

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 18 June 2009 10:10  
**To:** Press Cuttings  
**Subject:** Press Cuttings - 18 Jun 09



Larne Gazette.pdf

Ballyclare  
Gazette.pdfCarrickfergus  
Advertiser.pdf

## Press Cuttings Summary

Thursday 18 June 2009

### Direct Mentions

#### Print Mentions

Attached three pieces placed by the press office in the *Ballyclare Gazette*, *Carrickfergus Advertiser* and *Larne Gazette* which report on the GMC's End of Life Care consultation.

Healthcare Republic reports that the Medical and Dental Defence Union of Scotland (MDDUS) have said that doctors are fully insured during a flu outbreak. Dr George Fernie, head of the MDDUS' medical division notes "If GPs follow guidance and advice offered by the NHS, GMC and MDDUS, they shouldn't fear being any further exposed to complaints or claims for damages during a pandemic".

*The News* (Hampshire) continues to cover the Dr Jane Barton fitness to practise hearing.

The *Leicester Mercury* reports on the GMC's decision to erase [Code A] from the medical register, for sexually assaulting female patients.

There were online reports about the fitness to practise hearing of [Code A] (not impaired and no warning issued):

<http://newsvote.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/8105702.stm>

#### Broadcast Mentions

There were further regional mentions (BBC) about patients of [Code A] planning to sue him.

#### Times Letters page and GMC published responses

A retired doctor writes, in regards to the issue of some drug treatments not being made available due to cost implications. The doctor says that for doctors it is "unethical to refuse treatment" to any of their patients and that he asked the GMC for guidance on this matter. According to the author, "...to my utter dismay and disbelief, I was told this question does not come within this august body's competence". The press office is considering a response.

#### Other News

There is an article and a comment piece in *The Press & Journal* about Dr Willem Van IJperen who has been suspended by NHS Grampian for not alerting the authorities about a 14 year old girl who consulted him about having a sexually transmitted infection. Dr Van IJperen and the comment note that this could lead to other youngsters not seeking treatment for such conditions.

The National Patient Safety Agency has reported that 70 children died and 20,000 were injured whilst receiving hospital care in the year 2007-08. Most of the incidents involved prescribing errors (*The Independent*).

**Headlines:**

## GMC

The Times

Delivery date : 18/06/2009

Number of words : 336

Ethics of treatment and NHS expenditure

A reader letter concerning Government expenditure on the NHS.

## Miscellaneous

The Independent

Delivery date : 18/06/2009

Number of words : 583

Report finds 70 children died after lapses in medical care

More than 70 children died and 20,000 suffered injury or harm following lapses in medical care in 2007-08. A review of the safety of NHS care for children found more than 60,000 incidents reported to the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) in which they were put at risk. Two-thirds of the incidents caused no harm but almost one in 10 resulted in moderate or severe injury, including death.

## GMC

Leicester Mercury

Delivery date : 12/06/2009

Number of words : 168

Doctor struck off for inappropriate examinations

A doctor who performed intimate examinations on female patients without explaining why, and then told colleagues the women were "all mad" after complaints, has been struck off by the GMC.

## GMC

The News

Delivery date : 12/06/2009

Number of words : 424

'Nurses can confirm death' - Doctor's note on woman, 84

Article looking at the verdict of a GMC inquiry.

## GMC

The News

Delivery date : 16/06/2009

Number of words : 561

Man's relative told doctor she was murderer

Article concerning a GMC inquiry into allegations a doctor murdered an elderly patient.

## Doctors

The Press and Journal

Delivery date : 18/06/2009

Number of words : 221

Suspended Moray doctor

AT A TIME when Scottish politicians and health workers are trying to encourage young people to face up to the hazards of sexually-transmitted diseases, a Moray doctor finds himself suspended for not alerting the authorities when a girl of 14 consulted him over a sexual infection.

## Doctors

The Press and Journal  
Delivery date : 18/06/2009  
Number of words : 612

Why doctor did not report sex case girl

A doctor suspended for failing to report that a 14-year-old girl had contracted a sexually transmitted disease claims the guidelines could lead youngsters to hide pregnancies and shun medical help..

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## 'Nurses can confirm death' – Doctor's note on woman, 84

14:26 Friday 19 June 2009 15:33 Thursday 11 June 2009

**An elderly woman, described as 'well and comfortable' the day before she was sent to a Gosport hospital, had a note written on her records on arrival saying a doctor was happy for nurses to confirm her death.**

Ruby Lake was 84 when she was transferred to Gosport War Memorial Hospital in August 1998. She died there three days later.

She had suffered a broken hip in a fall at home in Alverstoke, Gosport, and was given an emergency hip replacement at the Royal Hospital Haslar.

But after a three-week stay at that hospital she was moved to Gosport War Memorial for rehabilitation.

The day she arrived Gosport GP Dr Jane Barton immediately wrote on her notes that she was happy for nurses to confirm her death.

At a London hearing at the General Medical Council examining Dr Barton's fitness to practise, a Royal Navy surgeon said he was 'surprised' to see that written on Mrs Lake's notes.

Surgeon Commander Timothy Coltman, who was a senior house officer at Haslar in 1998, said that from Mrs Lake's Haslar notes he could see that before her transfer she had been making reasonable progress for a woman of her age.

He said: 'At 9am on the day she was transferred to the War Memorial her notes say that she was 'well, comfortable and happy'.

GMC panel member Dr Roger Smith said to Sgn-Cdr Coltman: 'You saw her on the day of her transfer. You said she was bright and alert.

'The nursing staff said she was mobilising with a Zimmer frame. Do you find it surprising that when she arrived at the War Memorial hospital she had 'happy for nursing staff to confirm death' written on her notes?'

Sgn-Cdr Coltman said: 'Yes, it is surprising that she could have deteriorated so quickly.'

(proceeding)

Read more: <http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/nurses-can-confirm-death-doctor-s-note-on-woman-84-1-1233701#ixzz3sheapfv>