

Code A

Code A

From: Stephanie McNamara (Code A)
Sent: 31 January 2010 16:37
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press cuttings Sunday 31 January 2010

GMC mentions

The Sunday Express reports that Dr Wakefield will continue to conduct research into autism in the USA. Sunday Express commentator Julia Hartley-Brewer says the ruling exposes the doctor as a sham. Peter Hitchens in the Mail says his only crime was to put patients first - while his colleague Suzanne More writes on her comment page that now the doctor has been found to have been dishonest its time to re-evaluate the MMR debate - although she is clear that she herself is pro-vaccination. The Sunday Telegraph mentions the outcome of the case in a summary of the news highlights of the week.

The Independent on Sunday devotes two pages to examining Gosport War Memorial hospital and the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Jane Barton which concluded on Friday with a finding of serious professional misconduct and the placement of conditions on her registration. The piece includes quotes from Katharine Murphy from the Patients Association, Peter Walsh from AvMA and Norman Lamb, the Liberal Democrat MP who has been calling for a full public enquiry into the deaths of patients at Gosport.

Other News

The Sunday Mirror reports that £175,000,000 has been spent by the NHS on lawyers in the last 12 months.

End of Life issues are covered in many of the Sunday papers after a mother was cleared earlier in the week of attempting to murder her daughter who suffered from ME for 17 years. Jeremy Vine writes in the Sunday Telegraph about meeting the mother, Kay Gilderdale, before and after she was cleared in the courts. The Observer holds a round table discussion on end of life issues with Code A Evan Harris and Code A all contributing.

NHS issues

Sunday Mirror

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 529

NHS' £175,000,000 ON LAWYERS' FEES

The amount of money being pocketed by lawyers in NHS compensation cases has soared to a record high.

NHS issues

News of the World

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 143

Nurses' private bed fear

Patients are dying because of a drive to increase private rooms in hospitals, nurses have warned. Both the Government and the Conservatives have pledged to have fewer beds out on wards to give NHS patients the same privacy as in private hospitals and to cut superbugs.

GMC

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 300

The things they say...

Quotes from Prince Charles, David Cameron and Harriet Harman.

GMC

Independent on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1476

A continuing risk to patients

The decision by the General Medical Council to allow Dr Jane Barton to keep working as a GP despite being found guilty last week of multiple counts of serious professional misconduct that may have contributed to the deaths of at least 12 elderly patients, is likely to be challenged in the High Court. The Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence is examining transcripts from the hearing which began last June. The GMC's imposition of 11 sanctions on Dr Barton did little to curb widespread outrage among relatives, MPs, lawyers and patients' groups. Several medical experts described the decision not to strike her off as "illogical and inconsistent". Relatives of the deceased were particularly angry at the credence given to the 187 testimonials gathered from some of her patients and colleagues which led the panel to conclude that "preserving Dr Barton's services as a GP is in the public interest". Few of the 92 families who complained to Hampshire Police and triggered a massive investigation called Operation Rochester were permitted to give an opinion at the hearing. These families pointed out that the Shipman inquiry, into the deaths of elderly patients at the hands of their GP Harold Shipman, found that he too had been popular with his victims and their families.

GMC

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 557

I will press on vows shamed MMR doctor

Code A the doctor accused of professional misconduct over his work suggesting a possible link between the MMR vaccine and autism has vowed to "redouble" his research on vaccine safety and the "plight of sick children". Dr Wakefield and two colleagues sparked a 12-year controversy after publishing findings on the combined measles, mumps and rubella vaccine in the respected medical journal The Lancet in 1998.

GMC

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 196

At long last

Code A the doctor who "discovered" the totally non-existent link between autism and the MMR jab, has been exposed for the charlatan he really is after the general Medical Council ruled that he had acted dishonestly and irresponsibly. Comment by Julia Hartley-Brewer.

GMC

Independent on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 351

FROM FIRST SUSPICIONS TO A VERDICT

A timeline of the events that led to the decision by the General Medical Council to allow Dr Jane Barton to keep working as a GP despite being found guilty last week of multiple counts of serious professional misconduct that may have contributed to the deaths of at least 12 elderly patients, is likely to be challenged in the High Court.

GMC

The Mail on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 153

Wakefield's only crime was to put patients first

Comment on and MMR.

GMC

The Mail on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 322

He wasn't the only one wrong about MMR

Now that has been found to be dishonest and his tests on children invasive - and it is likely that he will be struck off by the GMC - it's time to re-evaluate the MMR debate.

Comment by Suzanne Moore.

GMC

The Sunday Telegraph

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1239

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Events of the last week.

GMC

The Sunday Telegraph

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 670

Taking a shot in the dark

Comment on study linking autism to the MMR jab.

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The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 495

BAD SCIENCE NEEDS GOOD SCRUTINY

A feature article looking at what happens when science and public policy clash, commenting on the case of

GMC

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1697

'CALLOUS, UNETHICAL AND DISHONEST'

A comment on how the reputation of has been detonated following a verdict by a General Medical Council panel.

GMC

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1062

More die as lone GPs cover thousands

Some parts of Britain are relying on just one out-of-hours GP at night to serve more than 240,000 residents. Brighton, Bolton and Wigan are among the areas where a lone doctor is responsible for dealing with late-night emergencies. The news follows revelations last weekend that just two GPs provide cover for Suffolk and its 600,000-strong population on some nights.

GMC

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 179

MMR ruling

The doctor who sparked a panic over the MMR vaccine may be struck off. Code A who in 1998 claimed there was a link between the triple jab and autism, "showed a callous disregard" for the suffering of children in the way he conducted his research, a hearing found on Thursday. The General Medical Council ruled that the charges against Wakefield and two colleagues were "sufficient to amount to serious professional misconduct".

GMC

Scotland on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 763

Establishment betrayed its agenda with MMR vaccine

LAST week's condemnation of Code A the physician whose research suggested a link between the MMR vaccine and autism in children, by the General Medical Council was the climax of 12 years of medical controversy.

End of Life

Sunday Express

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 507

Killing my girl broke me...but I'd do it again

A mother cleared of attempting to murder her incurably ill daughter said yesterday she "would do it again". Former nurse Kay Gilderdale, 55, said watching her daughter die felt like having her "heart ripped out", but she insisted: "I know I did the right thing for Lynn. She's free and at peace. Whatever the consequences, I would do it again."

End of Life

The Mail on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 2401

I'm sorry, but it WAS wrong to help Lynn die

In a deeply-felt account, Anne Atkins -whose own family has known the curse of ME -- questions the widely-held view that Kay Gilderdale was justified in hastening the end of her daughter's life.

End of Life

The Sunday Telegraph

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 60

SUPPORTFOR MERCY KILLINGS

Three-quarters of the public believe that family members or friends who help someone with a terminal illness to commit suicide should not face prosecution, a poll for BBC One's Panorama has found.

End of Life

The Sunday Telegraph

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1913

IN THE END, THIS CASE WAS ALL ABOUT A MOTHER'S LOVE KENT

Panorama's Jeremy Vine recalls his emotional meetings with Kay Gilderdale before and after she was cleared of attempting to murder her daughter.

End of Life

News of the World

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 652

Mother's courage betrayed by the law

ASTONISHING, isn't it, that a career criminal can break into someone's home with a knife, threaten to kill an entire family and because he gets bashed by one of his victims he escapes prosecution? But a devoted mother who has cared for her sick daughter every day for 17 years and finally capitulates to her pleas to help end her life ends up charged with attempted murder.

End of Life

The Mail on Sunday

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 529

The great and the good support mercy killing - that's why I'm so worried

Peter Hitchens comments on legal euthanasia.

End of Life

The Observer

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 4960

A matter of life, death and assisted suicide

The Observer contains a roundtable discussion on the issue of assisted suicide which includes

Code A and Evan Harris MP.

End of Life

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 46

Right to die

In the wake of Kay Gilderdale being cleared of attempting to murder her ill daughter, a BBC Panorama poll has found 73% think friends and relatives should be able to help terminally ill people die.

End of Life

The Sunday Times

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 158

Mother walks free

A parent who helped her daughter to die was cleared of attempted murder on Monday.

Colleges & Regulators

The Observer

Delivery date : 1/31/2010

Number of words : 1984

Are these remedies really a cure or a waste of NHS money?

A report by the House of Commons select committee on science and technology is expected to claim that there is little evidence to support the use of homeopathic medicine in the NHS. "There is no scientific basis for their being effective," Professor Jayne Lawrence, of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, told the select committee recently. However, Cristal Sumner, chief executive of the British Homeopathic Association, said the committee had been biased in its approach and review. She referred to comments by the health minister, Mike O'Brien, who said it would be "illiberal" to consider withdrawing services to patients.