

Code A

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From: Laura Nelson (Code A)
Sent: 26 September 2010 10:17
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press cuttings summary 26 September

Press Cuttings Summary Sunday 26 September

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

In the Sunday Times Karol Sikora admits to delivering a fatal morphine dose to a young patient with leukaemia when he was a junior doctor. He says he fears that the GMC will suspend his licence to practise as a result of his admission. The article reports that the GMC has said that it does not investigate complaints about cases which are more than five years old unless this was considered to be in the public's best interest. The article also mentions that Sikora gave evidence during the GMC hearing of Dr Jane Barton and that he gave evidence in defence of Code A who was struck off the medical register by the GMC.

An article on plastic surgery in the Sunday Times mentions that practitioners should be on the GMC specialist register.

Portsmouth Today online mentions the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Jane Barton in an article about NHS Hampshire's apology to one of the patient's daughters over insensitive internal emails.

Letters

The Sunday Times includes a number of letters on end of life care including one from a retired GP calling for the law on assisted suicide to change.

Other News

The Sunday Express says that a number of casualty departments are planning to close because of a shortage of senior doctors which means they cannot operate safely.

The Sunday Telegraph and the Sunday Express report that on Tuesday the Government will announce plans to improve all aspects of dementia care, including asking doctors to cut back on prescriptions of antipsychotic drugs.

Headlines:

Plastic fantastic?
 Innovations in cosmetic surgery.
 The Sunday Times Style - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010

GMC - Fitness to Practice 2 article(s)

Cancer chief admits giving fatal injection Karol Sikora, one of Britain's leading cancer specialists, has admitted delivering a fatal morphine dose to a 14-year-old leukaemia patient when he was a junior doctor. The incident took

place when Sikora was a registrar at St Bartholomew's hospital in London in 1974. He said it was common for doctors in the 1970s to increase the morphine dosage for terminally ill patients. Sikora fears that the GMC will suspend his medical licence as a result of his admission. However, the GMC said yesterday that it did not investigate complaints about cases which were more than five years old unless this was considered to be in the public's best interest.

The Sunday Times - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010

NHS apologise over comments in staff emails The NHS has apologised to the daughter of a patient who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital for being 'insensitive' about her case.

Portsmouth Today - United Kingdom - 24/09/2010

Doctors 2 article(s)

Doctor shortages shut patients out

Dozens of hospital casualty departments are facing closure because of a shortage of senior doctors. Donald MacKechnie, vicepresident of the College of Emergency Medicine, said: "This is not an overnight problem. We have been warning the Government for some time that we have been having problems retaining experienced senior doctors to work in casualty departments."

Sunday Express - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010

Doctors told not to use 'chemical coshes'

Doctors will be told by ministers to stop prescribing too many medications that act as a "chemical cosh" for those with dementia, and shorten the lives of 1,800 people a year. The action is part of a plan to improve the care of dementia sufferers, by improving the training of nurses and doctors, and monitoring closely the quality of services provided by care homes and hospitals The Sunday Telegraph - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010

NHS issues 1 article(s)

'Revolution' in care for elderly

Earlier treatment of dementia sufferers and restrictions on the use of anti-psychotic drugs are part of a revolution in care for the elderly to be announced next week.

Sunday Express - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010

End of Life 1 article(s)

Terminally ill have a right to dignified death

Reader letters regarding assisted suicide laws.

The Sunday Times - United Kingdom - 26/09/2010