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General Medical Council

Fitness to Practise Panel Planned dates: 8 June – 21 August 2009 Regent's Place, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3JN

The Fitness to Practise Panel will meet at Regent's Place, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3JN to consider one new case of conduct.

This case will be considered by a Fitness to Practise Panel applying the General Medical Council's Preliminary Proceedings Committee and Professional Conduct Committee (Procedure) Rules 1988.

Please note that Thursday 18 June and Tuesday 23 July 2009 are non-sitting days.

Dr Jane Ann BARTON GMC Reference Number: 1587920

Area of practice: Gosport, Hampshire

The Fitness to Practise Panel will inquire into allegations against Jane Ann Barton, a medical practitioner, relating to her treatment of 12 patients whilst working as a clinical assistant in elderly medicine at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, Hampshire between January 1996 and November 1999.

It is alleged that Dr Barton prescribed drugs, including Diamorphine and Midazolam, to be administered to the patients and that in each instance the dose range was too wide and the prescriptions created situations whereby drugs could be administered which were excessive to the patients' needs. It is further alleged that Dr Barton's actions in prescribing the drugs were inappropriate, potentially hazardous and not in the patients' best interests.

The Panel will also inquire into allegations that, in respect of four patients, the lowest doses or lowest commencing doses of Diamorphine and Midazolam that Dr Barton prescribed were too high. It is further alleged that on four separate occasions Dr Barton did not obtain the advice of a colleague when a patient's condition deteriorated.

The Panel will further inquire into allegations that Dr Barton failed to appropriately assess the condition of the 12 patients before prescribing opiates and that she did not keep clear, accurate and contemporaneous notes in relation to the patients' care.

We cannot guarantee that all those wishing to attend the hearing will be able to do so, as seating is limited. If you plan to attend the hearing please email the GMC press office <u>press@gmc</u>-uk.org. In the event that we have to allocate seats those people who have notified the press office will be seated before others.

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