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From: Code A
Sent: 06 November 2009 09:53
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 6th November 2009

Press Cuttings Summary

Friday 6th November 2009

Direct Mentions

Print & Online Mentions

GP (6 November 09)

- A question and answer piece with incoming chief executive, Niall Dickson, outlines his views of GPs and the services they provide. He says that '*the case for revalidation is overwhelming*', and discusses how GPs could improve their media image, as well as relating his own first-hand experiences of GPs.
- A piece about managing 'problem patients' notes GMC guidance, stating that doctors shouldn't end a relationship with a patient solely on the basis of a complaint.
- Advice about accepting gifts from drug companies cites the GMC as a point of contact.

Healthcare Republic, reporting on the RCGP's aim to revalidate 12,000 GPs within the first year of revalidation, notes that a cohort of "early adopter" GPs who are piloting the process will be the first formally recommended for revalidation by the GMC. The full article can be read at:

http://www.healthcarerepublic.com/news/bulletin/DAILY_NEWS/article/964361/?DCMP=EMC-BreakingnewsfromHealthcareRepublic

BMA News (31 Oct 09)

- The BMA has outlined a number of reasons why medical directors should not automatically be considered as Responsible Officers for revalidation.
- A centre-page article looks at the preliminary results from the revalidation pilots and looks at the work the GMC has planned for the coming months.
- The retired member's forum column notes several issues that are being addressed with the GMC, including licensing and revalidation for those over 65 and the issue of registration fees.

Pharmaceutical Journal (31 Oct 09)

- The Law and ethics bulletin alerts pharmacists to the introduction of licences to practise on 16 November that will mean doctors who prescribe drugs will have to have a licence as well as be registered with the GMC.

Student BMA News (Nov 09)

- The BMA has launched new guidance, aimed at students on electives in resource poor countries, that notes they should not practise or advise beyond their competence. The article mentions that the guidance reminds students they are under an obligation to maintain GMC standards at all times.
- The BMA says that medical students are considering applying for foundation programmes overseas as EU laws mean UK places cannot be guaranteed. Students need their foundation posts to get full GMC registration.
- There are two letters about the *Tomorrow's Doctors* guidance. The first feels the guidance is too flexible and open to interpretation.
- The second letter expresses dismay that many students are more compelled to 'tick boxes' for their achievements rather than concentrating on seeing and examining patients. The author hopes the revised guidance will encourage the latter.

- The new co-chairs of the BMA's medical students committee are introduced and it is mentioned they hope to address members' concerns to the GMC, amongst other organisations they hold positions on.

Student BMJ (Nov 09)

- An article about professionalism, mentions that the GMC has issued guidance saying doctors should dress in an "appropriate and professional way" (despite studies saying patients did not rate this as important), that most complaints to the GMC are about doctor's behaviour and not a lack of knowledge and that the GMC will collaborate on a road show to medical schools on this issue over the next three years.
- A piece about by doctor living with mental health difficulties asks if she should have been given more support through her training.

The *East Anglian Daily Times* reports that Ipswich-based GP, Sally Whale, will appear before a GMC investigation committee next week.

The News (Portsmouth) continues to report on developments around relatives' call for a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The relatives are supported by Norman Lamb MP, having met him to discuss the case yesterday.

Your Society notes that Pharmaceutical Society lay member Judith Worthington is a chair of GMC fitness to practise panels.

Broadcast Mentions

BBC One Northern Ireland, BBC Foyle and BBC Ulster both report on the fitness to practise hearing last week of Dr Jarlath O'Donohoe (guilty of Serious Professional Misconduct and given a reprimand).

Letters pages

There are no letters to note.

Other News

The Daily Telegraph features a news item about limits on how the European Working Time Directive impacts upon surgeons' training hours. John Black, president of the Royal College of Surgeons is quoted, and cites a BMJ article which states that "complications and readmissions increase when restrictions are placed on how long surgeons can work".

Headlines:

GMC

BMA News

Delivery date : 31/10/2009

Number of words : 277

Revalidation conflict of interest fears

Medical directors should not automatically be put in charge of revalidation, the BMA has warned. Notes the GMC.

GMC

BMA News

Delivery date : 31/10/2009

Number of words : 958

Revalidation pilots come in as take-off nears

With the first stage of revalidation due to start in two weeks' time, the results of the first pilots of the system are starting to arrive. Lisa Pritchard reports, noting the GMC.

Doctors

Daily Telegraph

Report on working hours and mental health needs among the GP profession. The GMC Good Medical Practice document is listed as reference.

GMC

Student BMJ

Delivery date : 05/11/2009

Number of words : 1625

Medical professionalism

Report on the topical subject of professionalism in medicine. Mention is made of the GMC code that states students and doctors should dress in an "appropriate and professional way".

GMC

Student BMJ

Delivery date : 05/11/2009

Number of words : 946

INFLUENZA VACCINATION

Report on the flu vaccination for healthcare workers. Mention is made of GMC guidance regarding serious communicable disease.

GMC

The News

Delivery date : 04/11/2009

Number of words : 336

Hospital deaths: MP's inquiry call

Norman Lamb is to demand the government launches a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Mr Lamb said: "The statutory bodies from the hospital itself, Hampshire police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the General Medical Council, appear to have singularly failed to bring justice to the relatives of the victims who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital all those years ago."

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

Delivery date : 06/11/2009

Number of words : 425

EU limits on surgeons' hours 'harms training'

New limits on surgeons' working hours will harm their training and place patients at risk, experts have warned.

GMC

East Anglian Daily Times

Delivery date : 05/11/2009

Number of words : 154

GP is to fight complaint

Dr Sally Whale, an Ipswich GP, is to set to fight a complaint made against her at a General Medical Council conduct hearing next Wednesday.

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 06/11/2009

Number of words : 690

How the next GMC leader sees GPs

Interview with King's Fund boss Niall Dickson, who becomes GMC chief executive in January.

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 06/11/2009

Number of words : 493

Managing the nonconcordant patient

Report on managing non-concordant patients. Mention is made of the GMC publication - Consent: Patients and Doctors Making Decisions Together.

GMC

GP Magazine

Delivery date : 06/11/2009

Number of words : 301

In a nutshell... ding company gifts

GPs sometimes ask the MDU how they can ensure that any gifts or sponsorship offered by pharmaceutical companies do not influence their decision making. Mention is made of the GMC guide 'Good Medical Practice, 2006.

GMC

Pharmaceutical Journal

Delivery date : 31/10/2009

Number of words : 7835

Council's response to BRM resolutions

Report detailing the findings of the October meeting of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Notes the GMC.

GMC

Pharmaceutical Journal

Delivery date : 31/10/2009

Number of words : 1482

What Council members designate say

Vox pop of pharmacists, including the chairman of the General Medical Council's fitness to practise panel.

GMC

Pharmaceutical Journal
Delivery date : 31/10/2009
Number of words : 1129

Get ready for revalidation in pharmacy

Feature looking at revalidation for pharmacists, mentioning GMC guidance.

GMC

Student BMA News
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 217

Tick-box culture fails students

Correspondence regarding an article on clinical practice. Mention is made of the GMC document 'Tomorrow's Doctors'.

GMC

Student BMA News
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 136

Perils of micro-management

Comment: "I believe the GMC has complicated issues with its updated version of Tomorrow's Doctors."

GMC

Student BMA News
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 503

Elective guidance highlights fitness-to-practise clangers

New BMA guidance has warned that students on electives must never put their educational interests ahead of their patients' health needs. Mention is made of students' obligations to maintain GMC standards at all times.

GMC

Student BMA News
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 288

Training job doubts exacerbate stress

The BMA has warned that medical students are experiencing increased stress levels due to uncertainty about foundation programme applications. It says medical students have to secure UK foundation programme places before they can gain full GMC registration and pass into specialty training, but EU laws mean UK graduates cannot be guaranteed places.

GMC

Student BMA News
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 315

STUDENT BMA VIEW - CO-CHAIRS

Those elected to lead the BMA medical students committee this year express their honour and privilege. Tom Foley, a Newcastle final-year graduate-entry student, holds a position with the GMC, among others.

GMC

Student BMJ
Delivery date : 05/11/2009
Number of words : 961
Give us a break

Source: <http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/hospital-deaths-mp-s-inquiry-call-1-1242241>

Hospital deaths: MP's inquiry call

11:32 Wednesday 04 November 2009

A top MP is to demand the government launches a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

Lib Dem shadow health minister Norman Lamb yesterday met families of those who died at the Bury Road hospital during the 1990s.

ADVERTISING

He said: 'Having listened to what the relatives have had to say, I'm absolutely clear in my own mind that there is a case to answer here.'

'I am therefore going to push for a public inquiry so that all the facts can be put on the table.'

The grieving families have been calling for an inquiry into their loved ones' deaths.

But Mr Lamb said 'systematic failures' had prevented them from getting justice.

'The statutory bodies from the hospital itself, Hampshire police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the General Medical Council, appear to have singularly failed to bring justice to the relatives of the victims who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital all those years ago,' he said.

'I am so appalled by what has happened. I am also considering raising questions in the House of Commons.'

The relatives say the meeting with Mr Lamb at Westminster has given them hope.

Gillian Mackenzie, whose 91-year-old mother Gladys Richards died at the hospital in 1998, said: 'We are so pleased with how the meeting went. It was very encouraging.'

'I feel very positive about it now and I think finally we have got someone who can really help us.'

'Perhaps now with Mr Lamb's help we can get this public inquiry.'

The relatives are also calling for a criminal prosecution to be brought against Dr Jane Barton, the clinical assistant in charge of the day-to-day running of Dryad and Daedalus wards where the patients died.

Mr Lamb has said he will also back this and will be writing to Hampshire Constabulary and demanding they move forward with their latest inquiry, so the CPS can pursue a prosecution.