

46923852

Code A

1907

From: Code A
Sent: 09 June 2009 10:15
To: Press Cuttings
Subject: Press Cuttings - 9 June 2009

Press Cuttings Summary

Tuesday 9 June 2009

Direct Mentions

Print Mentions

Healthcare Republic and *Pulse* both report on the 16 November deadline for all GPs to be licensed. The Press Office will correct the reference to the deadline.

<http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=23&storycode=4122934&c=2>

<http://www.healthcarerepublic.com/news/GP/LatestNews/911619/November-deadline-set-GPs-licensed/>

The Daily Mail, *Daily Telegraph*, *Metro* and *The Sun* report on the fitness to practise hearing of Dr Jane Barton.

The Liverpool Echo reports on Dr Malcolm Darley who was cleared of storing obscene images of children. The article mentions that the doctor is currently suspended by the GMC.

The Manchester Evening News reports on the recovery of former soccer star Colin Hendry's wife following surgery to correct botched liposuction. The article mentions that a number of people had complained to the GMC about Gustav Aniansson and that the doctor has since asked for his name to be removed from the GMC register.

A woman is planning legal action against GP Dr Munir Butt after her baby son's circumcision went wrong. The article reports that the GMC is investigating. (*The Sentinel*)

A further article in *The Sentinel* reports how paediatric surgeon Shiban Ahmed, who repaired the baby's circumcision, has been suspended from his job. The article says that 'although no reasons have been given, the move came after he reported the trust to the Healthcare Commission'. The article mentions that the family have reported the GP, Dr Munir Butt to the GMC.

The Scotsman reports how a woman is calling for tougher penalties for doctors after figures reveal that 99 doctors in Scotland have sanctions on their records. The article reports on sanctions imposed by the GMC and a doctor who was issued with a warning. A quote from the GMC says 'The vast majority of doctors are good doctors working in often difficult conditions. Of the 19,910 doctors with a registered address in Scotland only a small numbers have sanctions on their registration.'

The Scotsman reports on the work of the Medical Protection Society (MPS) who has just opened its first office north of the border. The article refers briefly to the GMC.

Broadcast Mentions

BBC Radio 4 '6 O' Clock' news programme mentioned the Dr Jane Barton hearing. There is also widespread regional coverage.

Times Letters page and GMC published responses

There are two letters in *The Times* about euthanasia. The first claims that our attentions should be directed to 'improving palliative care' and that 'wherever euthanasia has been legalised, palliative care has diminished, as can be

seen by the experience of the Netherlands and Oregon'. A second letter claims that 'Lord Falconer's amendment would totally undermine the law and would protect the very people most likely to become abusers'.

Other News

The Daily Telegraph reports that the BBC has paid more than £1 million following a libel battle over claims made in a Panorama programme about IVF doctor Mohammed Taranissi.

An article in the *Daily Telegraph* mentions how under a proposed amendment to legislation going through parliament, people who help their terminally ill loved ones to die would be prosecuted for manslaughter not murder.

The Guardian features a number of comments on people's views on the MMR vaccine.

The *South Wales Echo* reports on the Archbishop of Cardiff who condemned attempts to change the law on euthanasia as "morally wrong".

Headlines:

End of Life

South Wales Echo

Delivery date : 05/06/2009

Number of words : 329

Archbishop criticises bid to alter euthanasia law

The Archbishop of Cardiff yesterday condemned "morally wrong" attempts to change the law on euthanasia. The Most Reverend Peter Smith criticised an amendment to a Bill going through Parliament which would protect families and friends from prosecution if they helped a terminally ill patient travel abroad to a suicide clinic.

GMC

Liverpool Echo

Delivery date : 05/06/2009

Number of words : 250

Kerb-crawling doc cleared of child porn rap

Dr Malcolm Darley has been cleared of storing obscene images of children but still faces a General Medical Council disciplinary hearing.

GMC

Manchester Evening News

Delivery date : 06/06/2009

Number of words : 606

I'm praying for my brave Denise

Colin Hendry has told how he prays every night for his critically-ill wife to win her fight for life after surgery to correct botched liposuction. Mention is made of the General Medical Council.

GMC

The Sentinel

Delivery date : 05/06/2009

Number of words : 329

MUM TO SUE GP OVER OP

A Muslim mother is planning legal action against a GP after her baby son Naveed's circumcision went wrong. The General Medical Council and Kirklees Primary Care Trust, which covers Dr Butt's surgery, have confirmed they are investigating medical issues relating to Naveed's treatment.

Doctors

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 308

BBC to pay £1m after libel battle with IVF doctor

The BBC has paid more than £1m following a libel battle over claims made in a Panorama programme about Mohamed Taranissi, the fertility doctor. Mr Taranissi, who is said to have helped mothers give birth to 2,300 babies through in-vitro fertilisation, accused the BBC of

defaming his techniques.

GMC

The Sentinel

Delivery date : 06/06/2009

Number of words : 436

Surgeon suspended after reporting trust

The hospital specialist who repaired a baby's circumcision his parents claim was botched by a private clinic has been suspended from his job, it emerged today. She has also complained about him to the General Medical Council and the ordeal has prompted her to launch a campaign to have the procedure.

End of Life

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 355

Move to make aiding suicide manslaughter, not murder

People who help their terminally ill loved ones to die as a "mercy killing" would be prosecuted for manslaughter not murder, under a proposed amendment to legislation going through Parliament. The amendment to the new Coroners and Justice Bill has been put forward by **Code A** who has campaigned for voluntary euthanasia in the past.

GMC

The Sentinel

Delivery date : 05/06/2009

Number of words : 894

Angry mum wants NHS policy change

Muslim mother-of-three Faiqa Akram is launching a campaign to have religious circumcisions on the NHS. Her child Naveed needs to have a second corrective operation after his circumcision went wrong. Mrs Akram has already made a complaint about Dr Munir Butt, who carried out the operation, to the General Medical Council. And Huddersfield-based Kirklees NHS Primary Care Trust, which takes in Dr Butt's main GP practice, is also looking into the complaint.

GMC

Daily Mail

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 487

Doctor accused over death of 12 patients

Twelve elderly patients died after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by the same doctor, a disciplinary hearing was told yesterday.

End of Life

The Times

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 186

Euthanasia and abuse

Sir, Lord Falconer of Thoroton's amendment is not a simple clause to protect people's rights (Opinion, June 3). If passed it would mean that the House of Lords accepts the principle of assisted suicide.

GMC

Metro

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 131

Doctor: I drugged patients

A doctor yesterday admitted prescribing 'potentially hazardous' doses of painkillers to elderly patients. Jane Barton told a disciplinary hearing she gave nurses 'too wide' a range of morphine dosages to give to patients. Tom Kark, bringing the case for the General Medical Council, said: 'Many patients described in the nurses' notes as calm and peaceful were in drug-induced comas. There was a series of failures that led to patients being over medicated and unnecessarily anaesthetised.'

GMC

Daily Telegraph

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 205

Doctor gave drugs to elderly in 'potentially hazardous' doses

A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers to elderly patients who later died. Dr Jane Barton has been accused at a disciplinary hearing of a series of failings over the treatment of 12 patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire in the late 1990s. She told a General Medical Council panel that she had given instructions for doses of drugs which were "too wide".

GMC

The Guardian

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 417

On MMR vaccination

Last week, a leading doctor called for school admission to be tied to vaccination, following measles outbreaks. The British Medical Association will debate the issue later this month.

GMC

The Scotsman

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 698

'Killer drugs GP should be struck off'

THE daughter of a woman who died after being given the wrong prescription from her GP is calling for tougher penalties as new figures reveal 99 doctors in Scotland have sanctions on their records.

GMC

The Scotsman

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 1148

Group aims to help patients and doctors

"Few out to so go tragedy as well" Dr Robert WHEN something goes wrong when someone is in the care of

GMC

The Sun

Delivery date : 09/06/2009

Number of words : 60

Doc gave overdose

A doctor yesterday admitted giving "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers to terminally ill or old patients. Dr Jane Barton faces 15 charges relating to the deaths of 12 patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Portsmouth, Hants, in the 1990s.

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

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/5476889/Patients-died-after-doctor-prescribed-potentially-hazardous-doses.html>

Patients died after doctor prescribed 'potentially hazardous' doses

A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers to elderly patients who later died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.



Dr Jane Barton Photo: PA

By Kate Devlin, Medical Correspondent

2:22PM BST 08 Jun 2009

Dr Jane Barton is accused at a disciplinary hearing of a series of failings over the treatment of 12 patients at the hospital in Hampshire in the late 1990s.

She told a General Medical Council (GMC) panel that she had given instructions for doses of drugs which were "too wide".

The prescriptions meant that 11 patients were at risk of receiving "potentially hazardous" doses, she admitted.

The doctor, who now works as a GP in Gosport, also failed to get advice when the condition of five of the patients deteriorated.

She faces charges of serious professional misconduct for "excessive" prescribing of painkilling drugs.

ADVERTISING

Dr Barton was the only doctor at the hospital to be investigated over the deaths but she was not charged with any criminal offences.

She was in day-to-day charge of the former Daedalus and Dryad wards, where the patients died between 1996 and 1999.

Earlier this year an inquest into the deaths of 10 patients at the hospital ruled that drugs given to five elderly people at the hospital contributed to their deaths.

Robert Wilson, Elsie Devine and Geoffrey Packman were given medication that was not appropriate for their conditions that contributed to their deaths, an inquest jury ruled.

The panel at Portsmouth Coroner's Court also found that medication had contributed to the death of Elsie Lavender and Arthur Cunningham (known as Brian) but had been given for therapeutic reasons and was appropriate for their condition.

They ruled that medication had not contributed to the deaths of the other five patients, Leslie Pittock, Helena Service, Ruby Lake, Enid Spurgin and Sheila Gregory.

Dr Barton faces 15 charges relating to her treatment of the 10 patients and two others, including allegations of poor record keeping and a failure to assess patients properly before prescribing potent drugs.

She has admitted that the dosage prescribed for 11 of the 12 patients was "potentially hazardous" and that she failed to keep clear, accurate and timely notes.

But she denies serious professional misconduct.

The hearing continues.