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From: Code A
Sent: 08 September 2013 08:15
To: Code A
Subject: Daily Media Summary - Sunday 8 September 2013

General Medical Council

ALL COVERAGE

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DIRECT MENTIONS / TOP STORIES

Family welcomes GMC language powers

BBC (Web), 07/09/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The family of a man from Cambridgeshire who was injected with a lethal dose of painkillers - by [Code A](#) - has welcomed government proposals to check the English-language skills of doctors working in the UK. Health minister and Central Suffolk MP [Code A](#) said: "Overseas doctors make a hugely valuable contribution to the NHS but it is clear that tougher checks are needed." At present, EU rules prevent the General Medical Council (GMC) testing doctors for competency in English, but the proposed change in the law would allow it to do so if it has concerns.

[Article](#)

Foreign doctors to face language tests before they can work in hospitals after complaints about poor care

Mail Online UK (Web), 07/09/2013, p. 0, Stuart Woledge

[Article](#)

Foreign doctors working in UK face language tests

The News (Portsmouth), 07/09/2013, p. 4, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Foreign doctors face language tests

Washington Star (Web), 07/09/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Government plans for doctors language checks

Les Bonner (Blog), 07/09/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Manea: English Tests For Docs After 2008 Death?

Heart Radio London (Web), 07/09/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

BBC Asian Network, The Official Asian Download Chart, 07/09/2013

BBC Asian Network, 07/09/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

7,500 UK doctors revalidate

Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 5, Unattributed

It is reported that more than 7,500 doctors were revalidated during the first six months of the new system introduced by the GMC for relicensing, and that the GMC expects by the end of the year that up to 30,000 UK doctors will have been confirmed to have revalidated.

[Article](#)

Remediation bill to hit GPs

GP, 02/09/2013, p. 15, Marina Soteriou

GPs leaders have expressed their fears regarding NHS England's idea to cap its funding at £10,000 for doctors requiring remediation after struggling with revalidation.

[Article](#)

Medico-legal Keep professional boundaries

GP, 02/09/2013, p. 46, Dr Claire Macaulay

Dr Claire Macaulay outlines the Good Medical Practice guidelines for maintaining professional relationships with patients. She warns against improper emotional ties and advises where this may cross professional codes of conduct. A fictional case study - mentioning the GMC - is used to show what is at stake.

[Article](#)

BMA backs doctors who refuse to let patients die*The Catholic Times, 08/09/2013, p. 1, Simon Caldwell*

Guidance has been updated by the British Medical Association in connection with doctors - with Expression of Doctor's Beliefs saying it would 'support a request by a doctor seeking to exercise a conscientious objection to withdrawing life-sustaining treatment from a patient lacking capacity - ie, the patient cannot make a choice herself - where another doctor is willing to take over care.'

The article mentions that: 'It brings the BMA into line with the General Medical Council's own ruling on this issue.'

[Article](#)**DAWN BRATHWAITE INSPECTOR OF GENERAL PRACTICE BE AN OVERKILL OF ACCOUNTABILITY?***Health Service Journal, 06/09/2013, p. 16, Unattributed*

Dawn Brathwaite debates whether the introduction of a chief inspector of general practice be 'an overkill of accountability?' - and asks: 'What will the chief inspector and the CQC do to bring GPs to book when the GMC, as the ultimate regulator, is already exercising its powers to ensure patient safety is protected?'

[Article](#)**CARE OF PATIENTS***Scottish Pharmacist, 02/08/2013, p. 16, Unattributed*

Various ways have been identified by which the care of patients can be further improved by pharmaceutical care, a report headed by Dr Hamish Wilson and Professor Nick Barber has said.

[Article](#)**Q & A with the President***Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 48, Unattributed*

Ian Ritchie the President of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh addresses key issues of training, subspecialisation and gender balance. He supports the GMC's drive to accredit trainers in medicine.

[Article](#)**The President Writes***Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 12, Ian Ritchie*

Ian Ritchie the President of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh addresses key issues in the medical profession and underscores the General Medical Council's commitment to safeguarding the well-being of doctors as well as the care of patients.

[Article](#)**Report from the Trustees***Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 73, Ian Ritchie*

Ian Ritchie the President of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh addresses the changes in the service in the Annual Report for 2013. He mentions the repercussions of the Francis report and revalidation.

[Article](#)**Report from the Chief Executive***Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 76, Alison Rooney*

A report from the chief executive of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh Alison Rooney who examines key developments in surgeons' training including the possibility of the introduction of revalidation.

[Article](#)**Annual Report 2013***Surgeons' News, 01/09/2013, p. 6, Unattributed*

Ian Ritchie the President of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh addresses the changes in the service in the Annual Report for 2013. He mentions the repercussions of the Francis report and revalidation.

[Article](#)**Therapeutic lying in dementia care***Nursing Standard, 04/09/2013, p. 35, Unattributed*

Research into the sanctioning of the use of lying by people caring for dementia patients shows that in one study 96pc admitted to lying even though current GMC guidelines dissuade them from doing this.

[Article](#)**Security services needed***Birmingham Post Business Daily, 05/09/2013, p. 21, Unattributed*

The General Medical Council, Manchester, has invited tenders for a contract for security services which will last for up to two years.

[Article](#)**FITNESS TO PRACTISE****Gosport hospital deaths to get public inquiry at last***The Independent On Sunday, 08/09/2013, p. 2, Nina Lakhani*

Ministers have announced an independent inquiry is to held over the deaths of a dozen elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The patients were given "life-shortening" powerful painkillers by staff a report by Professor Richard Baker claimed. It is mentioned that: 'In 2010 the General Medical Council found Dr Jane Barton, part-time clinical assistant at Gosport between 1989 and 2000, guilty of "multiple instances of serious professional misconduct". There was widespread anger when she was placed under restrictions rather than struck off.'

[Article](#)**CPS accused of double standards***Telegraph (Web), 07/09/2013, p. 0, John Bingham*

The Crown Prosecution Service has been accused of "double standards" over abortion laws as campaign groups detailed how it

brought criminal charges against a string of pro-life protesters yet refused to prosecute doctors over illegal practices. Crucially, prosecutors said that the fact that the doctors' regulator, the General Medical Council (GMC), was prepared to investigate weighed against the need to bring criminal charges.

[Article](#)

So very pro-choice...until the choice is not to have a girl

The Sunday Times, 08/09/2013, p. 24, Dominic Lawson

Comment: Dominic Lawson discusses the Crown Prosecution Service's decision not to prosecute two doctors who offered to undertake abortions based on gender. The writer says that: 'In its initial explanation of its decision, the CPS gave as its main reason that the doctors were being investigated by the General Medical Council. This attempt at buck-passing was immediately exposed when the GMC protested it was a professional regulator, not a "substitute" for the criminal justice system.'

[Article](#)

DOCTORS are caught offering to...

The Mail on Sunday, 08/09/2013, p. 29, Peter Hitchens

[Article](#)

Dentist struck off for offering female mutilation

The Sunday Times, 08/09/2013, p. 5, Kevin Dowling

It is reported that a dentist, Omar Sheikh Mohamed Addow, has been struck off for offering to carry out female circumcision, following an exposé in The Sunday Times. It is noted that in 2000 a doctor was struck off by the General Medical Council after an investigation by Channel 4, and eight years earlier another doctor was struck off by the GMC after being exposed by the Sunday Times.

[Article](#)

SEX ASSAULT GP FACES SENTENCE

Reporter, 05/09/2013, p. 3, Unattributed

Dr Barend Delport, a GP who sexually assaulted patients, is to be sentenced on Monday. He is currently suspended by the General Medical Council, and it is expected he will be struck off after sentencing.

[Article](#)

OTHER NEWS

Hospitals fail to check their doctors despite Shipman rules

The Sunday Express, 08/09/2013, p. 6, Lucy Johnston

[Article](#)

Court told doc tried to set up false alibi in lost-wallet case

Nottingham Evening Post, 07/09/2013, p. 21, Dominic Howell

[Article](#)

Hospital 'did not listen' to family of man who died

Jersey Evening Post, 06/09/2013, p. 4, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Surgeons call for check on weekend NHS care

The Sunday Times Online, 08/09/2013, p. 1, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Could this be the end of secrecy in 'child protection'?

The Sunday Telegraph, 08/09/2013, p. 28, Christopher Booker

[Article](#)

Deaths soar as Britain turns into nation of prescription drug addicts

The Sunday Times, 08/09/2013, p. 1, Jon Ungoed-Thomas; Jack Grimston

[Article](#)

NHS trust is going under microscope

Derby Evening Telegraph, 07/09/2013, p. 6, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Inspectors revisit hospital following damning report

The Herald (Plymouth), 07/09/2013, p. 6, Sophie Taylor

[Article](#)

Probe into standard of care at hospital

Shropshire Star (County), 05/09/2013, p. 4, Joseph Masi

[Article](#)

Josh is young, fit and well... so why is he fighting for the right to end his life?

The Mail on Sunday, 08/09/2013, p. 64, Sadie Nicholas

[Article](#)

Hundreds of thousands of elderly people abused by carers or relatives

The Observer, 08/09/2013, p. 5, Daniel Boffey

Article**Carers abuse hundreds of thousands of elderly**

The Observer, 08/09/2013, p. 10, Daniel Boffey

Article**No ringing endorsement for presumed consent on body parts**

Powys County Times & Express, 06/09/2013, p. 10, Unattributed

Article


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Health News

Gosport hospital deaths to get public inquiry at last

Ten years after a 'death audit' was triggered by claims of opiate overuse, ministers are set to act

Nina Lakhani | Sunday 8 September 2013 00:00 BST |  0 comments



 The Gosport hospital under scrutiny

The Gosport hospital under scrutiny *PA*

An independent inquiry into the deaths of dozens of elderly patients given "life-shortening" powerful painkillers at a Hampshire hospital will be announced by ministers within weeks.

The inquiry will address the findings of a damning audit into deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital published last month, a senior government figure told *The Independent on Sunday*.

The audit by Professor Richard Baker, a patient safety expert from the University of Leicester who also worked on the Harold Shipman inquiry, found morphine and other powerful sedatives were routinely prescribed to elderly patients in Gosport between 1988 and 2000, even if they were not in pain.

A "remarkably high" proportion of patients were given opiate injections before death, the Baker report states. The "routine" use of these powerful drugs "almost certainly shortened the lives of some patients", some of whom might have survived their illness and been "discharged from hospital alive".

Professor Baker's recommendations included investigations into individual deaths, and a study of shift patterns to ascertain whether deaths were linked to particular nurses and doctors.

Serious concerns about the liberal use of opiates among elderly patients at Gosport were first reported by nurses in 1991, but continued for another decade. Complaints from families in 1998 eventually led to three police investigations, 11 belated inquests and a professional misconduct hearing.

The Baker report was suppressed by the Department of Health for almost 10 years on the grounds that it could interfere with these proceedings. The report has reignited families' calls for an independent inquiry into the deaths and subsequent "flawed" investigations which were mired by delays.

The senior source said an inquiry should also examine confidential documents held by the police, Crown Prosecution Service, NHS and government departments, so relatives' outstanding questions and cover-up allegations could



News



At least two forensic medical experts who investigated the deaths on behalf of Hampshire Police a decade ago have spoken to government officials in recent weeks.

Norman Lamb, Minister for Care and Support, who in opposition campaigned for a Shipman-style public inquiry into the Gosport deaths in this newspaper, said in a statement yesterday: "I am exploring options for how we can establish all the facts in relation to this scandal. I am deeply concerned by the findings off the Baker report." He added: "I am also conscious that a lot of documents remain unpublished. I want openness so we can establish all of the facts."

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Hampshire Police were first contacted in August 1998 by Gillian Mackenzie reporting the death of her mother Gladys Richards, 91, who was prescribed morphine despite "no obvious signs of pain".

or

Professor Brian Livesley, an expert in elderly care called in by the police, concluded: "As a result of being given these drugs, Mrs Richards was unlawfully killed." Treasury counsel took the view that his assertions were "flawed in respect of his analysis of the law". In August 2001 the CPS said there was insufficient evidence for a successful prosecution.

On

The Baker "death audit" was commissioned by the Chief Medical Officer in 2002 as another police investigation – this time into 92 "suspicious" deaths at the hospital – got underway. A team of medical and forensic experts reported

10/20/2015

Gosport hospital deaths to get public inquiry at last | Health News | Lifestyle | The Independent

"serious concerns" about 15 per cent of the deaths to the police, and expected charges to be brought on the strength of the medical evidence. The CPS closed the case in 2007.

In 2009 an inquest jury found that painkillers and other sedatives were "inappropriately" prescribed to five patients which contributed to their deaths. In 2010 the General Medical Council found Dr Jane Barton, part-time clinical assistant at Gosport between 1989 and 2000, guilty of "multiple instances of serious professional misconduct". There was widespread anger when she was placed under restrictions rather than struck off. Ms Barton, who insisted she always acted in the best interest of patients, removed herself from the medical register a year later.

Mrs Mackenzie last night said: "After all these years of fighting, I would welcome an independent inquiry. Not just into the deaths, but also into how the police behaved and why crucial evidence was not permitted at the inquests, the GMC and to the CPS, so that finally we will know everything."

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