

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 30 April 2009 10:35  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 30 April 2009

## Press Cuttings Summary

Thursday 30 April 2009

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### Direct Mentions

#### Print and Online Mentions

Several articles in the national press mention that Haringey Council has sacked four more staff over the Baby P case. The articles mention that two doctors who treated the child, Dr Jerome Kuaka and Code A have been suspended by the GMC.

*The Daily Record* reports that Dr Ewan Crawford, whose registration is currently suspended by the GMC is still employed by NHS Lothian, in a managerial position. Crawford is alleged to have had a sexual relationship with a female patient.

The Reverend Ian Galloway, writing in *The Scotsman*, argues against the introduction of an assisted suicide bill, which is to be debated in the Scottish Parliament. He notes that "The two major governing bodies in medicine in the UK, the GMC and the BMA, oppose assisted suicide". The press office will be looking into whether we need to respond to this:

<http://thescotzman.scotsman.com/comment/Focus-Why-MSPs-should-kill.5220093.jp>

The *Evening Chronicle* reports on the fitness to practise case of Dr Krishnan Prasad.

The *Sunderland Echo* reports the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Prasad.

The *BMJ* reports that Dr Mohammad Sharief has lost his appeal in the High Court against a GMC decision to suspend him. Dr Sharief, a neurologist, is the former head of the multiple sclerosis research clinic at Guy's Hospital in London: [http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/extract/338/apr29\\_3/b1785](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/extract/338/apr29_3/b1785)

*The Guardian Online* has recycled an old GMC quote in a story which says that UCAS is considering whether to drop a requirement for students to declare criminal convictions when they apply to university, following a high-profile case: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2009/apr/28/ucas-criminal-conviction-rules?commentpage=1>

#### *Pulse Magazine 29 April:*

An article about revalidation says that the GMC has been forced to ask the Government for more time following warnings from the RCGP over the role of responsible officers. Code A chair of the RCGP told Pulse that until responsible officers are in place 'I don't think that revalidation can go ahead...we welcome the fact that the [GMC's] programme board has decided to delay the implementation of responsible officers so that they can be piloted'. The press office is working on a response.

### Broadcast Mentions

There is one broadcast mention today on BBC Radio 4's *The World Tonight*. The programme mentioned the news that Haringey Council has sacked staff over the Baby P case and mentioned that the GMC has suspended two doctors involved.

### Times Letters page and GMC published responses

There are no letters today.

## Other News

Coverage of swine flu continues. *The Evening Standard* reported last night that GPs have been advised by the Health Protection Agency to prescribe the drug Tamiflu to anyone they fear has the virus but that London doctors have raised concerns that patients cannot get the drug because many chemists do not have supplies.

*The Edinburgh Evening News* reports that a lecturer in international health shares how Edinburgh University medical school is helping in African countries in terms of end of life care.

*The Times* reports how a couple are suing the NHS after they were not given a chance to abort their severely disabled son. A 20-week scan failed to pick up evidence of brain abnormalities.

Edinburgh Evening News

Delivery date : 29/04/2009

Number of words : 362

Learning from each other to help the dying

WHAT makes for a good death? Is the answer different if you live in Scotland or Africa?

Daily Record

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 237

Sex claim doc still with NHS

A DOCTOR who was suspended following sex scandal claims is still working for the NHS, the Record can reveal.

The Scotsman

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 914

Why MSPs should kill off this suicide bill

people choose end THE support of 18 MSPs for  assisted suicide bill means the Scottish Parliament will debate the issue.

Evening Chronicle

Delivery date : 28/04/2009

Number of words : 459

Touch claims land doc in trouble

A doctor could be struck off for allegedly touching a patient in a "sexually motivated" way in two Newcastle surgeries. Dr Krishnan Prasad is at the centre of a General Medical Council hearing, where it is alleged he touched the breasts of a patient while examining her at clinics in Heaton and Shieldfield.

Daily Express

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 126

4 Baby P staff axed

Four more people have been sacked from the social services department in the Baby P scandal, it emerged last night. Haringey Council in north London dismissed Cecilia Hitchen, its deputy director of children and families, social worker Maria Ward, team manager Gillie Christou and head of safeguarding services Clive Preece.

## Pulse

Delivery date : 29/04/2009

Number of words : 449

A year's grace on revalidation

Revalidation is set to be delayed by at least a year amid huge concerns over the role of local NHS managers in judging GPs. The GMC has been forced to ask the government for more time following warnings from the RCGP over the responsible officer role and the poor quality of GP appraisal.

## Sunderland Echo

Delivery date : 28/04/2009

Number of words : 463

Doctor accused over examinations

A mother fought back tears as she told how a doctor massaged her breasts during a visit to a Sunderland surgery with her young child. The woman told the General Medical Council (GMC) hearing in Manchester that she had visited Dr Krishnan Prasad at the Springwell Medical Group surgery because her son was experiencing pain in his ears.

## The News

Delivery date : 21/04/2009

Number of words : 163

GMC investigates doctor at centre of inquests case

The General Medical Council said it was carrying out an investigation into whether Dr Jane Barton was fit to practise as a GP. Dr Barton has been given restrictions in practising as a doctor since the GMC probe started on July 11 last year.

## The Independent

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 317

Baby P staff sacked for 'gross misconduct'

Haringey Council has sacked three managers and a social worker for failings of care in the Baby P case, following a four-month investigation. The director of children and families, Celia Hitchen; a social worker, Maria Ward; a team manager Gillie Christou, and the head of safeguarding services Clive Preece had all been dismissed for gross misconduct, a Haringey spokesman confirmed.

## Daily Mirror

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 229

BABY P CARE STAFF SACKED

Four social workers blamed over the death of Baby P have been sacked. Maria Ward, who visited the infant four days before his death, was fired for gross misconduct.

## Miscellaneous

## Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 455

Haringey sacks Baby P managers

Three council managers and a social worker have been sacked for their alleged failure to save the life of Baby P. Two had been suspended on full pay for almost five months since the scandal was disclosed in November, before being dismissed by Haringey Council. Haringey announced last night that Cecilia Hitchen, its deputy director of children's services, who was suspended in December after a "devastating" report ordered by the Government, had been sacked for loss of trust and confidence

## GMC

## Daily Mail

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 621

Four more sacked in Baby P scandal

The council at the centre of the Baby P abuse scandal has sacked four more staff over the tragedy. Cecilia Hitchen, was dismissed for 'loss of trust and confidence' following the damning Ofsted inspection into children's services. Two councillors resigned over the Baby P case in December, while two doctors who treated the child have also been suspended from practice by the General Medical Council.

#### Miscellaneous

The Guardian

Delivery date : 30/04/2009

Number of words : 263

Council sacks four more over death of Baby P

The Baby P case has resulted in four more sackings from Haringey council in north London, it emerged yesterday.

#### 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