

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 04 November 2009 09:36  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
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## Press Cuttings Summary

Wednesday 4 November 2009

### Direct Mentions

#### Print & Online Mentions

*Society Guardian* features a full page profile with Professor Peter Rubin who discusses medical students coming into the profession, revalidation and language testing with Denis Campbell. This was organised by the media team.

*BBC Online* features a comment piece from GMC Council member Ros Levenson about Tomorrow's Doctors. This was placed by the media team.

<http://newsvote.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8340560.stm>

In an article also placed by the media team, *Hospital Doctor* reports how the GMC has updated its guidance for doctors working in a pandemic.

<http://www.hospitaldr.co.uk/blogs/our-news/gmc-updates-guidance-for-doctors-working-in-a-pandemic>

There are a number of letters featured on *Socialist Worker (online)* about BNP leader Nick Griffin on Question Time. One letter from Dr Arif Musabbir expresses his disgust that up to 40 doctors are members of the BNP. The letter refers to GMC guidance on equality and diversity and says that the views of BNP doctors will affect patient care and the GMC should consider reviewing its guidance. <http://www.socialistworker.co.uk/art.php?id=19433>

#### Broadcast Mentions

BBC Radio Solent reported yesterday afternoon on the criminal prosecution being sought by the relatives of several elderly people who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The piece mentions Dr Jane Barton's fitness to practise hearing, associated with the deaths.

#### Letters pages

There are no letters to note.

#### Other News

The *Daily Telegraph* reports how official figures show that someone is attacked in an NHS hospital in England every three minutes.

The *Daily Telegraph* also reports on a new study by the King's Fund which highlights how patients ignore hospital league tables and rely on their own experience or the advice of a family doctor when they choose where to be treated.

There is further coverage of the Baby RB hearing in *The Times*, whose parents are continuing their court fight about whether he should be taken off the ventilator that currently keeps him alive.

The *Daily Mirror* reports how a couple who sent a suicide letter to the BBC criticising laws on assisted dying have been found dead at their home.

#### Headlines:

## GMC

The Guardian

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 1431

A cleaner bill of health

Guardian Society contains an interview with Peter Rubin, chair of the General Medical Council, in which he pledges to broaden the social intake of the medical profession and calls for regular fitness to practice tests. He also signals his acceptance of Alan Milburn's thesis that social mobility is dead. "Although medical schools themselves bend over backwards to be fair, we are still in a position where young people of high potential are not being enabled always to realise that potential, partly due to the perception that medicine is unaffordable," he says.

## End of Life

Daily Mirror

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 168

BBC suicide letter OAPs found dead

A couple who sent a suicide letter to the BBC criticising laws on assisted dying have been found dead. Dennis Milner, 83, and wife Flora, 81, posted a letter delivered yesterday to BBC South. They were found dead in their home in Newbury, Berks, on Sunday, police said.

## NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 295

Attacks every three minutes in 'warzone' hospitals

According to official figures, someone is attacked in an NHS hospital in England every three minutes, and accident and emergency departments resemble "war zones". Karen Jennings, head of health for the Unison union, said: "There is no doubt that the binge drinking culture and more round-the-clock drinking has led to an increase in the number of attacks on staff.

## NHS issues

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 367

Patients 'ignore NHS league tables'

A study by the King's Fund think tank has discovered that British patients ignore hospital league tables and rely on their own experience or the advice of their family doctor when they choose where to be treated.

## Miscellaneous

The Times

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 256

Disabled Baby RB 'may suffer more after surgery'

A severely disabled baby at the centre of a life or death battle between his parents would be at risk of a more painful death if his father was to have him cared for at home, the boy's doctor told the High Court yesterday.

**Web links:****National Newspapers:**[The Times](#)[The Independent](#)[The Guardian](#)**Other Regular Newspapers:**[The Scotsman](#)[The Herald](#)[The Press & Journal](#)**Medical Press:**[Pulse](#)[BMJ](#)[HSJ](#)

The Daily Telegraph  
The Daily Mail  
The Daily Mirror  
The Daily Express  
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