

Code A

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From: Code A
Sent: 19 January 2010 09:32
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 19 January 2010

Press Cuttings Summary

Tuesday 19 January 2010

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

The Lancet (Jan 16 10)

- The journal notes that Niall Dickson has joined the GMC as Chief Executive.

There are online reports that eye surgeon Adolf Poellman has been suspended by the GMC's Interim Orders Panel (IOP):

<http://www.manx.net/default.asp?id=18&articleid=9722>

<http://www.gov.im/lib/news/dhss/nocauseforalamb.xml>

The following fitness to practise hearings are also mentioned:

- Dr Josaiiah Adenugba:
<http://www.birminghammail.net/news/top-stories/2010/01/18/former-redditch-gp-under-restrictions-after-giving-nigerian-relatives-drugs-on-nhs-97319-25622938/>
- Dr John Hines and Dr Paul Timmis:
<http://www.ilfordrecorder.co.uk/content/redbridge/recorder/news/story.aspx?brand=RECOOnline&category=newsIford&tBrand=northlondon24&tCategory=newsilford&itemid=WeED18%20Jan%202010%2014%3A14%3A12%3A040>

The *Birmingham Mail* (online) reports that two nurses involved in the deaths of two cancer patients after they administered an overdose of a drug will not face disciplinary action by the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The article also notes that the prescription was written by Dr Kirwan Tawana, who is registered with a warning issued by the GMC:

<http://www.birminghammail.net/news/top-stories/2010/01/18/nurses-who-overdosed-two-heartlands-hospital-cancer-patients-escape-punishment-by-professional-body-97319-25625642/>

Mo Mowlam's doctor talks to *The Independent* about the moral dilemma he was faced with, when he diagnosed her with a malignant brain tumour, a fact which she was not prepared to disclose publicly. Dr Mark Glaser talks about issues of confidentiality and the BMA notes that any doctor wishing to breach their confidentiality would have to prepare to justify this to the GMC:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/journalists/alastair-jamieson/7011726/Mo-Mowlam-lied-to-Tony-Blair-about-her-cancer.html>

BBC Online reports that the last of the human remains retained in the Alder Hey tissue scandal will be buried today. The article mentions that tissue samples from deceased babies were retained for several years without the consent of their parents and that Dr Dick van Velzen was later erased from the GMC's register in relation to these events:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/merseyside/8464987.stm>

An article in the Law Society of Scotland's journal (online) covers the issue of how the Law Society can effectively regulate law firms that are owned by non-lawyers. The article discusses the duality of regulation and representation of professionals. In the case of doctors, the article notes they see their representative (the BMA) as their leader rather than their regulator (the GMC):

<http://www.journalonline.co.uk/Magazine/55-1/1007432.aspx>

A clarification in the *Daily Mail* states that General Medical Council guidelines tell doctors that they must use anaesthesia when they are performing neonatal circumcisions. The clarification refers to an article from 14 July 2009.

Broadcast Mentions

There were further mentions yesterday on *BBC Radio Solent* and *ITV Meridian South* that the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Jane Barton reconvened (it is due to open in public session tomorrow).

Letters pages

Dr Laurence Buckman, Chair of the GPs' committee at the BMA, writes about out-of-hours care in response to an article by Mary Dejevsky in *The Independent*. Dr Buckman writes that the out-of-hours system 'desperately needs improving' and disputes Ms Dejevsky's generalisation that GPs work from '9am to 5pm.' He describes the BMA's call for PCTs commission out-of-hours care with the input of local GPs.

Other News

The Royal College of GPs has released the third edition of its revalidation guide for GPs. The guide is mentioned on the RCGPs' website:

http://www.rcgp.org.uk/news_and_events/news_room/news_2010/revalidation_guide_version_3.aspx

The Guardian reports on a study by the School of Pharmacy at the University of London which has found that hospital doctors make mistakes in more than one in ten prescriptions written for children. The study covered five hospitals in London and is reported in the *Archives of Disease in Childhood*.

The Hertfordshire Fraud Squad is investigating [Code A] who was expelled from the financial services industry for defrauding hundreds of doctors' surgeries in a £400,000 scam, according to *The Times*. [Code A] specialised in selling locum insurance to doctors which would cover GP surgeries against the cost of hiring replacement doctors at short notice when regular staff were not able to work.

The *Aberdeen Press & Journal* of 16 January carries a short paragraph stating that a report for the UK Government claims that doctors get little training on how to assess patients' fitness to drive (attached).

Headlines:

NHS issues

The Guardian

Delivery date : 19/01/2010

Number of words : 365

Children given wrong drug doses

Hospital doctors make mistakes in more than one in 10 prescriptions they write for children, far more than was previously thought, according to an authoritative study published today. Errors were made in 13.2% of prescriptions written for children, according to the study covering five London hospitals and carried out by the School of Pharmacy, University of London.

Doctors

The Times

Delivery date : 19/01/2010

Number of words : 541

Police scour Asia for GP insurance scam suspect

Specialist fraud police are searching for a Hertfordshire-based insurance broker who was expelled from the financial services industry for defrauding hundreds of doctors' surgeries in a £400,000 scam.

GMC

The Lancet

Delivery date : 16/01/2010

Number of words : 708

Offline: The hottest date in town

Comment: "Whatever happened to public health in Britain? It used to be a great reformist social movement that spoke up for the poor and vulnerable, challenged the political classes, and campaigned for a fairer society." Notes

the General Medical Council.

GMC

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 19/01/2010

Number of words : 50

Circumcision

Correction: "In our article of July 14, 2009, on potential medical benefits of neonatal circumcision, we stated that the procedure can be performed 'with or without anaesthetic'. We would like to clarify that General Medical Council guidelines in the UK state that doctors must use anaesthesia in the operation."

Doctors

The Independent

Delivery date : 19/01/2010

Number of words : 503

No going back to 24-hour GPs

Letter in The Independent from Dr Laurence Buckman, Chairman of GPs' Committee, British Medical Association: "Like everyone I have great sympathy for all those involved in the Ubani case, and I agree with Mary Dejevsky that the current out-of-hours service for patients is nowhere near what it should be, but I am afraid she misses a vital point when she compares GPs to other professionals ("Note to GPs: some jobs have to be 24/7", 15 January)."

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