

Code A

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 11 April 2013 08:54  
**Subject:** Daily Media Summary - Thursday 11 April 2013

2009

**ALL COVERAGE**[All Articles](#)**DIRECT MENTIONS / TOP STORIES****GMC social media advice 'does not restrict free speech'***GP Online (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Neil Roberts*

The General Medical Council has clarified its position on guidance for doctors using social media after 4,000 people signed a petition against the suggestion that doctors should not blog or tweet anonymously. The GMC said that while it was good practice to identify themselves when commenting on medical issues, it was not interested in the use of social media in their personal lives.

[Article](#)**Doctors freedom of speech is intact says regulator***OnMedica.net (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

The General Medical Council has clarified its advice to doctors on use of social media after doctors responded saying that it placed 'draconian restrictions' on free speech. Jane O'Brien, head of standards and ethics with the GMC, has written a clarification on the GMC's Facebook page.

[Article](#)**The death of the GP blogger? How new GMC guidance on doctors writing anonymously has divided the profession***Pulse Today (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*[Article](#)**GMC social media guidance prevents free speech***Hospital Dr News (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

Comment: An anonymous doctor discusses the General Medical Council's new guidelines for doctors using social media, saying that most of the advice is sensible or obvious, but that the guidance on not using pseudonyms prevents free speech and freedom of expression.

[Article](#)**New GMC guidance on anonymity is a control mechanism***Pulse Today (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*[Article](#)**A good month for...***Pulse, 01/04/2013, p. 13, Unattributed*

The General Medical Council has announced that the independent review into the MRCGP exam will be led by Professor Aneez Esmail of the University of Manchester. The review will consider allegations of racial bias in the exam.

[Article](#)**Doctors and others: reflections on the first Francis Report***Clinical Medicine, 01/04/2013, p. 132, Unattributed*

John Sounders, on behalf of the Royal College of Physicians, writes an extended response to the Francis Report. The report has been quoted in Parliament by Code A who said that the General Medical Council would be expected to ensure that failure to act is regarded as a serious breach of professional obligation.

[Article](#)**Eight In Ten Doctors Are Concerned Online Medical Records Will Increase Workload, MPS Survey Reveals***MediLexicon (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

A survey by the Medical Protection Society has found that the majority of doctors think that online records will mean spending more time explaining them to patients. It is suggested that doctors reduce their use of clinical jargon and shorthand, but they are reminded that if they adopt such an approach, they should be mindful of their professional duties, including the General Medical Council's Good Medical Practice guidelines on record keeping.

[Article](#)**A bad month for...***Pulse, 01/04/2013, p. 13, Unattributed*

The General Medical Council has said there may be a reduction in its finances of up to £2.3m this year due to doctors choosing not to renew their licences following the introduction of revalidation.

[Article](#)**Extra lawyers hired to fight rising claims against doctors**



*OnMedica.net (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

The Medical Defence Union has taken on extra staff to deal with an unprecedented level of complaints against dentists and doctors. The newly expanded team will deal with a range of legal issues, including complaints to the General Medical Council and General Dental Council.

[Article](#)

### **WELFARE REFORM FEARS Open letter plea**

*Morecambe Visitor, 09/04/2013, p. 21, Unattributed*

Letter: Michelle Brown and Laura Clayson write to inform readers of an open letter they have sent to the Government regarding welfare reforms. They suggest that the Work Capability Assessment is nonsensical, adding that the General Medical Council has described it as a meaningless tick-box exercise.

[Article](#)

### **'Chronic lack' of consultants puts lives of children at risk**

*The Times, 11/04/2013, p. 4, Martin Barrow*

[Article](#)

### **10 Things To Consider Before Cosmetic Surgery**

*Marie Claire UK (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

Readers considering cosmetic surgery are advised to consult the General Medical Council website to to check on a surgeon they are thinking of using.

[Article](#)

## **FITNESS TO PRACTISE**

### **Patient, 91, 'condemned to death by medication'**

*The Argus, 10/04/2013, p. 6, Siobhan Ryan*

The daughter of Gladys Richards, who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in 1998, has said her mother was 'condemned to death' by the medication that she was given. Following a previous inquest into the deaths of ten other patients, the General Medical Council ruled that Dr Jane Barton was guilty of multiple instances of professional misconduct including use of inappropriate drugs.

[Article](#)

### **Dr Jane Barton asked for register removal**

*The News (Portsmouth), 10/04/2013, p. 5, Unattributed.*

[Article](#)

### **RUTTER:ANAESTHETIST SLAMMED OVER 'DERELICTION OF DUTY'**

*Court News UK (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

A consultant anaesthetist has been accused by the General Medical Council of failing to provide good clinical care to two patients who later died. Dr Geoffrey Rutter faces a series of charges relating to his treatment of six patients.

[Article](#)

### **Doc accused of failings**

*Ayrshire Post, 05/04/2013, p. 3, Unattributed*

Dr Huntly McCallum is to face a Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service fitness to practice hearing over a number of allegations that he failed in his care towards two patients.

[Article](#)

## **MID-STAFFORDSHIRE INQUIRY**

### **After Francis, what next for the NHS?**

*British Medical Journal (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

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### **GPs must act as 'guarantors' for quality of hospital care, says Dorrell**

*Pulse Today (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

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### **Inquiries alone will not tackle failures of care**

*Health Service Journal (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

### **Leeds heart unit campaigners urge for investigation**

*Health Service Journal (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

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### **Campaigner makes the news on gagging orders**

*Chester Chronicle, 11/04/2013, p. 22, David Holmes*



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**Care assistants 'want register'**

*BBC (Web), 11/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

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**Care workers 'need register'**

*The Times, 11/04/2013, p. 24, Chris Smyth*

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**OTHER NEWS**

**GPs fear legal threat and rising workload as records go online**

*GP Online (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Neil Roberts*

[Article](#)

**NHS budget cuts force GP surgery to close, others 'critical'**

*Western Morning News (Devon), 11/04/2013, p. 5, Phil Goodwin*

[Article](#)

**Earlier retirement for GPs**

*PensionCalculator.org (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Mix-up blamed for delay in seeing GP**

*The Sentinel (Stoke On Trent), 10/04/2013, p. 3, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Daughters blame doctor for death of their mother**

*The News (Portsmouth), 10/04/2013, p. 5, Priya Mistry*

[Article](#)

**Doctor cleared of surgery sex allegations**

*Yorkshire Evening Post (Leeds Edition), 10/04/2013, p. 22, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Questions over heart unit fiasco**

*The Press, 06/04/2013, p. 18, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Inquiry into 'catastrophic failings' of 111 NHS helpline**

*The Daily Telegraph, 11/04/2013, p. 10, Laura Donnelly*

[Article](#)

**Surgeon in fatal bungle 'felt pressure to reduce delays'**

*The Times, 11/04/2013, p. 15, Chris Smyth*

[Article](#)

**Doc admits to mistake in op death**

*The Daily Mirror, 11/04/2013, p. 27, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Just what the doctors ordered... a GBP40k loan**

*Islington Tribune, 05/04/2013, p. 6, Andrew Johnson*

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**GPs take charge of £320m NHS budget**

*Evesham Observer, 05/04/2013, p. 3, Rob George*

[Article](#)

**Now it's over to you doc...**

*The Press (Dewsbury), 05/04/2013, p. 5, Unattributed*

[Article](#)

**Parents say docs failed dying tot'**

*Surrey Comet, 05/04/2013, p. 9, James Pepper*

[Article](#)

**Family doctors now in charge of NHS commissioning**

*Slough & South Bucks Express, 05/04/2013, p. 16, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**Baby gender court case**

*Daily Express (Scotland)\*, 11/04/2013, p. 23, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**For 9 years docs led me to think my tragic baby girl was a boy**

*Daily Record, 11/04/2013, p. 14, Ashlie Mcanally*  
[Article](#)

**Review set up after death of babies**

*The Press, 06/04/2013, p. 6, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**Hospital: Our five former employees are 'not gagged'**

*Surrey Comet, 05/04/2013, p. 2, Jon Sharman*  
[Article](#)

**NHS staff morale 'all time low'**

*Largs & Millport Weekly News, 03/04/2013, p. 23, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**Doctor failed to treat patient's cancer, inquiry told**

*Irish Times (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**Abortion case medic admits failures**

*Belfast Telegraph (Web), 10/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*  
[Article](#)

**Doctor missed signs of my cancer, patient treated for flu tells inquiry**

*Irish Independent, 11/04/2013, p. 18, Unattributed*  
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## **Precise.**

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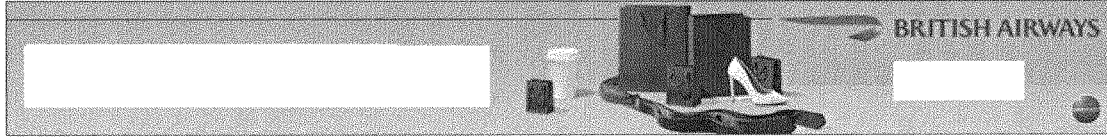
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Open Evening on Thursday 12th November from 6.30-8pm at Seaford College.

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## Eastbourne patient, 91, 'condemned to death by medication'



Eastbourne parliamentary campaigner Stephen Lloyd and Gillian Mackenzie

Siobhan Ryan, Health Reporter / Wednesday 10 April 2013 / News

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The daughter of an elderly woman who died at a heavily criticised hospital nearly 15 years ago has said her mother was "condemned to death" by the medication she was given.

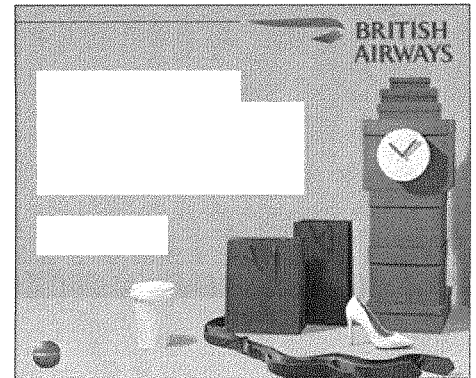
Gillian Mackenzie, from Eastbourne, was speaking at the inquest into the death of Gladys Richards.

Mrs Richards, 91, was taken to Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) in Hampshire in August 1998 for recuperation from a hip operation after she had a fall.

After developing a haematoma, Mrs Richards was given diamorphine administered through a syringe driver – a device which continuously administers drugs – and died five days later, the inquest was told.

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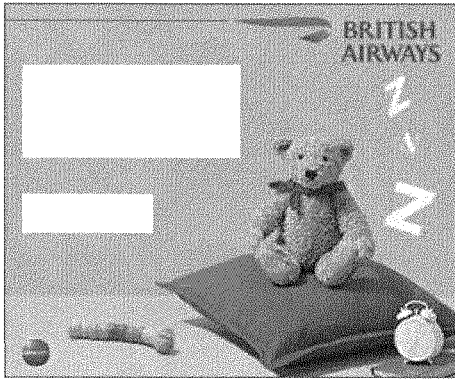
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Her daughters, Mrs Mackenzie and Lesley O'Brien, have for several years campaigned for a full inquest.

A previous inquest, specially authorised by then Justice Secretary Jack Straw, was held in 2009 into the deaths of 10 other patients at the same hospital, all in the late 1990s.

The jury found that medication contributed to the deaths of five of the patients and that three of these were given "unsuitable medication".

The General Medical Council has also ruled that Dr Jane Barton, who has since retired, was guilty of multiple instances of professional misconduct relating to 12 patients who died at the hospital.

Mrs Mackenzie 79, told the inquest how her mother, who had dementia, had a hip operation at Royal Haslar Hospital in Gosport and was transferred to GWMH for rehab.

Mrs Mackenzie told that medical staff said that her mother was not well enough to undergo treatment for the haematoma.

She said she was told by nurse manager Philip Beed: "I am going to make her life easier by giving her a shot of diamorphine."

Mrs Mackenzie said: "I said: 'No you will not. Are you talking about a case of euthanasia, as I will not tolerate euthanasia?'"

She added: "If they are giving diamorphine to someone who is nowhere near to death, why else is it? It's Philip Beed who told us she was dying and the kindest thing to do was give her a pain-free death and put her on a syringe driver."

Hampshire Police has conducted a criminal investigation into the deaths of 92 elderly patients at GWMH but no prosecutions were brought.

The inquest continues.

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