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Sent: 17 April 2013 08:49
To: Code A
Subject: Daily Media Summary - Wednesday 17 April 2013

General Medical Council

ALL COVERAGE

[All Articles](#)

GPs 'better prepared for revalidation' than hospital doctors

GP Online (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Marina Soteriou

GPs are 'more ready' for revalidation than secondary care doctors but workload pressures mean they struggle to find time to take part in CPD, a GMC-backed report shows. GMC chairman Professor Sir Peter Rubin said: 'Revalidation ensures that all doctors take part in professional development but we need to have the time and space to undertake CPD, then be enabled to reflect on what we have learned and put it into our day to day practice.'

[Article](#)

Employers must better support doctors' professional development

Hospital Dr (Blog), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

Employers need to do more to support all doctors in their professional development, the GMC has claimed. The study - based on 60 interviews with a variety of organisations - suggests there is a lack of support for locums, doctors outside training grades and some of those employed in the independent sector.

[Article](#)

Doctors need more support with CPD

OnMedica.net (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

CPD must not be in isolation - GMC

National Health Executive (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

'Little evidence' CPD improves performance, finds GMC report

Pulse Today (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

PHE to establish revalidation process

Community Practitioner (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) is developing a system of professional revalidation - similar to that of doctors - for all non-medical public health consultants and specialists. The GMC will revalidate doctors based on a recommendation received from Professor Anthony Kessel, the Responsible Officer (RO) for PHE.

[Article](#)

The case for licensing bankers

LabourList.org (Blog), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

Comment: If an incompetent doctor puts at risk the wellbeing of a patient, they could be struck off. If a banker jeopardises the health of their firm, then they should face the same sanction. Reckless traders should be held accountable by a licensing panel that is ready to intervene, just as it does in other industries, such as the General Medical Council for doctors and the Bar Council ethical practice committees for barristers.

[Article](#)

BOMSS unveils standards for professional care and ethics

Bariatric News (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The British Obesity and Metabolic Surgery Society (BOMSS) has released two new documents outlining professionals standards aimed at helping surgeons achieve the highest possible level of conduct in bariatric practice. The BOMSS Code of Ethics is intended as a supplement to guidance contained in the General Medical Council's publication, Good Medical Practice and the Royal College of Surgeons of England's publication, Good Surgical Practice. It is adapted from the Code of Ethics of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

[Article](#)**Hospitals failing to record complaints against doctors***Barchester (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

A number of hospitals are failing to share data which could spot doctors that continue to make mistakes. Research by BBC Radio 5 Live found that while several NHS trusts had given compensation to patients after repeated allegations made against a doctor, they had not referred the complaints to the General Medical Council (GMC).

[Article](#)**Older patients 'denied treatment'***The Independent, 17/04/2013, p. 30, Unattributed*[Article](#)**Doctors talk as if we're not there, say patients***Daily Mail, 17/04/2013, p. 23, Sophie Borland*[Article](#)**NHS medics 'ignoring us'***The Daily Mirror, 17/04/2013, p. 16, Unattributed*[Article](#)**I got it wrong on MMR, but I wasn't to blame***The Times, 17/04/2013, p. 27, Alice Thomson*

Comment: Alice Thomson discusses Andrew Wakefield's influence through the article he published in The Lancet on MMR inoculation. She admits she was wrong on the issue and notes that Code A was struck off by the General Medical Council.

[Article](#)**'Only way to halt measles epidemic is the MMR jab'***The Times, 17/04/2013, p. 23, Chris Smyth*[Article](#)**'Balderdash' - expert's damning verdict on the latest claims of discredited MMR scaremonger Andrew Wakefield***The Independent (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

Code A the discredited doctor who sparked the MMR scare 15 years ago is blaming the government for the outbreak of measles in south Wales. Code A was struck off by the General Medical Council after a verdict that he had acted "dishonestly and irresponsibly".

[Article](#)**Discredited views on MMR***The Independent, 17/04/2013, p. 18, Unattributed*[Article](#)**The discredited doctor at the heart of the MMR scare***ITV.com (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

The Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has told MPs that the work of the Code A caused "huge damage and worry to thousands of parents". Research published by the Code A in 1998 suggested a link between the triple vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella and autism. Following an extensive investigation in 2010, the General Medical Council struck Dr Wakefield off the medical register, describing him as "dishonest", "unethical" and "callous".

[Article](#)**London's measles warning***ITV.com (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*[Article](#)**Parents urged: Give all children MMR jab***Evening Standard, 16/04/2013, p. 2, Unattributed*[Article](#)**FITNESS TO PRACTISE****CHARLES: DISABLED MAN DEALT DRUGS FROM WHEELCHAIR***Court News UK (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed*

A consultant anaesthetist is facing a ban after he risked the lives of two patients who died in hospital. Dr Geoffrey Rutter should have referred a 67-year-old to a cardiologist before operating, the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service heard.

[Article](#)**Surgeon 'just like Philpott'***The Daily Telegraph, 17/04/2013, p. 9, Unattributed*

Dr Jonathan Beacon faces being struck off by the General Medical Council over a relationship it is alleged he conducted with a patient over a 19 month period. The doctor was compared to Mick Philpott, during a hearing by the women involved.

[Article](#)**Surgeon 'as controlling as Philpott' says patient he seduced***Daily Mail, 17/04/2013, p. 32, Jaya Narain*

A General Medical Council hearing has heard how a patient compared Dr Jonathan Beacon, the doctor she had an affair with, to Mick Philpott, the jailed child killer, because of the way he influenced women.

[Article](#)**Affair doctor 'smelt awful'**

Metro, 17/04/2013, p. 23, Unattributed

A woman who had an affair with surgeon Jonathan Beacon compared him to Mick Philpott, the General Medical Council heard at a hearing. The woman says she conducted the affair because she had low self-esteem.

[Article](#)

Doctor 'could tell patient was dying'

Southern Daily Echo, 16/04/2013, p. 2, Julian Robinson

An inquest has heard how a doctor, Jane Barton, said she could tell that an elderly patient was dying by the expression on her face. The doctor, who is now retired, prescribed the painkiller diamorphine, and is disputing with the patient's family that the treatment given hastened the patient's death. It is mentioned that Dr Barton was found guilty by the General Medical Council in connection with 'multiple instances of professional misconduct relating to 12 patients'.

[Article](#)

Doctor says drugs were not used to hasten death

The News (Portsmouth), 16/04/2013, p. 5, Priya Mistry

An article considers the details of a case involving a doctor, Jane Barton, who has been giving evidence at an inquest into the death of Gladys Richards, a patient who she prescribed oramorph and diamorphine to at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. It is mentioned that a hearing by the General Medical Council took place in 2010, in which it was found that Dr Barton had prescribed 'excessive' drugs to elderly patients, though she was not removed from the register.

[Article](#)

MID STAFFORDSHIRE

BBC 2, Newsnight, 16/04/2013

BBC 2, 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The Stafford Hospital inquiry is cited during comment on patient safety in the NHS. David Dalton of Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust comments.

[Article](#)

BBC 2, Newsnight, 16/04/2013

BBC 2, 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The Stafford Hospital inquiry is cited during comment on patient safety in the NHS. Professor Donald Berwick is interviewed.

[Article](#)

Silence for care victims

The Times, 17/04/2013, p. 4, Unattributed

[Article](#)

NHS tsar: Mid Staffs scandal caused by the 'normalisation of deviance'

Telegraph (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Laura Donnelly

[Article](#)

Beware of brokers who aren't specialists

Telegraph (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Doctors discuss us as if we're not there, says one in four patients

The Daily Telegraph, 17/04/2013, p. 8, Laura Donnelly

[Article](#)

Elite teams of inspectors will target 50 NHS trusts

The Guardian, 17/04/2013, p. 8, David Brindle

[Article](#)

Don Berwick: can the global healthcare expert heal the NHS? | Sarah Boseley

guardian.co.uk (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Sarah Boseley

[Article](#)

Outspoken heart surgeon sacked from key review

Yorkshire Evening Post (Leeds Edition), 16/04/2013, p. 5, Jackblanchard

[Article](#)

GPs look for lessons as Mid Staffs goes into administration

GP Online (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Neil Roberts

[Article](#)

GPhC outlines shake-up in response to Mid Staffs report

Chemist & Druggist (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) has set out plans to gather data on patient experience and consider hotlines for whistleblowers in its response to the Francis report... The GPhC also acknowledged more needed to be done to help employees to

raise their concerns and said it would look at barriers to whistleblowing. It suggested following in the footsteps of the General Medical Council and the Care Quality Commission by introducing hotlines in an effort to tackle the problem.

[Article](#)

OTHER NEWS

Former 'heart tsar' resigns over Leeds row

The Independent, 17/04/2013, p. 25, Sam Masters

[Article](#)

Doctors' qualifications a 'lottery' for A&E patients

The Guernsey Press & Star, 15/04/2013, p. 18, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Doctor's death charge

Nuneaton Tribune, 11/04/2013, p. 10, Unattributed

[Article](#)

First trial over PIP breast implant scandal opens

The Guardian, 17/04/2013, p. 19, Angelique Chrisafis

[Article](#)

DOCTORS URGED TO END TIES WITH PRIVATE FIRMS

Southern Daily Echo, 16/04/2013, p. 11, Melanie Adams

[Article](#)

New standards body for health records

National Health Executive (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

GPhC seeking powers to carry out covert investigations

PJ Online (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

Powers to perform directed surveillance and use covert human intelligence sources (see Panel) are being sought by the General Pharmaceutical Council, after the council approved the move at its latest meeting (11 April 2013). Duncan Rudkin, chief executive of the GPhC, told PJ Online that there are stringent rules in place to ensure that, if granted, the powers would only be used in the most serious of circumstances. This would include cases of criminal behaviour where it may be difficult to otherwise obtain evidence. He said he cannot rule out the possibility that information gathered covertly will be used against individuals in fitness to practice cases.

[Article](#)

Consultant shortage puts children at risk, say medics

Express & Star (Wolverhampton), 12/04/2013, p. 21, Unattributed

[Article](#)

The bravery of whistleblowers

Dumbarton & Vale Of Leven Reporter, 09/04/2013, p. 24, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Shortages affecting acute paediatric services

Hospital Dr News (Web), 16/04/2013, p. 0, Unattributed

[Article](#)

MORE MONEY PLEDGE FOR UNSAFE HOSPITAL

Daily Mirror (Eire), 17/04/2013, p. 13, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Deaths of 813 patients linked to care mistakes or problems

Belfast Telegraph Evening, 17/04/2013, p. 14, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Healthcare Locums saga takes twist

Financial Times, 17/04/2013, p. 25, Kate Burgess

[Article](#)

Relatives to get 'clear right of objection' over organ donation

Western Mail, 17/04/2013, p. 15, Julia Mcwat

[Article](#)

600 patients waited 36 weeks for treatment

Carmarthen Journal, 17/04/2013, p. 9, Unattributed

[Article](#)

Second-lowest death rate in the country at Glenfield

Leicester Mercury, 16/04/2013, p. 4, Cathy Buss

[Article](#)

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Source: http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/10357297.Doctor___could_tell_patient_was_dying___/

Dr Jane Barton 'could tell patient Gladys Richards was dying' at Gosport Memorial War Hospital

Tuesday 16 April 2013 / [News](#)

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A DOCTOR has told an inquest how she could tell that her elderly patient was dying by the “haunted” expression on her face.

Dr Jane Barton was in charge of the care of Gladys Richards, who died at [Gosport](#) War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) in August 1998.

She told an inquest how she could tell that the 91-year-old’s body “had started to give up” in the days leading up to her death.

When asked by a coroner to explain how she could tell, the doctor said: “It is a sort of haunted, harrowed expression – body language, smell, everything. She was not just frail, she was dying.”

As previously reported, the pensioner, from [Lee-on-the-Solent](#) was originally sent to the hospital to recover from a hip operation.

She suffered a fall at GWMH and after treatment at [Haslar](#) Hospital, she returned and was given the painkiller diamorphine through a syringe driver.

She died days later, on August 21.

ADVERTISING

Earlier in the inquest, Mrs Richards’ family accused the hospital of “condemning” Mrs Richards to death.

But yesterday, Dr Barton said that the treatment she authorised was intended to relieve pain rather than to hasten her death.

She said that the additional surgery and transferral between hospitals may have been factors in reducing her chances of survival.

When being questioned by Lesley O'Brien, the daughter of Mrs Richards, Dr Barton said: "Whether or not she would survive, she still needed proper palliative care to relieve her symptoms.

"It was unlikely that having started on palliative care she would survive, but I did not hasten her death."

Dr Barton told Portsmouth Coroner's Court how it would have been "inhumane" to take Mrs Richards off diamorphine to see if her condition had improved.

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

Jurors 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 Barton, who has since retired, was guilty of multiple instances of professional misconduct relating to 12 patients who died at the hospital.

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

The inquest continues tomorrow.

Proceeding.

Source: <http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/doctor-s-medication-prescription-was-a-contributing-factor-to-pensioner-s-death-1-5007290>

Doctor's medication prescription was a contributing factor to pensioner's death

Chris Broom

chris.broom@thenews.co.uk

17:39 Wednesday 17 April 2013

MEDICATION given to a Lee-on-the-Solent patient at Gosport War Memorial Hospital contributed to her death, a coroner has ruled.

Gladys Richards had been a patient in the Daedalus ward of the hospital, and was under the care of Dr Jane Barton when she died in 1998.

ADVERTISING

Between 1996 and 1999, 12 patients died under the care of Dr Barton – including 91-year-old Mrs Richards.

This week an inquest into her death has been held at Portsmouth Guildhall.

Announcing a narrative verdict, David Horsley, the coroner for Portsmouth and South East Hampshire said: 'Mrs Richard's death was due to bronchopneumonia. Factors contributing more than significantly to her death due to bronchopneumonia were:

- Accidental falls which she sustained at Glen Heathers Nursing Home in Lee-on-the-Solent on the 29th July, 1998 and at Gosport War Memorial Hospital on August 13, 1998.
- Procedures undertaken at Haslar Hospital, Gosport to treat the injuries she suffered as a result of those falls.
- Her immobility subsequent to those procedures.
- Medication administered to her at Gosport War Memorial Hospital for the control of her pain and agitation
- Her old age, frailty and end-stage dementia.'

Mrs Richards' daughter Gillian Mackenzie, 79, of Eastbourne, approached police with concerns over her mother's care, which sparked an investigation by Hampshire Constabulary into the deaths.

Inquests of five other patients at the hospital took place in 2009, where a jury ruled drugs prescribed by Dr Barton contributed to the deaths.

A General Medical Council hearing took place in 2010, which found Dr Barton had prescribed 'excessive' drugs to elderly patients, but decided not to remove her from the register.

Mrs Richards' inquest was not included with the other five.

Mrs Mackenzie has been campaigning for almost 15 years to have the inquest.