A

GMC

The News

Delivery date : 21/01/2010

Number of words : 347

Panel urged to strike off doctor in deaths probe

A DOCTOR accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital should be banned from practising, a panel heard.

End of Life

The Herald

Delivery date : 22/01/2010

Number of words : 57

Suicide Bill launched

Code A

has launched a bid to legalise assisted suicide. The Bill came before the Scottish Parliament yesterday - and MSPs are to be given a free vote.

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](#)