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Code A

From: Code A
Sent: 24 August 2009 10:04
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 24 Aug 09

Press Cuttings Summary

Monday 24 August 2009

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

There are two articles in *The Guardian* relating to the Code A case. A patient died in Code A care after being given a fatal overdose of a drug. Code A later sent a letter to the patient's relatives, claiming tiredness (he had travelled from Germany and started work the same day) and being unfamiliar with the drug he used. The first article features interviews with GMC Chief Executive Finlay Scott and Royal College of GPs Chair Code A about their calls for the government to make doctors from Europe seeking work in the UK to be tested in the same way as International Medical Graduates. The other article details the Ubani chronology.

This story also featured on the Buzzle website:

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/299429.html>

The *Scottish Daily Mail* reports on footballer Colin Hendry's call for Dr Gustav Anianson to be banned from practising in his native Sweden (previously summarised).

The following fitness to practise cases are mentioned in various websites:

Code A

<http://www.thisishullandeastriding.co.uk/news/Hull-doctor-accused-sex-patients/article-1277016-detail/article.html>

Dr Maurice Ripley FTP review:

<http://www.thisisnottingham.co.uk/news/City-GP-s-suspension-review/article-1276835-detail/article.html>

Dr Jane Barton:

<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/newshome/War-Memorial-doctor-to-hear.5578514.jp>

Dr Peter Bennett:

http://www.highland-news.co.uk/news/fullstory.php/aid/6091/Eye_doc_is_struck_off.html

Dr Sarkhell Radha talks to the BBC website about his experience of gaining employment as a refugee doctor in the UK. The article mentions how he eventually gained full GMC registration:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7635072.stm>

Broadcast Mentions

The Guardian story was also mentioned on UTV's website:

<http://new.u.tv/News/Rules-on-EU-doctors-leave-patients-at-risk-says-GMC-chief/174576a3-66a9-4ad2-8a59-dc42d3d4b122>

BBC One North West mentions that Code A is due to face a fitness to practise hearing (it will start today).

Times Letters page

There are no letters to note today.

Other News

The Daily Telegraph reports on examples of surgical errors, from Freedom of Information requested data, including the wrong patient being operated on as they shared the same name as another person on the ward.

The *Daily Mirror* focus on the mother of a baby girl who died after a series of errors before her birth and comment on figures that reveal the number of children who die due to lapses in care.

The *Daily Mail* reports on the woman who died a year after being refused her daughter's kidney's because of laws governing 'dictated donorship' (her daughter had consented to donate a kidney before dieing).

Headlines:

GMC

The Guardian

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 1200

Rules on EU doctors leave patients at risk, says GMC chief

Leaders of two of the UK's most powerful medical bodies are on a collision course with the government and the European commission after calling for all doctors coming to work in Britain from Europe to face tests to prove they are fit to practise in this country.

GMC

The Guardian

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 1077

German GP who accidentally killed patient was advised to 'go home'

New details have emerged revealing that the German GP who killed a patient accidentally during his first shift in the UK was told to go back to Germany "asap" by his locum employment agency.

Doctors

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 443

Surgeons operate on wrong patient

Surgeons operated on the wrong patient when two people on the same ward had the same name. The error, disclosed after a Freedom of Information request, was one of a catalogue of medical mistakes that has led to a 20 per cent rise in the amount of compensation paid to victims of botched hospital treatment.

Miscellaneous

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 511

Mother dies a year af ter being denied her daughter's kidney

A mother who was denied a kidney transplant from her dying daughter because of rules banning donor requests has died. Rachel Leake, 41, had been in hospital for three months with septicemia. Her 21-year-old daughter Laura Ashworth had wanted to give her a kidney, but died in April last year before starting the process of becoming a 'living donor'. Doctors then insisted her organs go to strangers at the top of the waiting list.

NHS issues

Daily Mirror

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 1374

After losing Olivia, how can I trust any doctor?

Personal story of a mother of two sons, whose first daughter was stillborn, as a review of the safety of NHS care

found that more than 70 children died due to lapses in care in 2007 - 2008, while 20,000 more suffered injury.

Doctors

The Press and Journal

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 303

Hendry surgeon paid out £750,000

THE plastic surgeon who botched an operation on Colin Hendry's late wife has more than 50 complaints against him, it has been revealed.

GMC

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 24/08/2009

Number of words : 620

Hendry in call for ban on surgeon blamed for wife's death

FORMER Scotland football captain Colin Hendry wants the plastic surgeon blamed for the death of his wife banned after it emerged that £750,000 has been paid out in compensation for botched operations.

<< OLE Object: Picture (Metafile) >>

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

Source: <http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/war-memorial-doctor-to-hear-her-fate-early-in-new-year-1-1237871>

War Memorial doctor to hear her fate early in new year

22:15 Friday 21 August 2009

The doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at a hospital could face harsh consequences for her actions – even if she is not struck off.

A General Medical Council disciplinary panel has a choice of five sanctions if they find Jane Barton's fitness to practise is impaired.

Dr Barton – pictured right – has admitted a string of allegations relating to her care and treatment of 12 patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1996 and 1999.

The News reported yesterday that following a 10-week hearing the five-strong panel has found her guilty of prescribing 'potentially hazardous' doses of powerful painkillers and sedatives to patients on Dryad and Daedalus wards where she was clinical assistant.

Examining the GP's conduct they also found wide dose ranges she prescribed could have led to some patients being overdosed.

They said she was guilty of poor note-keeping and prescribing drugs that were inappropriate and not in the best interests of some patients.

The panel has now adjourned and will reconvene in January.

They will then hear legal submissions relating to 220 charges proved and then decide whether those findings amount to serious professional misconduct by Dr Barton.

The panel will then decide what sanctions – if any – should be imposed.

It has already found evidence 'would not be insufficient' to support her being found guilty of serious professional misconduct.

A General Medical Council spokesman said: 'If the panel concludes that the doctor's fitness to practise is impaired, the following sanctions are available – to take no action, to accept undertakings offered by the doctor provided the panel is satisfied that such undertakings protect patients and the wider public interest, to place conditions on the doctor's registration, to suspend the doctor's registration or to erase the doctor's name from the medical register, so that they can no longer practise.'

Dr Barton – who denies serious professional misconduct – is subject to seven restrictions on her license imposed after the General Medical Council launched its investigation in July last year.

They include a ban on prescribing the powerful painkiller diamorphine.

Read more: <http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/war-memorial-doctor-to-hear-her-fate-early-in-new-year-1-1237871#ixzz3shYPFK8Q>