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16th July 2009

Mr Finlay Scott
Chief Executive
General Medical Council
Regent's Place
350 Euston Road
London
NW1 3JN

Dear Mr Scott

Re: Dr Jane Barton

Having read numerous articles on Dr Barton, I feel that I must, as a patient of Dr Barton, let you know of her outstanding commitment to her patients. She has been looking after my children for the past 10 years and she has never mis-prescribed or mis-diagnosed (as other GP's have done!!). I have trusted her with the health of myself and my children and I know that a great many other patients do too. You only have to see her clinic list to see how busy she is and it is nigh on impossible to get an appointment with her.

I have to say that particularly during the time when Dr Barton was the Clinical Assistant she was one of the few doctors in Gosport I would actually trust. The standard of care in this area was seemingly very poor and the Portsmouth Health Authority were appalling. Despite her incredibly impossible workload she still ran her clinics very efficiently and effectively and despite the immense pressure she must have been under, never showed it at the surgery.

There is no way on this good green earth that Dr Barton deliberately over-prescribed or ignored patients. She did the best she could under the circumstances and she should not be blamed for the inadequacy and poor management of the Health Service. I feel very sorry for the families of those who passed away but I believe the medical staff did the best they could with the very limited resources they had available to them at the time.

No-one is perfect and I am sure you will appreciate that human beings, when working under such immense pressure, do make mistakes, despite their best intentions. I believe Dr Barton was working well beyond what is manageable on a day to day basis but her ethics as a doctor are solid and sound.

I sincerely hope the Panel will consider my comments on behalf of Dr Barton and hope that a considered and fair outcome is reached.

Yours sincerely

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