

MURPHY

to [unclear]
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Code A

GOSPORT MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Gosport War Memorial Hospital, Bury Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 3PW

Chairman: Dr AC Knapman

Secretary: Dr PA Beasley

Clerical Assistant: **Code A**

REC
10 DEC 2002
GP
MEDICAL

28th October 2002

Dr Liam Donaldson
Chief Medical Officer
Department of Health
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
LONDON SE1 8UG

Dear Dr Donaldson

Gosport War Memorial Hospital enquiries

The Gosport Medical Committee, which comprises all practising General Practitioners within the Gosport peninsula, wishes to raise its concern that Dr Jane Barton, formerly Clinical Assistant, is being used as a scapegoat to appease those complaining about, and critical of prescribing practice on the continuing elderly care beds in Gosport.

During the last eleven years, Dr Barton has been Clinical Assistant to approximately ten Consultant Geriatricians. We understand that senior colleagues were not only aware of these practices, but had similar prescribing practices. Furthermore, concerns raised by nurses in 1991 were raised with senior clinicians and hospital/Trust managers, but they were allayed by the Trust managers.

The selection of patients transferred to Gosport, and that these patients' relatives were given the impression that their loved one would receive rehabilitation, is not the responsibility of Dr Barton.

We are not prepared to see Dr Barton, a well respected colleague, carrying the blame for this management situation. We do not wish to see a witch hunt, but due recognition should be given to the facts that have hitherto not been brought out.

Yours sincerely

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Dr AC Knapman

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Dr RA Pennells

continued ...

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Dr DA Evans

Code A

Dr JTH Anderson

Code A

Dr N Hajiantonis

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Dr BJ Coonan

Code A

Dr PA Lacey

Code A

Dr JR Warner

Code A

Dr JH Bassett

Code A

Dr Evelyn Beale

Dr JH Grocock

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Dr Janette Lloyd

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(SENIOR PARTNERS)

Copy to:

Professor R Baker, c/o Department of Health
Mr M Waterland, Chair, Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Ms Lucy Docherty, Chair, Fareham & Gosport PCT
Dr Simon Tanner, Strategic HA