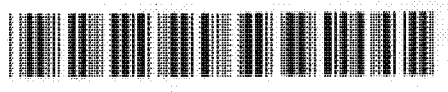




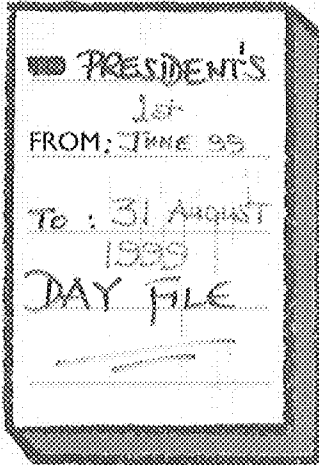
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 Subject **Correspondence**  
 Volume

Date Created **01/08/1999**



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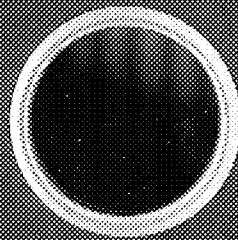
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CHOICE

CODE 1025

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The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

31 August 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your very interesting letter of 17 July. May I apologise for taking so long to reply, but the Royal Mail took over a month to deliver it to this office! It arrived here on 26 August.

It was fascinating to read your story - particularly as you worked in Ashington and had family connections with my practice.

Good luck with the organic chemistry and clinical pharmacology!

With very best wishes,

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

*The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE*

31 August 1999

**Code A**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Petersgate House  
St Petersgate  
Stockport SK1 1HE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Clinician in Management**

Thank you for your letter of 8 August – I am sorry about the delayed reply, but it did not arrive in our office until last week.

I would be very happy to continue to serve on the Editorial Board of the Clinician in Management but I am sorry that I am unable to make any of the proposed dates. The diary is awful!

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

31 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I am writing at the end of your term of office to thank you warmly for your contribution to the Council in your time as a member. Your efforts have been much appreciated and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who have worked with you on the Health Committee and the President's Advisory Committee in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

27 August 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for writing to Code A on 24 August about the conference. The Code A is away at present and has asked me to acknowledge your letter on his behalf.

Could I ask your office to let Code A know my e-mail address in case he needs to get in touch – it is Code A and I will be happy to help in any way I can.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

27 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Radiologists  
38 Portland Place  
London W1N 4JQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** about confidentiality issues relating to the publication of radiographs.

This is receiving attention and a full response will be sent to you in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Aide Memoire for** **Code A**  
**From** **Code A**  
**27 August 1999**

I thought you might appreciate a list of the speaking engagements you are due to do in the next three weeks whilst **Code A** is away on leave.

**September**

**Wednesday 8**

**Kent Local Medical Committee** – Tudor Park Marriott Hotel – Speaking to 200 GPs on Revalidation

I have arranged car to Victoria and ticket to Bearstead (one stop after Maidstone East) where you will be collected by a **Code A** (red Rover) and taken to the hotel. After you speak there is a light supper and you will then be driven to Rossetti House by taxi (they are paying).

**Thursday 9 and Friday 10**

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PASSPORT**

Nijmegen Conference – you are giving the keynote lecture '**Professionalism in Medicine; A new approach**' on Friday 10 Sept lasting 25 minutes.

All travel, hotel and currency arrangements are made and tickets are arriving on Monday 6. I have a schedule for you – but I have asked for more detail from the conference organisers.

On the first day you are being asked to speak to the heads of departments of their Medical School - title - '**The new medical professionalism; implications for medical schools**' (12.30 to 13.30) and then from 1400 you will meet with GP research fellows and again the topic will be '**The new medical professionalism**'

**Monday 13**

**Bristol Inquiry** –I have booked 1<sup>st</sup> class return rail tickets for you and **Code A**



**Wednesday 15**

1. **Joint Solutions Conference** – ~National Orthopaedic Hospital Trust (see attached schedule). I am chasing them up at the moment because we seem not to have much in the way of information and unfortunately the conference team has been on holiday for the past two weeks.
2. **Chase Farm Enfield Chace Postgraduate Medical Centre –The duties and responsibilities of being a Doctor – a view from the GMC** – in front of an audience of about 100 consultants GPs etc.

**Friday 17**

**CHMS Council Meeting** – Opportunity to address their Council on **Revalidation** (chief Executive accompanying you).

I hope that you find this helpful – I did not send it to you before because I knew you were very tied up with the Bristol Statement.

**Code A**

27 August 1999

**Code A**

26 August 1999

**Code A**

University of Ulster  
Newtownabbey  
County Antrim  
BT37 0QB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Annual Spring Meeting of the RCGP – 6-8 April 2001**

Thank you for your letter of 11 August inviting **Code A** to take part in your 2001 conference in Belfast.

**Code A** would be happy to accept this invitation and thanks you for offering to pay expenses and an honorarium.

Perhaps you would care to contact me a little nearer the time – probably early in 2001 – with further details.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

26 August 1999

Code A

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children  
30 Guilford Street  
London  
WC1N 1EH

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Code A has asked me to write to thank you for taking the trouble to send him a copy of 'A guide to professional Development meetings for Consultants'. Although he is currently away from London he has read this document and would like to say how thought provoking he found it.

I will forward a copy to Code A  
Directorate.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Code A

27 August 1999

Code A

University of Leeds  
Belmont Grove  
Leeds  
LS2 9NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999**

In recent years I have been holding informal meetings with medical students, in which selected students from different medical schools are invited to spend a day at the GMC. The students are given the opportunity to talk about the profession of medicine they are joining, to learn about the work of the GMC in regulating medical practice and to meet some of its members and see parts of the GMC in action. In the past, students have said that they enjoy the visit and have found it beneficial.

The next meeting will take place on **18 November 1999**, starting at 10.30. The morning session will be an open forum, extending for about two hours, so students can talk to me about our profession, especially their education. A sandwich lunch will be provided. As the Professional Conduct Committee is due to sit on that day, students will have the opportunity to see a conduct hearing in progress, provided that the Committee is not "in camera". I am writing to ask if you are available on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 1999 to be a part of the Open Forum.

My research assistant, [Code A] is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on [Code A] if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. In his absence please contact [Code A]

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Memorandum**

To

From

Date

Copy

**Code A****Revalidation : Retired and other Inactive Doctors**

1. I have read the papers.
2. As I understood the papers, the use of the template of Good Medical Practice is itself restrictive (cf Code A's Paper). Revalidation, for all doctors, needs to cover all the content headings in GMP, and the further explanations of those which may be prepared by the Colleges for each speciality.
3. 'Retired' doctors should have no special rights, because they are free to practice in a limited way if they choose. So if they choose to stay on, they should show their eligibility like any other.
4. Equally, doctors inactive for any reason should nevertheless comply with the GMC requirements for revalidation.
5. A failure to follow this basic principle would result in the problems you describe in your para 4. But equally, we would be operating two standards – especially if we allowed self-certification for one group – which would be both wrong and potentially dangerous to patients.
6. If you could give me a ring on Friday 27 August we could speak fully about handling this.

Please note : Revised copy – 26 August – corrected word in para 4

**Memorandum**

To

From

Date

Code

**Code A**

**Revalidation : Retired and other Inactive Doctors**

1. I have read the papers.
  
2. As I understood the papers, the use of the template of Good Medical Practice is itself restrictive (cf Code A's Paper). Revalidation, for all doctors, needs to cover all the content headings in GMP, and the further explanations of those which may be prepared by the College for each speciality.
  
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4. Equally, doctors inactive for any reason should nevertheless comply with the GMC requests for revalidation.
  
5. A failure to follow this basic principle would result in the problems you describe in your para 4. But equally, we would be operating two standards – especially if we allowed self-certification for one group – which would be both wrong and potentially dangerous to patients.
  
6. If you could give me a ring on Friday 27 August we could speak fully about handling this.

**Memorandum****Code A****PAC AGENDA ITEM****GMC Members on General Dental Council**

Could you confirm the willingness of those listed below to serve on the GDC – they are very keen to have them all back.

**Code A**

I would like this included as an Agenda Item for the next PAC meeting.

**Fax**

To  
 Fax number  
 From  
 Direct Dial  
 Direct fax

**Code A**

01771 915 3640

 **GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**  
*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

No. of pages This one Time 1.55 Date 25 Aug  
 (inclusive) only

Dear **Code A**

*Thank you for contacting me today. Can I confirm the situation regarding Revalidation meetings.*

- 1) *September 14<sup>th</sup> dinner – I am sorry that **Code A** cannot make this date – but as I explained on the phone, I had a very good acceptance rate for this date and a poor one for 1 September lunch.*
- 2) *October 13<sup>th</sup> 2pm at the BMA prior to the Top Ten meeting*

*Any other dates you have in the diary please ignore!*

*Kind regards*

**Code A**



**Code A**

25 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your recorded delivery letter and enclosures of 23 August.

This matter is receiving attention and a response will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

25 August 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Sir Donald Irvine  
thanks

Code A

for the kind invitation  
to  
a reception on Friday 10 September  
but  
regrets he will be unable to attend

19 August 1999

# Code A

Castle Buildings  
Stormont  
Belfast BT4 3PP

## **Meeting on 27 July 1999**

Thank you very much for taking the time to meet members of the Revalidation Steering Group on 27 July 1999. We very much appreciated the opportunity to clarify some important points with respect to the development of - and relationship between - revalidation and clinical governance.

I enclose a note of the meeting. If you have any comments, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

19 August 1999

## Code A

Department of Health  
79 Whitehall  
London SW1A 2NS

### Meeting on 27 July 1999

Thank you very much for taking the time to meet members of the Revalidation Steering Group on 27 July 1999. We very much appreciated the opportunity to clarify some important points with respect to the development of - and relationship between - revalidation and clinical governance.

I enclose a note of the meeting. If you have any comments, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

19 August 1999

## Code A

Welsh Office  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF1 3NQ

### **Meeting on 27 July 1999**

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I enclose a note of the meeting. If you have any comments, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

19 August 1999

## **Code A**

Scottish Office Department of Health  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

### **Meeting on 27 July 1999**

I am sorry not to have met you on 27 July 1999. I enclose a note of the meeting, which proved to be most helpful in clarifying some important points with respect to the development of - and relationship between - revalidation and clinical governance.

I look forward to having an opportunity to discuss these matters in detail with you and your colleagues at a later stage.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

25 August 1999

**Code A**

NHS Executive  
2a New Walk  
Leicester  
LE1 6TF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Thank you for your very kind letter. I was delighted to hear of your appointment as Director of the Commission for Health Improvement and wish you every success in your new role.

I gather that, as you say, an early meeting is being arranged when you, **Code A** and myself can get together.

Code A

24 August 1999

Code A

Department of Health  
Richmond House  
Whitehall  
SW1A 2NS

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

I am writing to congratulate you upon your appointment to the Committee for Health Improvement. You and Code A should make a strong team.

I look forward to meeting you both shortly – I believe a meeting is being set up for an informal lunch on 7 September. It will be important to establish a good working relationship from the start.



**Code A**

24 August 1999

**Code A**

National Hospital  
Rikshospitalet  
Pilestredet 32  
N – 0027 Oslo  
Norway

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** on 20 August inviting him to take part in your symposium on 27 October.

**Code A** is currently on leave for a week so he has asked me to write to you on his behalf.

Sadly he will not be able to help you on this occasion – he has already accepted an invitation to speak at a conference in Birmingham on 26 October and then Edinburgh on 27 and 28.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

23 August 1999

**Code A**

House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 20 August 1999 about the  
complaint made by **Code A**

Your letter is receiving attention and a reply will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

23 August 1999

**Code A**

Department for the Health Care of the Elderly  
Glan Clwyd District General Hospital  
Ysbyty Glan Clwyd  
Rhyl Sir Ddinbych LL18 5UJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 16 August 1999 about the recent GMC elections.

Your letter is receiving attention and a reply will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

19 August 1999

**Code A**

Association for Improvements in Maternity Services  
56 Lonsdale Road  
Oxford OX2 7EP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending a copy of your paper on Munchausen by Proxy to **Code A**.  
**Code A** I have taken the liberty of copying it to our Chief Executive and have sent a  
copy to **Code A** at home as he is away from London on a few days' leave.

I know that they will both find this paper of interest.

Your sincerely,  
**Code A**

**Code A**

The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

19 August 1999

**Code A**

Singapore Medical Council  
College of Medicine Building  
16 College Road  
Singapore 169854

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

**The Performance of Doctors: the New Professionalism**

**Code A** thanks you for your letter of 10 August and has asked me to respond on his behalf as he is on leave for a few days.

He is delighted that you are interested in reproducing the article in the Singapore Medical Council Newsetter and, of course, grants his permission for you to write to the Lancet.

We would be interested to have a copy of the relevant edition as and when it is published.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**



**Code A**

19 August 1999

**Code A**

School of Health and Related Research  
Regent Court  
30 Regent Street  
Sheffield  
S1 4DA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Please find enclosed **Code A**'s alterations and corrections to the text you kindly sent us on 11 August.

We look forward to seeing a copy of the final document.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

19 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your phone call. I know that **Code A** will be delighted that **Code A** can join him on 14 September.

The plan is for the guests to have an hour long meeting starting at 6pm in the Common Room at 44 Hallam Street, and then dinner in the Small Dining room at 7.30pm.

Apart from **Code A** the following will be present :

**Code A**

Please let me know if **Code A** has any dietary preferences our chefs should be aware of.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



*The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE*

19 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors.*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** on 13 August. **Code A** is on leave for a few days so I have taken the liberty of copying your letter to our Registration Directorate and the Chief Executive.

Your letter is receiving attention and a full reply will be sent in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

18 August 1999

**Code A**

University of Wales College of Medicine  
Heath Park  
Cardiff  
CF14 4XN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

We spoke on the phone today regarding the meeting with **Code A**  
**Code A** – so this letter is just by way of confirmation.

I have ordered a sandwich lunch for 1300 in the sitting room of **Code A** s flat  
which is on **Code A**

As I explained, **Code A** has been notified and the PCC session will break  
for lunch at 1300 enabling **Code A**  
upstairs, and for him to go straight back to PCC when their meeting ends at 1400.

I hope that these arrangements are satisfactory.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

18 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

We spoke on the phone today regarding the meeting with **Code A**  
**Code A** – so this letter is just by way of confirmation.

I have ordered a sandwich lunch for 1300 in the sitting room of **Code A**'s flat  
which is on **Code A**

As I explained, **Code A** has been notified and the PCC session will break  
for lunch at 1300 enabling **Code A** to join you and **Code A** upstairs,  
and for him to go straight back to PCC when your meeting ends at 1400.

I hope that these arrangements are satisfactory.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

18 August 1999

**Code A**

Wessex Regional Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards  
Southampton General Hospital  
Tremona Road  
Southampton  
SO9 4XY

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** about ACDA and Fitness to Practise Procedures. I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to our Fitness to Practise Directorate and to **Code A** is on leave at present.

I am sure that a full reply will be sent to you in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

17 August 1999

Code A

Royal Society of Chemistry  
Burlington House  
Piccadilly  
London W1V 0BN

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter to Code A asking the GMC to nominate a Council Member to replace Code A on your Consultative Forum in October.

Code A is on annual leave at present so I have passed your letter on to the relevant Directorates and we will contact you just as soon as a decision has been made.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

17 August 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London SW1A 2NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

### **Supporting Implementation of Clinical Governance**

Thank you for your letter about this important initiative. It is both welcome and timely. It should help us to establish the ethos and habits of quality improvement and quality assurance which should be at the heart of modern medical regulation at the level of clinical directorates and in primary care groups.

I hope to meet **Code A** when I visit Leicester in October.

We will watch this space with great interest!

With best wishes,

**Memorandum****To****From****Date****Copy****Code A****Training for Members of FTP Committees**

Thank you for your memorandum which I thought was excellent. May I make the following points and suggestions.

- 1) We should go ahead along the lines you propose.
- 2) Beyond the introductory training, we need to be thinking of continuing professional development, especially in things like 'sentencing exercises' for PCC members.
- 3) We must think about the needs of chairmen who really need their own programme of professional development.
- 4) The screeners will also need their own programme of CPD.
- 5) Sometime soon, we need to talk about the preparation of legal assessors for our work.
- 6) Feedback for some of the lay performance assessors suggests more emphasis needed on cross-cultural/racial training.
- 7) I assume that the relevant arrangements for staff training are in place as part of their induction to the GMC and as part of their continuing professional development.



The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

16 August 1999

**Code A**

Faculty of Medicine and Biological Sciences  
PO Box 138  
University Road  
Leicester LE1 9HN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

I am replying to your letter of 3 August about my visit to Leicester in October. I am looking forward to it.

I would be interested to discuss the following with you and your colleagues :-

- How you educate students and PRHO's to be able to carry out the '*Duties of a Doctor*,'
- The teaching clinician as a role model of good medical practice;
- The assessment of attitudes to patients and colleagues;
- Quality improvement and quality assurance within clinical directorates with teaching responsibilities;
- The relationship between the medical school and the NHS, particularly around the emerging agenda of clinical governance and revalidation.

In respect of the last two points, it is important to involve the appropriate chairmen and chief executives of NHS Trusts and Boards if possible, together with non-executive directors.

Your suggestion of meeting **Code A** is an excellent one if it can be done, and I shall be visiting the Leicester Royal Infirmary on the afternoon of 8 October, the programme for which is already in hand through **Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 August 1999

**Code A**

Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts  
Howards House  
Queens Avenue  
Bristol BS8 1SN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Code A** has asked me to write to thank you for sending him a copy of the Clinical Risks Management Standard document.

Although **Code A** is actually away on leave, I send him his correspondence on a regular basis so he has been able to read it and asked me to write on his behalf to thank you for taking the trouble to send him a copy.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

12 August 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL***Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors***Code A**Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London SW1A 2NS

Thank you for your letter of 29 July 1999 about the duty of doctors employed by medical defence organisations to report poor practice.

The position is as follows: all doctors on our register are accountable to us for their actions; we set out the standards we expect of them in our booklet *Good Medical Practice*. This makes clear that all doctors have a duty to put the safety of patients first at all times. Where doctors have good reason to believe that a colleague's health, conduct or performance is putting patients at risk they should take action appropriate to the nature, seriousness and urgency of the case. We tell them that:

'you must follow your employer's procedures or tell an appropriate person from the employing authority, such as the director of public health, medical director, nursing director or chief executive, or a regulatory body.' (*Good Medical Practice*, 1998)

This guidance applies to doctors who work in defence organisations.

We do not expect doctors always to report to us; they might find it helpful to report concerns locally since many problems can be dealt with quickly and effectively through local procedures and the defence organisations are well aware of these mechanisms. Nonetheless, problems must be reported to the GMC where, in order to safeguard patients, it is necessary to review a doctor's registration.

It is important from the GMC's point of view for doctors who find themselves in this position to have effective legal advice and support. We understand the difficulties faced by defence organisations in meeting their responsibilities to their clients and fulfilling their duties as registered medical practitioners. In order to discuss and explore these issues, we keep in regular touch with the leading medical defence organisations. Indeed, we will be sending them copies of this letter and the issue will no doubt be one of the matters discussed at our next meeting with them in early September.

**Code A**

13 August 1999

**Code A**

Junior Doctors Committee  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

### **Revalidation of Junior Doctors**

Thank you for your letter of 12 July 1999 informing us of the Junior Doctors Committee's (JDC) three resolutions.

You will wish to know that on 27 July 1999 the Revalidation Steering Group formally approved the following recommendation:

Revalidation arrangements for doctors in training should be based as far as possible on existing arrangements for the monitoring, appraisal and assessment of such doctors.

The Group has asked the Education Committee to take work forward on revalidation arrangements for doctors in training.

I note the resolutions passed by the Junior Doctors Committee and am pleased that the GMC and the JDC are of one mind in our commitment to improve standards of medical practice.

With respect to the second resolution, I believe that Dr Jeremy Stern clarified the GMC's position at the Junior Doctors Consultative Group meeting on 23 June 1999. There is no question of removal from the register by default. As **Code A** explained, the only way in which a doctor could be removed from the register through administrative, rather than judicial, process (other than through failing to pay the annual retention fee or keeping the GMC informed of an up to date address) would be if they refused to participate in the revalidation process completely.

**Code A**

As you point out, removing a doctor's registration should be a last resort. Council has already agreed a six stage outline of revalidation which allows for action to be taken locally to improve the practice of a doctor about whom there are concerns. This is in accordance with the GMC's established guidance (*Maintaining Good Medical Practice*) and in line with the forthcoming arrangements for clinical governance. Clearly where a doctor's practice seems to be falling below standard, every effort should be made locally to ensure that the doctor has the opportunity to make the necessary improvements. Only when such remedial action has been unsuccessful, or is impractical, would we expect a doctor to be referred to the GMC. Thereafter, no action will be taken on the registration of any doctor until the doctor had been subject to one of the GMC's existing fitness to practise procedures. This is in accordance with Council's decision on 10 February 1999 that:

The GMC's fitness to practise procedures provide a sufficient mechanism for the review of a doctor's registration on the grounds of serious dysfunction, and any consequent action in relation to a doctor's registration.

On the question of funding for junior doctors, as you know, this is not a matter over which the GMC has any control. However, we have made it clear that revalidation must be adequately resourced, and will continue to make this clear to those responsible for doctors' training.

You also mention the issue of revalidation arrangements for doctors who wish to return to the profession after a career break. As you will have seen from the draft report on Categories of Doctors on the Register, we have already identified that this group of doctors will provide some challenge in terms of developing revalidation proposals. The GMC does not want to discourage doctors from returning to active medical practice, but this must be married with the public expectation that all doctors on the register are up to date and fit to practise.

Further to Code A's letter to you of 24 June 1999, I would be very happy to talk to members of the Junior Doctors Committee or, alternatively, we could draft an article on revalidation for JDC members. In the light of the Revalidation Steering Group's recent decision, I feel that this would go a long way to dispelling some of the popular misconceptions about the purposes – and development – of revalidation.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

**Code A**

11 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians  
11 St Andrews Place  
Regents Park  
London NW1 4LE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** and for letting him know about your 'Physicians as Educators' programme. Although **Code A** is away at present he has seen your letter and asked me to write to thank you for the information.

I am sure you are already aware of your opposite number here at the GMC – Miss **Code A** to whom I am forwarding a copy of your letter and the information lest she has not seen it – I am sure she will be interested in a place at one of the workshops.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

11 August 1999

**Code A**

Manchester Royal Infirmary  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9WL

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** regarding the omission of your personal details from the Members' Handbook.

As **Code A** is away from London at present, and I note that you have already copied the letter to both **Code A** I have sent a note suggesting that one or other could write to you with an explanation.

I trust that this will be a satisfactory arrangement.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

10 August 1999

**Code A**

Anglican Chaplaincy to the University of Wales  
Princes Road  
Bangor  
Gwynedd  
LL57 2BD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 7 August. Because of the nature of your letter **Code A** is unable to reply to you personally, and I have forwarded it on to the Fitness to Practice Division for their attention.

I hope that you will receive a satisfactory reply to your queries in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

10 August 1999

**Code A**

Association of Surgeons of Gt Britain and Ireland  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending **Code A** your confidential report 'Consultant Workload' which arrived in the office today.

**Code A** is away at present so I am writing on his behalf to thank you for taking the trouble to send him a copy of the findings of this important enquiry.

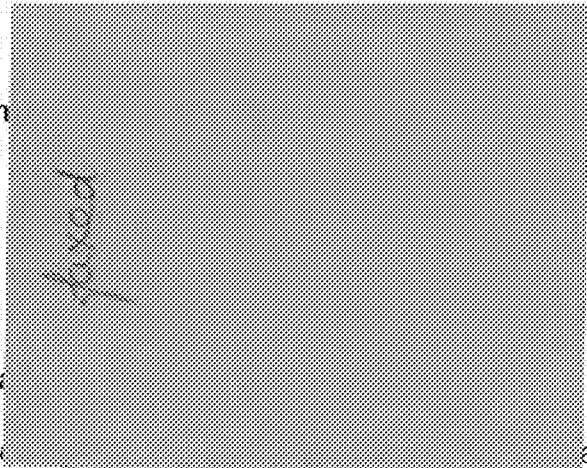
Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Men

Del:

Foll:



To

**Code A**

From

Date 10/08/99

Copy

Following my ammond letter, I have now come across two further examples suggesting a chronic problem that I would like you to look into. The latest cases come from the Standards and Education Directorate.

**Code A** wrote to me on 28 June. **Code A** acknowledged the letter on the day it arrived in this office – 30 June - and then traceformed it on to Standards and Education – from which there has been no response. **Code A** wrote again on 2 August, Sally copied the original traceform to me, to **Code A** as a reminder, and to you. We are still awaiting a draft reply.

In the second case, I saw **Code A** at a BMA council meeting in May and she wrote to me following that on 13 May. Her letter was received here on 14 May and passed on to Standards and Education on 19 May. **Code A** recently prompted us to say that she has to date received no reply. I gather she was understandably upset.

Yesterday I received a draft reply from **Code A** (attached) in which there is an inadequate apology. I would draw your attention to para 4 of her memorandum which I find breathtaking in its dismissal of the problem. There is no hint of any understanding of the unacceptability of this kind of delay.

When you are back from your holiday we need to discuss how you propose that the Council can be assured that in future all correspondence coming in to the GMC is answered promptly, that there is a system of monitoring which enables the organisation to know, on a continuing basis, that operational standards are being observed in practice, and that breaches are automatically made known to the most senior levels of management.



**Memorandum****To****From****Date****Copy****Code A****Code A Correspondence**

1. **Code A** has expressed concern at the delays in providing draft replies for Presidential correspondence.
2. We had already identified the need to act on our collective failure to meet, consistently, the target dates for replies; and I know you have already begun to address the issue within your Directorates. I think it would be helpful if we could arrange to get together before the **Code A**'s return to discuss the steps that need to be taken. That will enable me, in turn, to discuss the situation with the **Code A**.
3. Taking a cue from **Code A**'s recent observations on compliance with corporate policies more generally, we should not be shy of identifying all relevant factors which impede the provision of the standard of service which the **Code A** reasonably expects.

**Code A**

**Memorandum****To****From****Code A****Date****10 August 1999****Correspondence: Delays**

1. Thank you for your memo of 10 August 1999 about further examples of delays in providing you with draft replies to correspondence. Naturally, the Directors and I regret that we are not delivering the service you expect.
2. I look forward to our discussion, which I hope will be wide ranging. I believe that the situation is more complex than it might first seem. We have a hard working, dedicated, loyal workforce. And yet we are behind on every front; and we risk creating the impression that the only reward for working long and hard is to be asked to work longer and harder. What are perceived to be conflicting, and changing, priorities do not help.
3. I too believe that we may face a chronic problem – but, in my view, it is not confined to how the office handles your correspondence.

**Code A**

**Code A**

10 August 1999

**Code A**

1 Wyvil Court  
Wyvil Road  
London SW8 2TG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you so much for sending **Code A** a copy of POPAN's Annual Report and your presentation material from the recently held meeting here at the GMC.

**Code A** has taken it home as he is away from the office for a couple of weeks and he asked me to write on his behalf to express his thanks for taking the trouble to send us the papers.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

In reply please quote

SE/2552

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL***Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

10 August 1999

**Code A****NHS Direct**

Thank you for your letter of 13 May 1999 following up our conversation during the BMA Council meeting about GPs and the NHS Direct service. I am sorry that you did not receive an earlier reply. The delay in answering your letter is unforgivable and I apologise.

It was useful to see the copies of your local medical committee's article and the advice from the BMA's General Practice Committee. I note their comments on the legal considerations for doctors who wish to promote NHS Direct to their patients or intend to use NHS Direct as an out-of-hours support service. However, you were concerned to explore what ethical considerations might arise and these are discussed below.

As I understand it, there are three possible ways in which GPs may wish to make use of NHS Direct. They might simply inform patients about its availability; or recommend that patients use NHS Direct as an alternative advice service; or use NHS Direct themselves to provide part of their out-of-hours support to patients. Additionally some GPs may be directly involved in providing a local NHS Direct service.

In general, when considering whether to make use of a particular healthcare service or to recommend it to patients, its doctors' responsibility to decide whether this would be in their patients' best interests.

An important consideration would be whether the doctors or other practitioners providing the service would be able to provide safe, effective care for patients. Doctors who were delegating care to another service, or making arrangements for them to provide out-of-hours cover, would have an additional responsibility to ensure that there were effective arrangements for communication about the patient and any treatment or other care provided. The doctor would retain overall responsibility for the patients care. In any case where a doctor had a financial interest in a particular service, he or she would have to ensure that patients were aware of this, and that it did not affect his or her judgement in making recommendations or referring patients for treatment or care. These are the principles which underly the advice we give in *Good Medical Practice* about arranging cover (see paragraphs 34-35); delegation and referral (see paragraphs 39-41); and about avoiding conflicts of interest (paragraphs 49-52).

Where doctors wish only to make patients aware of the availability of other services, it would be important that any information provided was factual and objective, and presented in a way that avoided putting patients under pressure to use the service. This is similar to the principles that underly the advice in *Good Medical Practice* on providing information about a doctor's own services (see paragraphs 44-47).

You will see that the issues outlined above are not inconsistent with the advice in the GPC statement.

I hope that this is of help in considering how best to take forward your concerns about GPs use of NHS Direct. If you have any additional points which you would like to raise, by all means get in touch.



Code A

9 August 1999

Code A

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8EA

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Many thanks to you and your colleagues for coming to the first of our Standing Group meetings on 20 July 1999.

I and my colleagues found the meeting extremely helpful in mapping out how to take forward our various initiatives. We recognise of course that there are uncertainties about the precise roles of all our organisations in what is a highly complex project.

I enclose a draft note of the meeting (which I am copying with this letter to your Academy colleagues) and should be most grateful for any comments which you and your colleagues may have before we finalise it.

We are most grateful for the help which you and your office are already giving us in our work, and we are particularly anxious to ensure that we have good working relationships with the Academy, colleges and specialist associations between meetings, so that we can all keep abreast of developments. I know that Code A spoke to you briefly after the meeting about links with the Academy groups looking at revalidation. He and his team would welcome regular contact with representatives of those groups, if that would be acceptable to the Academy. Perhaps you would let me know what you would see as the best way of taking that forward.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Specialist Training Authority  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8AE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I enclose a draft note of the meeting and should be most grateful for any comments which you may have before we finalise it.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

JCPTGP  
Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Deen* **Code A**

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I enclose a draft note of the meeting and should be most grateful for any comments which you may have before we finalise it.

*Deen*  
**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

As I said when we spoke, I liked your paper, but I have one small and one large suggestion.

I will deal with the small suggestion first.

On page 16 – in the last line – you refer to the Bristol Inquiry as lasting for over 65 days. To be exact the Committee sat for 74 days.

Secondly, there is one major omission that I hope you will find space to include. Following the Bristol Case we set about establishing revalidation which is, I think, the most significant change to medical regulation this half century. Already substantial progress has been made, taking revalidation forward and seeing how it can be aligned with clinical governance.

I enclose a copy of a Lancet paper I wrote this year and a GMC paper which refers to Council decisions made in February and May this year and included as Minutes of Council – both of which I think you may find useful.

Thank you again for sending me a copy of your paper.

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter addressed to **Code A**. I am afraid that **Code A** is away from the office at present.

Because of the nature of your letter, I am forwarding it and its accompanying enclosures to our Registration Directorate, and I know that you will hear from them in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians  
9 Queen Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 1JQ

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** with information about accommodation for the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October at the George Hotel.

I confirm that **Code A** will be with you on these dates and that he definitely requires this room for these dates.

Thank you also for the information on payment.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

9 August 1999

Code A

Royal College of Surgeons of England  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

**Revalidation : The Colleges and the GMC**

Code A has asked me to arrange a meeting on the subject of Revalidation with Presidents of Colleges. I have been requested to see if it were possible to arrange a luncheon or a dinner before mid September and I have managed to identify two dates which are as follows :

12.30 – 15.00	Luncheon	Wednesday 1 September
or		
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner	Tuesday 14 September

I would be grateful if your office could contact me with your preferences.

Code A

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I would be grateful if you could either fax, phone or e-mail me with **Code A**'s preferences.

**Code A**

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

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or		
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner	Tuesday 14 September

I would be grateful if you could let me know your preferences.

**Code A**

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh  
9 Queen St  
Edinburgh EH2 1JQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation : The Colleges and the GMC**

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**Code A**

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

Code A

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Surgeons of England  
 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
 London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

**Revalidation : The Colleges and the GMC**

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or		
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner	Tuesday 14 September

I would be grateful if your office could contact me your preferences.

**Code A****Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation : The Colleges and the GMC**

**Code A** has asked me to arrange a further meeting on the subject of Revalidation – but this time with Presidents of Colleges. I have been requested to see if it were possible to arrange a luncheon or a dinner before mid September and I have managed to identify two dates which are as follows :

12.30 – 15.00	Luncheon	Wednesday 1 September
or		
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner	Tuesday 14 September

I would be grateful if you could either fax, phone or e-mail me with **Code A** **Code A**'s preferences.

**Code A**

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Anaesthetists  
48-49 Russell Square  
London WC1B 4JY

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation : The Colleges and the GMC**

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I would be grateful if you could contact with your preferences.

**Code A**

I look forward to hearing from you.

~~Yours sincerely,~~

**Code A**



**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 5 August to **Code A** is away from London for the rest of August so I have passed your letter on to our Fitness to Practice Directorate.

I am sure that you will hear from them in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Surgeons of England  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 6 August on your Revalidation Pilot Schemes.

**Code A** is away from the office on leave at present, so I am taking the liberty of sending your letter to **Code A** Directorate who I am sure will reply to your query in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

NHS  
Department of Health  
Quarry House  
Quarry Hill  
Leeds LS2 7UE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter. I too would value a meeting to discuss clinical governance and confidentiality.

I welcome this opportunity – perhaps your office would like to contact **Code A** Hennessy, my PA who will try to find a suitable date in October.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

Effective Practice Programme  
Kings Fund  
11-13 Cavendish Sq  
London W1M 0AN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for sending me a copy of '*Clinical Governance under Construction – Problems of Design and Difficulties in Practice*'

It is an excellent paper and, having read it, I am passing it on to **Code A**

I am grateful to you for taking the trouble to send it to me.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

Clacton and District Hospital  
Clacton on Sea  
Essex  
CO15 1LH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Code A** has asked me to try to arrange a meeting in September in order to discuss various items in connection with the Health Committee.

Having checked diaries for availability I have come up with September 20<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon until 2pm and I wonder whether you would be free to attend at that time.

I will arrange for a sandwich lunch to be served during the meeting.

I am writing in similar terms to **Code A** in the hope that he too can be there. Perhaps you could either phone **Code A** or E-mail me

**Code A** to let me know of your availability. **Code A**  
**Code A** will also attend.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal Hallamshire Hospital  
Glossop Road  
Sheffield  
S10 2JF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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**Code A**

to let me know of your availability. **Code A**

**Code A**

will also attend.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

6 August 1999

Code A

The Nuffield Trust  
59 New Cavendish Street  
London W1M 7RD

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for inviting me to the seminar on 29 September when Code A and Code A will be speaking on aspects of Australian Healthcare Policy.

As you know I would very much have liked to attend this event, but it falls on a date when I am away on a few days' leave.

I regret I will be unable to join you.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

University of London  
Senate House  
Malet Street  
London WC1E 7HU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

**Code A**'s meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

In recent years I have been holding informal meetings with medical students, in which selected students from different medical schools are invited to spend a day at the GMC. The students are given the opportunity to talk about the profession of medicine they are joining, to learn about the work of the GMC in regulating medical practice and to meet some of its members and see parts of the GMC in action. In the past, students have said that they enjoy the visit and have found it beneficial.

The next meeting will take place on **18 November 1999**, starting at 10.30. The morning session will be an open forum so students can talk to me about our profession, especially their education. A sandwich lunch will be provided. As the Professional Conduct Committee is due to sit on that day, students will have the opportunity to see a conduct hearing in progress, provided that the Committee is not "in camera".

I am writing to invite two students from your medical school to the meeting. Students from any year of the course are very welcome. Please could you suggest two suitable students and provide their names and addresses. We will then contact them directly. We will reimburse students for their travel expenses but would expect them to take advantage of any concessionary fares available.

**Code A**



My research assistant, **Code A** is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on **Code A** if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Yan err.*

**Code A**

Code A

6 August 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
London SW7 1PU

Dear Code A

**Revalidation**

Further to Code A of 16 July and my subsequent phone calls, I can now confirm that the Revalidation meeting will take place on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm (prior to the Meeting of the Top Ten) at the BMA.

I will, of course be in touch with Code A at the BMA to finalise arrangements and will let you know agenda details nearer the time.

Thank you for your patience in this matter!

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

6 August 1999

Code A

British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

### Revalidation

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Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Distribution List :

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation**

Further to **Code A**'s letter to **Code A** of 16 July and my subsequent phone calls, I can now confirm that the Revalidation meeting will take place on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm (prior to the Meeting of the Top Ten) at the BMA.

I will, of course be in touch with **Code A** at the BMA to finalise arrangements and will let you know agenda details nearer the time.

Thank you for your patience in this matter!

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation**

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Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Revalidation**

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Thank you for your patience in this matter!

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

August 1999

**Code A**

The Department of Postgraduate Medical and  
Dental Education  
The Triangle  
Roosevelt Drive  
Headington  
Oxford OX3 7XP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 29 July and for bringing to my attention the case of this particular doctor.

I feel that it is essential that the GMC looks at such cases when they come to light. In most cases I am sure that this will be only to eliminate the possibility of seriously deficient performance. However, I am also certain that there will be those which we will need to take forward.

With this in mind, could I ask you to send the documents concerning the doctor to Mr

**Code A**

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

6 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Ophthalmologists  
17 Cornwall Terrace  
London  
NW1 4QW

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 30 July which arrived today. It is receiving attention and I hope that you will receive a full reply in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



Code A

5 August 1999

Code A

University of Birmingham  
 Medical School  
 Edgbaston  
 Birmingham  
 B15 2TT

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

See Code A

**President's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999**

In recent years I have been holding informal meetings with medical students, in which selected students from different medical schools are invited to spend a day at the GMC. The students are given the opportunity to talk about the profession of medicine they are joining, to learn about the work of the GMC in regulating medical practice and to meet some of its members and see parts of the GMC in action. In the past, students have said that they enjoy the visit and have found it beneficial.

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My research assistant,  is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on  if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Yao ping,*

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

University of Cambridge  
Clinical School  
Addenbrooke's Hospital  
Cambridge  
CB2 2SP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

**President's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999**

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*Zaw Zaw,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

School of Medicine MAILPOINT 802  
Southampton General Hospital  
Level C, South (Academic) Block  
Southampton

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Code A**'s meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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**Code A**

My research assistant **Code A** is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on **Code A** if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. I look forward to hearing from you.

*7 also sent,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

University of Wales College of Medicine  
Heath Park  
Cardiff  
CF4 4XN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

**Code A**'s meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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My research assistant [Code A] is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on [Code A] if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. I look forward to hearing from you.

*7 as new*

[Code A]



**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

Medical School  
University of Sheffield  
Beech Hill Road  
Sheffield S10 2TN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Code A** s meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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*Yours sincerely*

Code A

5 August 1999

Code A

University of Dundee  
 Medical School  
 Ninewells Hospital  
 Dundee  
 DD1 9SY

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*



Code A

Code A's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

5 August 1999

Code A

Faculty of Medicine  
University of Liverpool  
Duncan Building  
Prescot Street  
L69 3BX

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Jan

Code A

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*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Bessemer Road  
London  
SE5 9PJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don*

**Code A**

**Code A** s meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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**Code A**

My research assistant, Code A is co-ordinating the day. Please telephone him on Code A if you would like to discuss the arrangements further. I look forward to hearing from you.

*7  
John Smith,*

**Code A**



**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

Imperial College School of Medicine  
London  
SW7 2AZ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*



**Code A**

**Code A's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999**

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*7 as per*

**Code A**

Code A

5 August 1999

Code A

St Bartholomew's & Royal London School of Medicine  
Turner Street  
London  
E1 2AD

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Jan Code A

**President's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999**

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*7 am.*

**Code A**

Code A

5 August 1999

Code A

Medical School  
 University of Newcastle upon Tyne  
 Framlington Place  
 Newcastle upon Tyne  
 NE2 4HH

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Daw

Code A

### President's meeting with medical students : 18 November 1999

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*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

United Medical & Dental Schools of Guy's & St Thomas's  
Guy's Hospital  
London  
SE1 9RT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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**Code A**

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*7 as ev*

**Code A**



**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

Medical School  
University of Nottingham  
Queen's Medical Centre  
Nottingham  
NG7 2UH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don*

**Code A**

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**Code A**

**Code A**

5 August 1999

**Code A**

Medical School  
Oxford University  
John Radcliffe Hospital  
Oxford  
OX3 9DU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan* **Code A**

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*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

4 August 1999

Code A

14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

Thank you for your letter of 2 August in which you very kindly check to ensure that we have also received the letter from the legal Advisers of the Association of Community Health regarding their AGM emergency motion on patient confidentiality.

I am grateful to you for having drawn this to my attention – we did, in fact, recently receive such a letter which is being dealt with by Standards and Education Directorate.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

4 August 1999

**Code A**

General Practitioners Committee  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

*Yours*

**Code A**

**Revalidation: Junior Doctors Consultative Group**

I have received a letter from **Code A** Chair of the GPC GP Registrars' Sub-Committee, asking about the representation of GP registrars in the GMC's consultative process.

The GPC is represented on the GP Consultative Group and we would be concerned about widening members of that group by the inclusion of representatives from sub-committees, given the potential numbers involved.

The GPC is not, however, represented on the Junior Doctors Consultative Group. It is clearly important to ensure that the gap is filled and we would be happy to appoint a representative from the GPC, or one of its sub-committees, on to the Junior Doctors Consultative Group in order to do this.

I am copying this to **Code A** I would be grateful to know how you would like this taken forward.

*Yours*

**Code A**

**Code A**

4 August 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London SW1A 2NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don*

**Code A**

I write simply to say thank you for lunch the other day. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting you – you gave me much food for thought.

We spoke about the major problems we both have, which are cause for concern, but when I left I realised that I had never mentioned my over-riding preoccupation and anxiety, which is to turn the GMC into a modern and effective regulatory body.

Just like that!

I look forward to continuing our conversation in the future.

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

4 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

I am writing at the end of your term of office to thank you very warmly for your contribution to the Council in your time as a member. Your efforts as a screener have been much appreciated and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who worked with you on the Preliminary Proceedings Committee, in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

4 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

*Jan van*

**Code A**



**Code A**

4 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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With very best wishes for the future.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

3 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians and  
Surgeons of Glasgow  
232-242 St Vincent St  
Glasgow G2 5RJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear Mr* **Code A**

Thank you so much for your very kind invitation to join the President, Fellows and Members of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow at your Triennial Dinner on 29 November.

I very much regret that I shall be out of the country on that occasion and so will have to offer my apologies.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Fax**

To  
Fax number  
From  
Direct Dial  
Direct fax

**Code A**

No. of pages this one Time 0900 Date 4 August  
(inclusive) only

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

*I cannot apologise enough for leaving you waiting in Reception last night – especially as I had been telephoned when you arrived just before 5pm.*

*I can offer no excuse except that of uncharacteristic short term memory loss – and I hope that you will forgive me for having wasted so much of your time.*

*Such rudeness is unforgivable and I am extremely sorry for this oversight.*

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

4 August 1999

**Code A**

Chest Clinic  
Blackburn Royal Infirmary  
Blackburn  
Lancs BB2 3LR

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 28 July about the GMC publication 'Serious Communicable Diseases'.

This is receiving attention and a full reply will be sent to you in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

4 August 1999

**Code A**

North Derbyshire Health Authority  
Scarsdale  
Newbold Rd  
Chesterfield S41 7PF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 2 August enclosing the Sunday Telegraph article by **Code A**

**Code A**

This is receiving attention and a full reply will be sent to you in due course

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

3 August 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*D. Irvine* **Code A**

Thank you for sending me a copy of your draft '*Revalidation for Clinical General Practice*'.

I am grateful to you also for going to the trouble of sending copies to **Code A** **Code A** and I will write back to you when I have seen their comments.

Best wishes,

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

3 August 1999

**Code A****GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL***Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*Dear **Code A****NACP 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference, RIBA, 16 November 1999**

I am grateful to you for inviting me to speak at your November conference which sounds a very exciting event. You certainly have some interesting speakers pencilled into your draft programme.

Unfortunately I am visiting Nottingham for two days on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November and so will have to turn down your request. I am sorry not to be able to help you on this occasion.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Fax**

To  
Fax number  
From  
Direct Dial  
Direct fax

**Code A**

No. of pages This one Time 1600 Date 2 Aug  
(inclusive) only

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Thank you for your very kind letter inviting me to speak at your conference on Practice and Ethics on 27 and 29 November this year.*

*Much as I would like to visit Singapore as this is a subject close to my heart, I am afraid it will prove impossible as I already have a very full diary in late November.*

*I am sorry not to be able to help you on this occasion.*

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**



**Code A**

3 August 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

Your Recorded Delivery letter and attachments arrived in **Code A**'s office today and, as **Code A** is on annual leave for three weeks, I took the liberty of opening the package. Because of the nature of your letter I have sent it to **Code A**, **Code A** Head of our Fitness to Practice Directorate here at the GMC. I am sure that you will hear from a member of her team in due course.

I was very sorry to read of your loss and of the pain you are obviously suffering as a result of your son's death.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

Commonwealth Medical Association Trust  
 BMA House  
 Tavistock Square  
 London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

300 Code A

Thank you for sending me a copy of your ComMat manual on ethical and human rights standards for healthcare professionals.

I have read it with interest and I welcome your endeavour to produce an educational tool aimed at health care workers in the poor countries of the developing world. The problems they face are many and varied and I am sure the ComMat manual will be very helpful in linking their education on medical ethics with action to protect human rights.

I am pleased to see that, in the main, the document is in line with the general principles of our *Good Medical Practice*, to which you made such a helpful contribution during its development. It is good to know that the good practice advocated in that document will be applied in the developing world. However, you will be aware, there are some recommendations, particularly in the section on *Participation in judicial punishments* which are not consistent the principles established in our guidance. Notwithstanding, we do understand the difficult circumstances in which the health professionals may find themselves and the difficult choices bodies such as the CMA must make in issuing guidance of this kind.

I wish you every success with this venture and trust that the manual will find its place in the professional education of health professionals in the developing world that it rightly deserves.

Yours ever

Code A

Code A

2 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

It was good of you to have gone to the trouble of sending me a copy of your 1994 Harben Lecture when you heard that I was going to give this year's paper on 11 November.

I am grateful to you and will read it on my next train journey to Newcastle!

Best wishes

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

Royal College of Anaesthetists  
 48-49 Russel Square  
 London  
 WC1B 4JY

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear  
Code A

#### **Guidelines for the Provision of Anaesthetic Services**

Thank you for taking the trouble to send me a copy of your recent publication '*Guidelines for the Provision of Anaesthetic Services*' which I shall read with interest on my next train journey home.

I shall then pass it on to our Standards and Education Directorate for their interest.

Yours  
sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

There really was no need to have written to thank me for my last letter! However, I am very grateful to you for the pictures – lots of old memories.

I hope I will see you in November at the dinner.

Best wishes,

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

**Fax**

To  
Fax number  
From  
Direct Dial  
Direct fax

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

No. of pages This one Time 1600 Date 2 Aug  
(inclusive) only

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*I am sorry not to be able to help you on this occasion.*

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

CHIME  
4th Floor, Archway Wing  
Whittington Hospital Campus  
Highgate Hill  
London N19 5NF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*



Code A

Code A has asked me to write to you to explain that he has been contacted by the Kings Fund who want him to recommend a speaker for a Conference in Switzerland on 17/18 September this year. (Letter enclosed).

I realise that it is very short notice, but Code A wondered whether you might consider this invitation?

I will copy this letter to Code A at the Kings Fund so that if you do decide you are interested, you can contact him direct. I also enclose a note that I have written to Code A at the Kings Fund explaining the situation.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

The Kings Fund  
11-13 Cavendish Sq  
London  
W1M 0AN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I have been in touch with your colleague **Code A** who has been very helpful letting me know when and where the Conference was to take place.

**Code A** suggested **Code A** as a possible choice of speaker so I have taken the liberty of copying your letter and this one to her. I am sure that if she can she will try to help you, but I fear that 17<sup>th</sup> September is rather short notice.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter of 26 July 1999 about the impact of the judgment in R and the Department of Health ex parte Source Informatics on the use of anonymised data in epidemiology and other research.

As you requested, the PAC considered whether we should directly support Source Informatics in their appeal of this judgment. However, we concluded, that while we were sympathetic to the position Source Informatics is taking, and concerned about the effects of this judgment, it was unwise for the GMC to be seen to be closely associated with either of the parties to this case.

We agreed, however, that we should consider intervening by other means, which we understand may now be possible, following the recommendations of the Woolf Report. We are currently investigating the practicalities of going down such a route, and will report back to the PAC at its meeting 16 September 1999.

You may be interested to note that in the wider discussion of the effect of this judicial review judgment on our guidance, we agreed that we should not at present issue our new guidance, and that we should arrange an informal discussion with ACHCEW to discuss the problems and possible ways forward. Again I will keep PAC informed of our progress.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

Specialist Training Authority  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8AE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Many thanks for coming to the first of our Standing Group meetings on 20 July 1999.

I and my colleagues found the meeting extremely helpful in mapping out how to take forward our various initiatives. We recognise of course that there are uncertainties about the precise roles of all our organisations in what is a highly complex project.

I enclose a draft note of the meeting and should be most grateful for any comments which you may have before we finalise it.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

lyael\temp\letter **Code A**

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

JCPTGP  
Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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I enclose a draft note of the meeting and should be most grateful for any comments which you may have before we finalise it.

*Yael*

**Code A**

lyael\temp\letter **Code A**

Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8EA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Many thanks to you and your colleagues for coming to the first of our Standing Group meetings on 20 July 1999.

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I enclose a draft note of the meeting (which I am copying with this letter to your Academy colleagues) and should be most grateful for any comments which you and your colleagues may have before we finalise it.

We are most grateful for the help which you and your office are already giving us in our work, and we are particularly anxious to ensure that we have good working relationships with the Academy, colleges and specialist associations between meetings, so that we can all keep abreast of developments. I know that Code A spoke to you briefly after the meeting about links with the Academy groups looking at revalidation. He and his team would welcome regular contact with representatives of those groups, if that would be acceptable to the Academy. Perhaps you would let me know what you would see as the best way of taking that forward.

Yours  
Code A

Code A

lyael\temp\letter - p

Code A

29 July 1999

**Personal and Confidential**

Code A

Department of Physiology  
University College  
Gower Street  
London WC1E 6BT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

Code A

Thank you for your recent letter. I am glad you are taking the initiative you outline and I would be very happy to support Code A's name for an honour.

With this letter I enclose a draft for your consideration to see if it fits sufficiently with your own proposal.

Yours ever

Code A

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

It gives me great pleasure to support the name of **Code A** for an Honour. **Code A** has made an unique, highly focused, but nevertheless extremely important contribution to society through his work and support of the victims of medical accidents.

He was a leading light in establishing the Action for Victims of Medical Accidents in 1984, and he has had a huge influence in taking it forward to the point where it has had a major impact on national policy.

Today, concern with medical accidents, medical negligence, the performance of doctors and the safety of clinical practice, are at the forefront of our minds, not least because of some of the recent tragedies in medicine. It may be fairly said that the medical profession has come lately to a proper appreciation of the damage and distress caused to patients. It can be certainly said that **Code A** was aware of these problems at a time when they were unfashionable amongst doctors – indeed often vigorously resisted – yet with courage, objectivity and a powerful sense of commitment, he persisted in raising public and professional awareness when others may have faltered. It is that kind of public spirited action which I think really deserves recognition.

## Code A

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Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

University of Sheffield  
 Beech Hill Road  
 Sheffield  
 S10 2RX

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Code A's Visit to University of Sheffield Faculty of Medicine 19-20  
 October 1999

My predecessor, Code A arranged a visit for Code A  
 Code A to  
 your Faculty on 19 and 20 October this year.

She suggested I should make contact with you in early August in order to clarify  
 arrangements.

I wonder if you would be able to let me have an idea of the schedule by the end of  
 August – this means I will be able to alert members of GMC Staff in good time  
 should any particular items need their input. I am aware of the correspondence  
 between you and Code A in which he had agreed to speak at lunchtime on the  
 first day of his visit on Clinical Governance and Revalidation.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and I look forward to hearing from you or  
 your office in due course.

Code A



Code A

2 August 1999

Code A

Faculty of Medicine  
 Maurice Shock Medical Sciences Building  
 PO Box 138 University Road  
 Leicester LE1 9HN

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Code A  
 Visit to University of Leicester Faculty of Medicine 7-8  
 October 1999

My predecessor, Code A, arranged a visit for Code A and his  
 Research Assistant, Code A to your Faculty on 7 and 8 October this year.

She suggested I should make contact with you in early August in order to clarify  
 arrangements.

I wonder if you would be able to let me have an idea of the schedule by the end of  
 August – this means I will be able to alert members of GMC Staff in good time  
 should any particular items need their input.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and I look forward to hearing from you or  
 your office in due course.

Code A

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

The Medical School  
University of Birmingham  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Code A** s Visit to University of Birmingham Faculty of Medicine 26-27  
October 1999

My predecessor, **Code A** arranged a visit for **Code A**  
**Code A** to  
your faculty on 26 and 27 October this year.

She suggested I should make contact with you in early August in order to clarify arrangements.

I wonder if you would be able to let me have an idea of the schedule by the end of August – this means I will be able to alert members of GMC Staff in good time should any particular items need their input.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and I look forward to hearing from you or your office in due course.

**Code A**

**Fax**

To  
 Fax number  
 From **Code A**  
 Direct Dial  
 Direct fax

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

No. of pages  
 (inclusive)

one Time 11

Date 30/7

**Code A**

*In London all day today*

*On leave from Wednesday next week until end August*

*Message left with his Secretary asking him to ring you at home.*

*I am afraid there is no record on the Register of a **Code A***

**Code A**

*- or even someone whose  
 sorry.*

**Fax**

To  
 Fax number  
 From **Code A**  
 Direct Dial  
 Direct fax

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

No. of pages One only Time 12.30 Date 29 July  
 (inclusive)

Revalidation meeting with the BMA/RCGP/ **Code A**

**Code A** Secretary rang me this morning to say that he cannot send a deputy and that he considers his presence at this meeting crucial. **Code A** explained that he wanted us to know that he was adamant!

I am now in a difficult position as we have a positive reaction from all the others – the RCGP are happy to try to find a deputy for **Code A** and everyone else can attend.

Can you advise please?

On a different subject – the envelope with your correspondence should be with you tomorrow morning.

ed weekend.

**Code A**

**Code A**

30 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Code A** wrote to you in response to your recent letter with an offer of lunch on 5 August. I subsequently left a message wondering whether you would be able to accept this engagement. As I have not heard from you I wonder if we could perhaps try to find another date a little later in the year.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

30 July 1999

**Code A**

York Health Services NHS Trust  
Bootham Park  
York YO3 7BY

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 28 July about **Code A**

I have sent this letter to **Code A** of the GMC's Fitness to Practice Directorate. I am sure you will understand that we have to operate a strict code of practice with all complaints, and the President must not have any involvement in a potential case.

I am sure that you will hear from the Fitness to Practice Directorate in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

30 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 28 July about your complaint.

I have sent this letter to **Code A** of the GMC's Fitness to Practice Directorate. I am sure you will understand that we have to operate a strict code of practice with all complaints, and **Code A** must not have any involvement in a potential case.

I am sure that you will hear from the Fitness to Practice Directorate in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Fax**

To  
 Fax number  
 From **Code A**  
 Direct Dial  
 Direct fax

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

No. of pages one Time 11 Date 30/7  
 (inclusive)

**Code A**

*In London all day today  
 On leave from Wednesday next week until end August*

*Message left with his Secretary asking him to ring you at home.*

*I am afraid there is no record on the Register of a **Code A***

**Code A**

*- or even someone whose  
 sorry.*



**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8EA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Many thanks to you and your colleagues for coming to the first of our Standing Group meetings on 20 July 1999.

I and my colleagues found the meeting extremely helpful in mapping out how to take forward our various initiatives. We recognise of course that there are uncertainties about the precise roles of all our organisations in what is a highly complex project.

I enclose a draft note of the meeting (which I am copying with this letter to your Academy colleagues) and should be most grateful for any comments which you and your colleagues may have before we finalise it.

We are most grateful for the help which you and your office are already giving us in our work, and we are particularly anxious to ensure that we have good working relationships with the Academy, colleges and specialist associations between meetings, so that we can all keep abreast of developments. I know that **Code A** spoke to you briefly after the meeting about links with the Academy groups looking at revalidation. He and his team would welcome regular contact with representatives of those groups, if that would be acceptable to the Academy. Perhaps you would let me know what you would see as the best way of taking that forward.

lyael/temp/letter **Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

JCPTGP

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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lyae\temp\letter

**Code A**

**Code A**

2 August 1999

**Code A**

Specialist Training Authority  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8AE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I enclose a draft note of the meeting and should be most grateful for any comments which you may have before we finalise it.

lyael\temp\letter - **Code A**

**Code A**

29 July 1999

BY AIR MAIL

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** on the subject of the Australian approach to Revalidation.

I am taking the liberty of copying your letter and certificate to our Standards and Education Directorate and to those who are currently working on Revalidation. I know that they will find your suggestions interesting.

Thank you again for going to the trouble to write.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

29 July 1999

Personal and Confidential

**Code A**

University College  
Gower Street  
London WC1E 6BT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Thank you for your recent letter. I am glad you are taking the initiative you outline and I would be very happy to support **Code A**'s name for an honour.

With this letter I enclose a draft for your consideration to see if it fits sufficiently with your own proposal.

**Code A**

## Code A

It gives me great pleasure to support the name of [Code A] for an Honour. [Code A] has made an unique, highly focused, but nevertheless extremely important contribution to society through his work and support of the victims of medical accidents.

He was a leading light in establishing the Action for Victims of Medical Accidents in 1984, and he has had a huge influence in taking it forward to the point where it has had a major impact on national policy.

Today, concern with medical accidents, medical negligence, the performance of doctors and the safety of clinical practice, are at the forefront of our minds, not least because of some of the recent tragedies in medicine. It may be fairly said that the medical profession has come lately to a proper appreciation of the damage and distress caused to patients. It can be certainly said that [Code A] was aware of these problems at a time where they were unfashionable amongst Doctors – indeed often vigorously resisted – yet with courage, objectivity and a powerful sense of commitment, he persisted in raising public and professional awareness when others may have faltered. It is that kind of public spirited action which I think really deserves recognition.

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

Mackintosh House  
120 Blythwood Street  
Glasgow G2 4EA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Thank you for your letter about the proposal to celebrate the centenary of the Union with a new book. In principle I would be honoured and pleased to contribute, not least since you anticipate that I would not need to do all the work!

Please let me know how you see things being taken forward.

**Code A**

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

Clinical Sciences Building  
Level 5  
St James' University Hospital  
Leeds LS9 7TF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

I am now back in action again after my holiday and I write to say firstly how disappointed I was to hear that you were not re-elected to the Council. You will be a huge loss. I appreciate how you must feel.

Thank you for your suggestions about taking things forward. I have no doubt that **Code A** will be excellent and I will be taking the matter up with her in due course.

Lastly, I hope that you are once more on the road to good health.

**Code A**



*The President* Sir Donald Irvine CBE

29 July 1999

**Code A**

Sign Secretariat  
Royal College of Physicians  
9 Queen Street  
Edinburgh EH2 1JQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Just a note to thank you for the SIGN Guide. As ever I thought it was excellent. These really are a very good series which leaves Scotland well ahead of the game!

With best wishes,

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

Oxfordshire Health Authority  
Directorate of Public Health and Health Policy  
Richards Building, Old Road  
Headington  
Oxford OX3 7LG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

#### **Mental Health in Oxford**

The beautiful, glossy brochure called *Mental Health in Oxfordshire* dropped through my letterbox this morning. I have had a quick look through and it was sufficient to whet my appetite for a closer read.

I am writing simply to say thank you; you should feel proud of such a very good presentation and for all the good work that lies beneath it.

Best wishes

Code A

29 July 1999

Code A

University of Southampton  
Biomedical Sciences Building  
Bassett Crescent East  
Southampton SO16 7PX

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

I am writing on behalf of your colleagues on the Council to thank you very much indeed for all you have contributed to the work of the Council, in particular to the Education Committee in your period as Chairman.

We wish you every success as another interesting and exciting step in your career unfolds.

With best wishes

Code A

29 July 1999

Code A

Department of Economics and Related Studies  
Heslington  
York YO1 5DD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

### **York's Bid**

It was kind of you to send me a copy of your bid for the Interdisciplinary Health and Social Resource Centre. This is a key development, and it is evident from your proposal that York is very well placed to succeed.

I wish you all good luck and indeed, success.

Code A

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

I guess I am not the only recently absentee member whose conscience you are jogging!

I hope the Society will continue and I hope to be a better attending member. Please keep my name on the list.

**Code A**

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Thank you very much for the most enjoyable dinner the other evening. It was a case of good food, good company and good speeches – all that an invited guest could wish for!

I look forward to seeing you at the Introductory Day for new GMC members in early August.

With best wishes

**Code A**

29 July 1999

**Code A**

Legal Services Ombudsman  
22 Oxford Court  
Oxford Street  
Manchester  
M2 3WQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Conference - Friday December 3 1999 - Self Regulation in the Legal Profession**

It was very kind of you to send me your Annual Report and the invitation to speak at your conference on Friday 3 December. Unfortunately I will have to decline because I am already committed to another engagement that day which I cannot move.

In our conversation, much of it was about the development of professional standards culminating in Good Medical Practice. May I suggest that **Code A**

**Code A** of our Standards Committee may be able to help you – he is a very good speaker and knows the subject backwards.

With best wishes

**Code A**

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

University of Nottingham  
 Queen's Medical Centre  
 Nottingham  
 NG7 2UH

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

I was delighted to learn that you will be joining us on the Council and hope that you will find your membership fruitful and enjoyable. I know that we shall be calling upon your help and advice in the years to come.

I look forward to seeing you at the Open Day for new members which takes place on Monday 9 August 1999.

With all good wishes.

*Yours,*

Code A



**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I was delighted to learn that you will be returning to join us on the Council and I hope that you will find your new period of membership as fruitful and enjoyable as your last. I know that we shall be calling upon your help and advice in the years to come.

I very much look forward to seeing you at the Open Day for new members taking place on Monday 9 August 1999.

With all good wishes.

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

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I very much hope that you will be able to join us at the Open Day for new members which takes place on Monday 9 August 1999.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

University of Bristol  
University Walk  
Bristol  
BS8 1TD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

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I very much hope that you will be able to join us at the Open Day for new members which takes place on Monday 9 August 1999.

With all good wishes.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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With all good wishes.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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With all good wishes.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

The Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London  
SW1Y 5AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

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With all good wishes.

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I very much look forward to meeting you at the Open Day for new members on Monday 9 August 1999.

With all good wishes.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

26 July 1999

**Code A**

North Thames Deanery  
TPMDE  
33 Millman Street  
London  
WC1N 3EJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Yours* **Code A**

**Consultative Group meetings**

Thank you for your e-mail message to **Code A** of the  
Consultants and Specialists Consultative Group.

It is clearly unfortunate that this Consultative Group is scheduled to be held on the Day of Atonement. As you will appreciate, it is not possible to fix dates which allow everybody to attend meetings of the Consultative Group.

The 20 September 1999 is one of the few days that the chair of the Consultative Group, Douglas Gentleman, the chairs of two of the BMA committees represented on the Consultative Group and myself are all available. In these circumstances we feel we should go ahead with the meeting on 20 September 1999.

I am sorry that you will not be able to attend and I appreciate the sensitivities involved. But it is important that we maintain progress on revalidation and that the deaneries are fully involved in the process. I do hope that you will be able to arrange for COPMED to be represented at the meeting by sending a deputy

I will miss your contribution on 20 September 1999 and I look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

*Yours*

**Code A**

**Code A**



**Code A**

26 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Ophthalmologists  
17 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QW

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Revalidation**

Thank you for your letter of 24 June 1999.

We were interested to read your helpful *Quality Development Programme* and welcome your support for a system of revalidation based on local profiling.

As you know, we are in close contact with the Academy who are fully involved in our consultative process to develop revalidation. We have also found it helpful to be invited as observers to the revalidation committees of the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Royal College of Physicians. In addition meetings have been arranged between the GMC and representatives of the Royal College of Surgeons and of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (with the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

I see from your letter to **Code A** also dated 24 June 1999, that you have passed our two draft reports to your clinical governance working group. We would be very happy to meet with this group if they would find this useful.

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

Our ref: DHI/PB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dun

Code A

### Working Group on the Professional Conduct Committee

I am writing to every member of the PCC Working Group to let you know about decisions taken by the Fitness to Practise Policy Committee (FPPC) on 21 July 1999.

The FPPC considered how the Group's report should be taken forward in the light of the discussion in Council in May 1999. I enclose a copy of the paper the FPPC discussed.

You will see that the paper, which Code A had seen and approved in advance, noted that the Group's task had largely been completed and that most of the remaining questions to be determined concerned fundamental issues about the fitness to practise procedures as a whole, rather than the PCC alone. In that light, the paper recommended that from here on the FPPC should co-ordinate the further work which is required, although it would be open to the FPPC to reconstitute the Group in the future. The FPPC accepted all the recommendations in the paper, and the Group's work is therefore at an end. The task of implementing its recommendations (some of which Council will need to consider further) now begins.

The Group produced a very thorough report. It identified solutions to numerous anomalies and loopholes in our procedures and pointed the way forward in a number of crucial policy areas. I am very grateful to you for the contribution which you made to it.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

Our ref: DHI/PB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

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*Yours ever*

**Code A**

**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal Free Hospital  
Pond Street  
London NW3 2QG

Our ref: DHI/PB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Seen* **Code A**

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*Seen*  
**Code A**

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Our ref: DHI/PB

*Dear*

Code A

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**Code A**

27 July 1999

**Code A**

Our ref: DHI/PB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan*

**Code A**

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*Jan*

**Code A**

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

Our ref: DHI/PB

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

D saw Code A

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Y saw

Code A

Code A

27 July 1999

Code A

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Our ref: DHI/PB

*Dear* Code A

**Working Group on the Professional Conduct Committee**

... I enclose a copy of a letter I have sent to members of the Working Group informing them about the decision taken by the Fitness to Practise Policy Committee on 21 July 1999 to bring the Group to an end.

I have, of course, thanked the Group's members for their contributions, but above everyone else I thank you for leading it so effectively and for producing such a thorough and thoughtful report. We are all greatly in your debt.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A





**Code A**

28 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter and enclosures dated 24 July addressed to **Code A**  
**Code A**

I have sent your correspondence to the Head of the GMC's Fitness to Practice Directorate as they are responsible for all complaints of this nature.

I am sure you will hear from them in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**







Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

East Kent Health Authority  
 Protea House  
 New Bridge  
 Marine Parade  
 Dover  
 Kent CT17 9HQ

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

D. J. J.

Code A

### Clinical Governance

Thank you so much for writing to me on 21 July and for sending me a copy of your paper. I am glad that you found the Birmingham Conference useful and I am grateful to you for your kind comments.

I will pass a copy of your paper on to our Standards and Education Directorate as I am sure they will find it of interest.

Best wishes,

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

British Medical Association  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Jan Code A

Thank you inviting me to give the Keynote Speech at your Whistleblowing Conference on 10 December.

The date is firmly etched in the diary and I look forward to receiving further information nearer the time. I would be grateful if you could send this to my

Code A at this address. Code A

Kind regards,

Jan

Code A

Code A

22 July 1999

**Code A**

British Association of Pharmaceutical Physicians  
26-28 Bedford Row  
London WC1R 4HE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan* **Code A**

**Annual Dinner**

Thank you so much for your very kind invitation to attend your Annual Dinner at BAFTA on 21 September. I am sorry, however, that I will not be able to join you this year as I am already committed to another appointment on that occasion.

I do hope that you have a very enjoyable and successful evening.

Best wishes,

*Yasmin*

**Code A**



Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

North East Devon Health Authority  
Dean Clarke House  
Southernhay East  
Exeter EX1 1PQ

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dean*  
Code A

**Clinical Governance Conference 8 November 1999**

Thank you very much for inviting me to speak at your conference which sounds very exciting. I regret, however, that I am unable to accept as I am already committed elsewhere on that occasion. I would be most interested to receive any papers or reports that may result from this event.

Kind regards,

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

Portex Department of Paediatric Anaesthesia  
30 Guilford St  
London  
WC1N 1EH

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Das*

Code A

Many thanks indeed for sending me a copy of the letter you have recently sent out to Lead Clinicians - I am most grateful to have been included.

I would be very interested to hear what replies you receive!

*Y  
Das*

Code A

Code A

**Code A**

22 July 1999

**Personal**

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Your letter of 6<sup>th</sup> July was awaiting me when I returned from holiday, and I think mine may be awaiting you when you are back at the beginning of August!

I am writing simply to thank you, in particular for your very explicit and fulsome support on the changed agenda we have in hand.

I was very sorry that we have lost **Code A**. However, taking the new Council in the round, it does look as though it will be as robust as the last one – if not more so. It could have been a very different story.

I will be in touch with you when you are back, so that we can talk.

Yours  
as ever

**Code A**

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

The House of Commons  
Westminster  
London SW1A 0AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*John* Code A

Just a note to thank you for yours about the GMC on the move. I would be the first to agree that Darlington has its attractions, but, as you can imagine, London has won out again!

However, we are looking forward to having a really modern building which will enable us to do our job much better – as befits the modern regulating body we have every intention of becoming!

It was good to hear from you again, and from what I hear you seem to be enjoying your new responsibilities which must be quite challenging.

With best wishes

*John*  
Code A

**Code A**

22 July 1999

**Code A**

Gt Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust  
Great Ormond Street  
London WC1N 3JH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you very much indeed for your very interesting papers. As you say, they are highly relevant to our developing policy on SHO Training. I am ensuring that

**Code A** of our Education Committee, will see them.

Thank you once again for your interest and your kindness in bringing your work to my attention.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I was very sorry – but not entirely unsurprised – to receive your letter of resignation from the GMC. I am very sorry indeed, but I quite understand.

You will be sorely missed by your many friends on the Council.

May I say, on behalf of the Council, how much we have appreciated your contribution to our work at a very critical time in the evolution of the relationships between medicine and the public. In that context your experience, wisdom, common sense and judgement have been invaluable assets particularly in helping to get the balance right between the public and professional interests. We are most grateful to you and we wish you every success and good health as you look to your new and wider responsibilities in future.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

Royal College of Anaesthetists  
48-49 Russell Square  
London WC1B 4JY

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

I am writing on behalf of my colleagues on the Revalidation Steering Group to thank you, Code A and your colleagues for the excellent discussion on revalidation the other evening, and for the equally enjoyable conversation over dinner.

We were impressed by the thought, care and attention which you are giving to this very important part of our profession's agenda. Equally, it was good to see Charlotte there making such a good contribution from the patients' point of view and the very positive way in which the Association and the College appreciate that.

We await developments with interest!

Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

Code A

22 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

PRHO Assesment

Just a note to thank you very much indeed for your letter which I am passing on to Code A for his attention in our Education Committee. You make a very valid point.

Yours ever

Code A



**Code A**

20 July 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Guy's, King's and St Thomas' School of Medicine  
5th Floor  
Capital House  
42 West Street  
London SE1 3QD

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 23 June 1999, enclosing a revised draft of your report on the study relating to the GMC's health procedures.

I have read the draft with great interest, and am grateful to you for the various improvements which you have incorporated in response to our previous comments. This has been a very useful exercise, and the report will provide an important foundation for the further development of the health procedures.

I understand that **Code A** has already sent you some further comments on this latest draft, and that you will be meeting with the Steering Group later this week to discuss some points of detail.

Thank you for the hard work which has gone into this excellent report.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**







The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

20 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 7<sup>th</sup> July. I am sorry we missed the opportunity of a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup>, but due to the vagaries of the Royal Mail your letter did not arrive until that very day!

You suggest 5<sup>th</sup> August – I too have a slot on that day but not at 3pm. I wonder if you are free at 1.00 for a bite of lunch?

If this does not fit in with your diary I will ask **Code A** to contact your office. Hopefully they will be able to find us some time.

Best wishes

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

19 July 1999

**Code A**

Westaway Gillis Ltd  
Barnyard  
Chartridge Lane  
Chesham  
Bucks HP5 2TF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 12 July inviting me to join the Prix Galien Awards Advisory Board for the year 2000.

I accept your invitation and look forward to hearing from you with dates for our meetings.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

19 July 1999

Code A

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine  
Keppel Street  
London  
WC1E 7HT

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am writing to say how sorry I was to learn that we will be losing your services as a member of the Council. Your contribution has been valuable and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who worked with you on the Finance Committee and the Review Board for Overseas Qualified Practitioners, in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

Yours ever,

I am very sorry. You are such a fund of commonsense, and see things so often as patients would want us to.

**Code A**

16 July 1999

**Code A**

General Practitioners Committee  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients.  
guiding doctors*

*Doc* **Code A**

### Revalidation

When we met at the Royal College of Pathologists on Tuesday, we had an informal discussion about the development of proposals for revalidation.

As I said then, I think the best way forward would be for us to hold an ad hoc meeting to discuss how to provide the opportunities which the profession would like to talk through the development of revalidation with the GMC, without other parties present. This would be without prejudice to the multi-lateral consultative groups we have already established, and could follow the pattern used in the development of the Performance Procedures.

My office will contact yours, and those of the other shown on the distribution list below, to arrange a time for the meeting. I have included **Code A** on the list because, as you said, the arrangements we make for general practice will need to be slightly different from those for the hospital specialties.

*Law*

**Code A**

Distribution List:

**Code A**



**Code A**

16 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients.  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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My office will contact yours, and those of the other shown on the distribution list below, to arrange a time for the meeting. I have included **Code A** on the list because, as **Code A** said, the arrangements we make for general practice will need to be slightly different from those for the hospital specialties.

*Yours*

**Code A**

Distribution List:

**Code A**

# Code A

16 July 1999

## Code A

BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

### Revalidation

When we met at the Royal College of Pathologists on Tuesday, we had an informal discussion about the development of proposals for revalidation.

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*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Distribution List:

# Code A

**Code A**

16 July 1999

**Code A**

Joint Consultants Committee  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Distribution List:

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 July 1999

**Code A**

British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Distribution List:

**Code A**

Code A

16 July 1999

Code A

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan*

Code A

**Revalidation**

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*Yours*

Code A

Code A

*you were not here! But Code A is right  
it would be the RCGP be there in  
its own right.*

Distribution List:

Code A

Code A

Code A

15 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan*

Code A

I thoroughly enjoyed our meeting yesterday morning and you have certainly left me with plenty of food for thought (and action!).

I have copied your letter to Code A and hope to get some feedback from him when he returns from a week's leave.

Best wishes,

*Jan*

Code A

Code A

15 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

It was good of you to take the time to come and see me today.

I hope that Code A was able to reassure you that we are actively considering your registration and hope to have an answer for you once you are happy that we have all the documents you wish us to see, and the relevant Committee has met.

As I explained, I am happy to say I have been re-elected for another term and I am grateful for your good wishes.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

14 Juillet 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Cher* **Code A**

J'écris à vous remercier concernant le camera que j'ai laissé à votre restaurant la semaine dernière. Il est arrivé Lundi matin sain et sauf à Londres.

On s'est bien regardé lors de notre déjeuner chez vous et nous espérons d'avoir le plaisir de retourner chez vous bientôt.

Dans cette attente, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

**Code A**



Code A

15 July 1999

Code A

Eversheds  
Sun Alliance House  
35 Moseley Street  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 1XX

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

Thank you for your letter of 15 June enclosing the Codocils to our respective Wills.  
These I return duly signed and witnessed as per your instructions.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

**Code A**

15 July 1999

**Code A**

Great Ormond Street Hospital NHS Trust  
London  
WC1N 3JH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you for going to the trouble of sending me parts one and two of the articles you wrote with **Code A**

I shall read them on my next train journey home.

In the meantime I have asked that they are drawn to the attention of our Standards and Education Directorate and look forward to their comments.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

15 July 1999

Code A

Royal College of Ophthalmologists  
17 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QW

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

Thank you so much for inviting Code A and myself to your Annual Dinner on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

I very much regret, however, that I shall be in Holland on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of September attending a conference in Nijmegen so on this occasion we will not be able to join you.

I do hope that you have a successful evening.

Yours

Code A

**Code A**

15 July 1999

**Code A**

Faculty of Medicine  
University of Liverpool  
Duncan Building  
Daulby Street  
Liverpool L69 3GA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Code A**

**- Visit to Liverpool Faculty of Medicine**

Your secretary kindly phoned this office and left me a message saying that any combination of the three days in April mentioned in my letter of 24 June would suit your faculty.

**Code A** and his Research Assistant **Code A** will, therefore, be with you on Wednesday and Thursday 26 and 27 April 2000.

I will be in touch with your office regarding arrangements nearer the time.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

15 July 1999

Code A

Grove House  
Millers Close  
Dorchester  
Dorset DT1 1SS

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Further to my letter of 24 June 1999 I now enclose your draft seminar report with Code A's written amendments.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

**Code A**

15 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** dated 14 July. As your letter takes the form of a complaint there is a strict course of action that has to be taken.

Complaints are dealt with by the 'Fitness to Practice' Directorate of the GMC rather than by the President himself, so your letter has been passed to the Head of this division and you will doubtless hear from them in due course.

I am sorry that you have not received a response from **Code A** himself, but strict procedure prevents him from being personally involved in any potential cases.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

14 July 1999

Code A

Princess Margaret Hospital  
Okus Road  
Swindon  
Wilts SN1 4JU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for writing to me on 9 June – I am afraid that your letter only arrived in this office today, hence my late reply.

Much as I would like to accept your invitation I am afraid that it will be difficult to arrange a suitable evening for me to get to Swindon. However, please do let me know if you would like an alternative speaker from within the GMC to come to talk about Revalidation and I will do my best to make the necessary arrangements.

I hope that this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

14 July 1999

Code A

Commission for Racial Equality  
Elliot House  
10/12 Allington Street  
London SW1E 5EH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

Thank you so much for inviting me to yesterday's presentation and reception. It was excellent and gave much food for thought about how we could do more. I will come back to you on this!

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A



14 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 6 June 1999 to **Code A** about the GMC elections and the future composition of the Council. I am replying on behalf of the President; I am very sorry to have taken so long to reply.

We will be reviewing all aspects of the electoral process. The unprecedented number of candidates in England raised a number of practical difficulties about the presentation of information to electors, and may well have contributed to the disappointing turnout in the constituency. We will be looking closely at the options.

Smaller constituencies would not be without their own problems; they would need to be of roughly equal size; and we lack natural regional boundaries. The 1999 elections revealed a number of address changes in England of which we were not aware (in addition to the 500 address changes that we are informed of each week). Address changes that resulted in a change of constituency could present an issue, which we hardly had to face at all this year. There is also an argument that smaller constituencies work against minority candidates.

We need also to look at how we present candidates' information to electors; one possibility could be lists of candidates within particular categories (say, by age; gender; specialty), without establishing constituencies for those categories.

From November 1999, almost exactly half the members of Council will be new. This includes newly appointed lay and medical members, as well as those recently elected. We will be looking at how we maintain continuity without making Council membership any less accessible.

The composition of the Council's membership has changed three times since 1987. The trend has been to increase the number of elected and lay members and to decrease the number of appointed medical members, while preserving the majority of elected members as recommended by the Merrison Committee.

You propose that elected GMC members should be practising. I comment only that we face the very real problem of an ever-increasing workload for Council members, particularly for fitness to practise hearings. Retired members can bring a great deal of experience and expertise to our work, and they have the time to devote to lengthy or multiple cases. The Council will be considering how we cope with these increasing demands in the future.

No decisions have been made on any of these issues. We shall be consulting on the outcome of our review in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

14 July 1999

**Code A**

British Council  
Bridgwater House  
58 Whitworth Street  
Manchester M1 6BB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 9 July inviting me to take part in a Health Governance Seminar in China next year with **Code A**

In principal I am very happy to accept this, but do ask that you contact my **Code A** **Code A** regarding any arrangements.

I look forward to hearing from you with further details in due course.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

13 July 1999

Code A

Secretary Nuffield Trust  
59 New Cavendish Street  
London  
W1M 7RD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan* Code A

**Policy Futures in UK Health – Workshop 16 September 1999**

Thank you for inviting me to take part in this workshop – I would have liked to have been there.

I am afraid, however, that I am committed to two meetings here in London that I really must attend.

*Jan*

Code A

Code A

**Code A**

14 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Queen Mary and Westfield College  
University of London  
Mile End Road  
London E1 4NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of your Annual Report. I enjoyed reading the Review of the year 1998 and would like to congratulate you on the dynamism your Department shows in so many aspects of its work.

It is a tribute to your continuing success and hard work. Many congratulations.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

13 July 1999

Code A

University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92019  
Auckland  
New Zealand

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your kind letter of 29 June. I am delighted that you were able to join us for the CIO dinner at the RCGP for what was indeed an enjoyable evening. Thank you too for sending me copies of '*Identification of an Appropriate Quality Measurement Tool for use in New Zealand General Practice*', and '*Maintenance of Professional Standards*' both of which I have read with interest.

They are both thoroughly useful and well written documents and I am now sending them on to our Standards and Education Directorate for their information.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Code A

**Code A**

14 July 1999

**Code A**

Department of Anaesthesia  
Newcastle General Hospital  
Westgate Road  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 6BE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 23 June. I am sorry that it has taken me nearly three weeks to respond, but **Code A** has been on leave and I had to await his return before contacting you as a problem has arisen with the date we chose – ie 26 November.

**Code A** have been asked to attend a major dinner in London where **Code A** has been asked give the main after dinner speech. I hesitate to ask you if you would be prepared to take another date for your event as I realise you have probably started to make arrangements but on this occasion **Code A** feels that he really ought to attend this function.

I have done some juggling with the diary and have come up with the evening of Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> which is, at least, quite near our original date, and hope that this will be of use to you. I do apologise for putting you to so much trouble, but hope that you will understand the problems we have trying to fit everything into **Code A** **Code A**'s schedule!

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

**Code A**

13 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Gynaecologists  
27 Sussex Place  
Regent's Park  
London NW1 4RG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** advising them of the date of this year's Annual Dinner on Friday 26 November.

**Code A** will be delighted to accept and look forward to **Code A** **Code A**'s official invitation.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



12 July 1999 Donald Irvine CBE

COPY

# Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

## Code of Conduct and Register of Members' Interests

I am pleased to enclose the code of conduct for members, approved by Council in May 1999.

The code is voluntary, but the Council expects members to adhere to it. All current and newly elected and appointed members are being invited to indicate their commitment to the code. A statement to this effect is enclosed, which you are invited to sign and return to **Code A**

The declaration of conflicts of interest forms an important part of the code. The Council agreed that it is for individual members to determine whether their membership of, association with, or financial interest in any organisation gives rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict. The statement of commitment to the code of conduct includes a section for the declaration of interests.

The register of interests is being maintained for the purpose of internal governance. Any member who wishes to look at the register of interests should contact **Code A** or me.

If you have any questions about the code of conduct or the register of members' interests, please do not hesitate to contact either **Code A** or me.

*Yours sincerely*

# Code A

Code A

9 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

You may have been slightly confused when you saw the note sent by Code A Code A yesterday which, through an error, was printed on our Code A's letterhead.

Code A – he has not become Code A overnight! My apologies for this small but significant mistake.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

8 July 1999

Code A

Faculty of Medicine  
University of Sheffield  
Beech Hill Road  
Sheffield S10 2RX

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

Thank you for your letter of 30 June - my apologies for a late reply but I have just returned from a ten day break in France!

I accept your invitation to speak at lunchtime on the first day of my visit on 19/20 October, and suggest the following title :

**'Professional Accountability, Clinical Governance and  
Revalidation – What do they mean for Tomorrow's Doctors?'**

I am sorry that you will be leaving Sheffield before my visit, but trust that you will be able to enjoy a long and very enjoyable retirement.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

**Code A**

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians  
11 St Andrews Place  
Regent's Park  
London NW1 4LE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Private Finance Initiatives – Monday 18 October**

Thank you for writing to invite **Code A** to attend this meeting. I am sorry to say that he will not be able to join you. I feel sure, however, that he would be most interested to hear of any conclusions that you may come to.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Surgeons of England  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter letting me know about your sponsored walk from Robin Hood's Bay to St Bees – by the time you read this letter you will have completed it!

I have sent a cheque to the Development Office as requested on your sponsorship form but just wanted to wish you every success in your venture.

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 5 July inviting us to the Royal College of Pathologist's Annual Dinner. Regrettably I have a speaking in Cardiff on 24 November and so, will have to decline.

*Yours only*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians  
11 St Andrews Place  
Regent's Park  
London NW1 4LE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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**Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

8 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in the GMC election. I hope you will continue to find your membership of Council fruitful and enjoyable. I know that I shall continue to call on your help and advice in the years to come and I am delighted to have the opportunity of working with you in the future.

I look forward to seeing you again at the Council meeting on Tuesday 2 November 1999.

Yours sincerely  
Code A



Code A  
8 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

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guiding doctors*

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Code A

8 July 1999

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MEDICAL  
COUNCIL***Protecting patients,  
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Yours ever  
**Code A**

Code A

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear [redacted] Code A

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Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

8 July 1999

Code A

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dan

Code A

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Code A

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MEDICAL  
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guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely,

Code A

**Code A**

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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*Yours ever*

**Code A**

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**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I look forward to seeing you again at the Council meeting on Tuesday 2 November 1999.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Pike View Medical Centre  
Albert Street  
Horwich  
Bolton  
Lancs  
BL6 7AW

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

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Yours sincerely,

**Code A**



Code A

8 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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Code A

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8 July 1999

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**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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Yours ever

**Code A**

8 July 1999

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MEDICAL  
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guiding doctors*

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I look forward to seeing you again at the Council meeting on Tuesday 2 November 1999.

Yours  
sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in the GMC election. I hope you will continue to find your membership of Council fruitful and enjoyable. I know that I shall continue to call on your help and advice in the years to come and I am delighted to have the opportunity of working with you in the future.

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Yours ever

**Code A**

Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in the GMC election. I hope you will continue to find your membership of Council fruitful and enjoyable. I know that I shall continue to call on your help and advice in the years to come and I am delighted to have the opportunity of working with you in the future.

I look forward to seeing you again at the Council meeting on Tuesday 2 November 1999.

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**Code A**

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary  
 Acre Street  
 Huddersfield  
 HD3 3EA

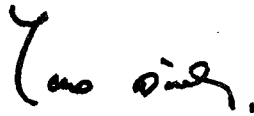
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**Code A**



Code A

8 July 1999

Newly  
elected  
Members**Code A**

The Medical School  
University of Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE2 4HH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in the GMC election. I hope you will enjoy your return to Council life. There is a great deal of work ahead of us and I know that I shall be calling on your help and advice in the years to come. I look forward to working with you in the future.

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D. J. J.

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Yours sincerely,

Code A

**Code A**

**Code A**

Manchester Royal Infirmary  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9WL

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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**Code A**

6 July 1999

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Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

I am writing to introduce myself, and to welcome you to the Council.

You will be receiving more information about our work shortly, including a Members Handbook. Details of an Open Day for new members on 9 August 1999 are being sent to you, and I look forward to meeting you then. If you are unable to attend, we will gladly arrange a visit to our offices at another time.

If there is ever anything that my colleagues or I can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

8 July 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

On my return from holiday, I was delighted to learn that you will be staying with us for a further five years. Many congratulations on your renomination. I hope that you will continue to find membership of the Council stimulating and rewarding.

As you are well aware, there is a great deal of work ahead of us. I know that over the next few years, I will be depending upon your help and guidance more than ever.

Yours ever,

Code A

I am much relieved !!

**Code A**

9 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I am writing to congratulate you on your success in the GMC election. I hope you will find your membership of Council fruitful and enjoyable. There is a great deal of work ahead of us and I know that I shall be calling on your help and advice in the years to come. I look forward to working with you in the future.

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Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

Belfast City Hospital Complex  
 Lisburn Road  
 Belfast  
 Northern Ireland  
 BT9 7TS

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dan

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*Yours*

**Code A**

**Code A**

5 July 1999

**Code A**

The Society of Apothecaries  
Apothecaries Hall  
Blackfriars Lane  
London EC4V 6EJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

thanks  
The Master and Wardens of the Society of Apothecaries  
for  
their kind invitation to dinner  
on  
17 August at 7.30pm  
but regrets he will be unable to accept.

**Code A**



Code A

8 July 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 28 June. **Code A** is away at present so I have taken the liberty of copying your letter to our Standards and Education Directorate from whom I expect you will receive a response in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 July 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you so much for sending me the dates you are available to meet in Edinburgh – as you can see from the enclosed I am trying again, but regrettably not until December.

I will keep you posted as to the outcome.

Kind regards.

**Code A**

**Code A**

6 July 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
The Scottish Office  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I have managed to find one further possible date for a meeting with **Code A**  
**Code A**

**Code A** are available to travel to Edinburgh on Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup>. I wonder if you could liaise with your opposite number in the Minister's office and see if there is any time that day for a meeting?

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Code A**

To	1.	<b>Code A</b>
	2.	
Copy		

Letter to	<b>Code A</b>
From	
Organisation	Royal Army Medical Corps
Subject	Standards
Date of letter	28 June 1999
Date received in OPCE	30 June 1999
Please provide	Response
Reply to be signed by	Directorate to decide
Please return by	-
Comments by President	President on leave until 8 July Acknowledgement letter sent (copy attached) Processed by <b>Code A</b>
Comments by Chief Executive	
Director's comments	
I do*/do not* wish to see the draft	
Reply signed by	<b>Signature</b>  <b>Date</b>

e:\townsend\ **Code A** June 1999

**Code A**

30 June 1999

**Confidential**

**Code A**

Royal Hospital Haslar  
Gosport  
Hants PO 12 2AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** which arrived in this office today. I have sent a confidential copy to the Head of our Standards and Education Directorate, **Code A** **Code A** and I am sure you will be hearing from him in due course.

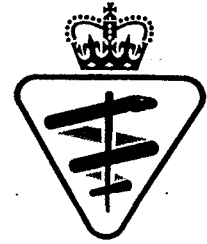
Yours sincerely

**Code A**



From:

**Code A**  
**Royal Hospital Haslar**  
**Gosport • Hants • PO12 2AA**



**Defence Secondary  
 Care Agency**

E-

**Code A**

**Code A**

General Medical Council  
 178 Great Portland St  
 London  
 W1N 6JE

Date: 2 August 1999

Your ref:

Our ref:

06 AUG 1999

Dear Sir

With regards to a response to earlier correspondence from your **Code A**  
**Code A** dated the 30th June 1999, I have yet to hear a response from the General Medical  
 Council with a response to my earlier queries.

I would be grateful if a response could be forthcoming as soon as is practicably possible.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

30 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for writing to Code A on 29<sup>th</sup> June with your comments on the meeting held here on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Code A is enjoying a few days' leave at present but I will ensure he sees your letter on his return next week. In the meantime I have copied your correspondence to those who attended the meeting and hopefully you will receive their comments in due course.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

28 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending **Code A** a copy of your publication 'Guidance for Clinical Governance in Ophthalmology 1999'.

**Code A** is on leave at present so I am taking the liberty of showing it to the head of our Standards and Education Directorate whom I am sure will find its content of great interest.

Once again may I thank you for sending the GMC a copy.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



Code A

28 June 1999

Code A

Falklands Government  
King Edward VII Memorial Hospital  
Stanley  
Falkland Islands

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter to Code A of 17 June. Code A is away from the office until the middle of next week when I hope that he will be able to study your letter and send you a response.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

28 June 1999

**Code A**

Freeman Hospital  
High Heaton  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE7 7DN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 21 June. **Code A** is away at present so I have taken the liberty of copying your letter to **Code A** who heads up our

**Code A**

I know that you will be hearing from her in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

28 June 1999

Code A

Queen Mary and Westfield College  
Department of General Practice and Primary Care  
University of London  
London E1 4NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you so much for sending Code A a copy of your Annual Report. He is away at present but I will ensure he sees it upon his return to London next week.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

28 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Medicine  
1 Wimpole Street  
London W1

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for phoning **Code A** today. As I explained, **Code A** is on leave until 8 July and so was unable to talk to you about the invitation to close the conference on 23 October here in London.

You were most understanding when I explained that **Code A** would hopefully be in Newcastle that weekend, and I know that **Code A** will appreciate your candid advice. I do hope that we can help you on another occasion.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

Code A

25 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I write following a letter to Code A from Code A dated 21 June regarding a proposed meeting between them, the Code A and yourself.

Code A suggested finding a date after the August recess so I have looked through Code A's diary and have identified four possible dates. I am writing in similar terms to Code A and, once I have heard from you and Code A, I will contact the Minister's Office.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

25 June 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
The Scottish Office  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I write following a letter to **Code A** from **Code A** dated 21 June regarding a proposed meeting between them, the **Code A** and **Code A**

**Code A** suggested finding a date after the August recess so I have looked through **Code A**'s diary and have identified four possible dates. I am writing in similar terms to **Code A** and, once I have heard from you and him, I will contact the Minister's Office.

**Code A**

**SUGGESTED DATES FOR A MEETING  
BETWEEN**

**Code A**

**AT A VENUE TO BE DECIDED  
EDINBURGH**

- Preferred date : 28 October (not during the afternoon)
- Or 29 October (any time up to 16.00)

(As **Code A** is speaking at a two day conference in Edinburgh on these dates)

- Alternatively 18 October
- Or 22 October

(but these are not quite as suitable)

**Code A**

24 June 1999

Members Circular 28/99

To All Council Members

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL***Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors**Dear Member***1999 GMC Elections: results**

I have now received, from Electoral Reform Ballot Services (ERBS), the results of the election for membership of the Council. A list of those elected in each of the four constituencies is enclosed. I have written to candidates today and a press briefing will be held tomorrow. The list of successful candidates will be published on our website.

As I reported to Council on 25-26 May 1999, we became aware that a small number of election papers had been despatched with some pages duplicated and other pages missing. By 4 June 1999, the closing date for the election, we had received reports of 12 defective sets of papers. We have continued to take advice from ERBS, and, as required under the Electoral Scheme, I have considered whether the error could have affected the return of any candidate. I am satisfied that it has not.

Further details are available from the election office

**Code A****Code A***Yours sincerely***Code A**



Code A

24 June 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
 Richmond House  
 79 Whitehall  
 London SW1A 2NS

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I write to confirm the conversation we had on the telephone this afternoon in which we discussed the possibility of a meeting between Code A  
 Code A

September 20<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 was a suitable date and time for all three participants.

May I also mention that Code A would like to spend part of the meeting on a one-to-one basis with the Minister, and then for Code A to join them later.

Could you possibly let me know if Code A agrees to this arrangement, and if so, what the timings should be?

Many thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

24 June 1999

Code A

Faculty of Medicine  
The University of Liverpool  
Duncan Building  
Daulby Street  
Liverpool L69 3GA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Code A wrote to you on 4 June, sadly having to cancel the arrangements that had been made for Code A and himself to visit Liverpool Medical School next March.

I have been able to identify three days when, hopefully, the visit can be rescheduled, but obviously I realise that this depends on your diary and that of the faculty.

The dates are either :                   25 and 26 April 2000  
or  
26 and 27 April 2000

I hope to hear from your office in due course.

Code A

Code A

24 June 1999

Code A

Grove House  
Millers Close  
Dorchester  
Dorset DT1 1SS

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for sending Code A a copy of your draft seminar report.

Code A is away at present taking some leave, however, I will ensure that it is brought to his attention on his return in early July.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

23 June 1999

Code A

Code A

University of Leeds  
Belmont Grove  
Leeds  
LS2 9NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am setting up a meeting at the request of Code A following a letter she sent to Code A on the subject of screening.

Code A are all free to meet on 8 July at 2.30pm in the Code A's office and I am hoping that this date may also be free in your diary.

Could you possibly give me a ring to let me know? My direct line is printed at the bottom of this page. I have written in similar terms to Code A

Code A

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

23 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am setting up a meeting at the request of Code A following a letter she sent to Code A on the subject of screening.

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Could you possibly give me a ring to let me know? My direct line is printed at the bottom of this page. I have written in similar terms to Code A

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

23 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am setting up a meeting at the request of Code A following a letter she sent to Code A on the subject of screening.

Code A are all free to meet on 8 July at 2.30pm in the Code A's office and I am hoping that this date may also be free in your diary.

Could you possibly give me a ring to let me know? My direct line is printed at the bottom of this page.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

23 June 1999

Code A

Commonwealth Medical Association Trust  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for sending Code A a copy of your ComMAT manual on ethical and human rights standards for healthcare professionals.

Code A is on leave at present but I will ensure that he sees both your letter and the manual on his return.

I shall also ensure that it is seen by both our Registration Directorate and Standards and Education.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**





Code A

22 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 19 June which **Code A** was able to see just before he left London for a week's leave.

I have asked our Registration Department to send you a copy of the Register and hope that you will be in receipt of this in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

# Code A

19 June 1999

## Code A

The General Medical Council  
178 Great Portland Street  
LONDON  
W1N 6JE

22 JUN 1999

*Dear*

## Code A

The kindness of your letter encourages me to beg a favour.

When I was on the GMC I suspect I was one of the few members who, because of my work, occasionally made use of my entitlement to free copy of the published Register. I didn't ask for one every year, only when my previous copy grew irritatingly outdated.

The last copy I got was in 1996 and I fully intended to ask for another just before my retirement which was due last October. Thanks, however, to a surfeit of attention from our professional colleagues, my mind was firmly focused elsewhere and I never got round to it.

Now that I've been able to resume, with fingers crossed, a near to normal - albeit curtailed - working life, is there any chance that I might be granted a retrospective copy?

*Yours ever*

## Code A

## Code A

**Code A**

22 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health  
50 Hallam Street  
London W1N 6DE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending **Code A** an advance copy of your soon to be published  
*"Medicines for Children"*.

Unfortunately, **Code A** will be unable to attend your press launch on 1 July as he is  
enjoying a few days' leave.

Once again, many thanks for sending us this information.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

22 June 1999

**Code A**

Kindling Conferences  
Dartington Lodge  
Totnes  
Devon TQ9 6EN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** on 17 June about the Kindling Conference on 11 and 12 October.

I enclose a completed form for **Code A** but I have not included any payment – perhaps we can deal with that at a later date? **Code A** **Code A** are on holiday at present.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

Chairman British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

### Revalidation

Thank you for your letter of 11 June.

Code A is away at present on a fortnight's leave in France and has asked me to write to you in his stead.

Please find enclosed a copy of our letter of 10 June 1999 to Code A inviting the participation of the BMA Junior Doctors' Committee at the first meeting of the Junior Doctors Consultative Group to be held on 23 June 1999. Papers for this meeting have now been sent to Code A

I hope that this clarifies matters.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

Institute for the Sociology of Health and Medicine  
Universitatstrasse 712  
1010 Vienna  
Austria

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

**Health Promotion in Primary Care – General Practice and Community  
Pharmacy**

Thank you for your letter of 25 May 1999 inviting me to become a partner in your project. Unfortunately this is not a key subject area for the GMC and therefore, I feel I must decline your invitation.

Thank you once again for your letter and best wishes for the success of your project.

I am asking my secretary to sign this letter on my behalf as I shall be away from the office from 22 June until 8 July.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine  
The Reynolds Building  
St Dunstons Road  
London W6 8RP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

You very kindly sent me the video of your new interactive teaching system. I found this fascinating and very helpful and promising.

Yours ever

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Personal

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

I am very sorry that you are so unwell, and we all wish you a very speedy and complete recovery.

Yours sincerely

Code A



Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don* Code A

**NAGPT 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

You asked me for a message for the conference brochure. I have pleasure in enclosing a few words.

*Yours ever*

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

School of Nursing and Midwifery  
University of East Anglia  
Wavers Centre  
Hellesdon Hospital  
Drayton High Road  
Norwich NR6 5BE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

We spoke the other day, but I write simply to reiterate that I thought your paper excellent.

The analysis is very perceptive in what is a very fast moving scene. I very much agree with the sentiment you express in several places, that the involvement of the public will have to have a higher profile than perhaps either the medical profession or Government is contemplating at present. I am certainly saying this loud and clear.

Furthermore in the consultations which are about to begin on revalidation, the GMC is making sure that Doctors and representatives of the public sit down together from the start so that each hears their respective points of view.

Please let me know where it will be published.

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A  
Oxfordshire Health Authority  
Old Road  
Headington  
Oxford OX3 7LG

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter. It is excellent to see that you take such a robust view of life even when there might be minor adversities!

We are literally just off on holiday. We will talk when I get back.

Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Personal

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your very kind letter. I quite understand that you could not be there at the the Harveian Society. Code A was very much there in spirit – I heard many people saying very nice things about him – which you would have been pleased about.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

Royal College of Physicians of London  
11 St Andrew's Place  
London NW1 4LE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear [redacted] Code A

**The New College Strategy**

Just a note to thank you very much indeed for the very attractively presented College Strategic Plan. It all looks very good.

And now to put it into action!

Yours sincerely,

[redacted] Code A

Code A

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

Leicester Royal Infirmary  
Leicester  
LE1 5WW

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I should have replied to your letter earlier, for which I apologise. I have made several attempts to talk to you on the telephone, but this proves quite difficult!

I am very happy with the outline programme. I do hope that it will be possible to include some of the non-executive directors, for I would very much like to hear the "lay" input on the issues of quality and clinical governance.

With kindest regards,

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999.

As I expect you know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the recommendations in the report of the Steering Group on the review of the PLAB test, with the exception of those relating to governance which will be the subject of further discussions with the bodies which current appoint members to the PLA Board. Stephen Brearley, Chairman of the Registration Committee, will be taking forward these discussions.

I can understand your feeling that there has been a failure of process and/or communication in this exercise. We had assumed that the fact that the appointing bodies were represented on the Steering Group would assure adequate feedback. This proved not to be the case.

The Memorandum of Understanding which you and Code A drafted was the starting point for the review and was accepted by the Registration Committee as representing the current position. Code A is strongly supportive of the review and spoke to this effect in Council.

I am sorry that misunderstandings appeared to have arisen and hope that the foregoing goes some way towards reassuring you. A copy of the Steering Group's report is enclosed.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Enc

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999 about the review of the PLAB test.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of the report of the Steering Group. The recommendations in the report were accepted by the Council, with the exception of those relating to governance which are to be discussed further with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board.

A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations in the report.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Enc



Code A

Our ref: CAS/EH

22 June 1999

**Code A**

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust  
 Directorate of Obstetrics & Gynaecology & GU Medicine  
 Medical Administration  
 Derriford Hospital  
 Derriford Road  
 Plymouth PL6 8DH

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 1999 about the review of the PLAB test.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of the report of the Steering Group. The recommendations in the report were accepted by the Council at its meeting, with the exception of those relating to governance which will be the subject of further discussion with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board.

The Steering Group recommended that the current structure of the test – a written examination, followed by an OSCE for those who have passed the written part of the test – should remain. In order to remove subjectivity, however, it is proposed that the written paper should be computer markable. A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations in the report.

I note your comments about the UEB. I should point out, however, that the PLAB test is not a qualifying examination for the purposes of the Medical Act: indeed, it has no legal status. We are, however, prepared to accept a pass in the test as providing objective evidence of a doctor's capability to work in supervised posts under limited registration. In this respect, it is similar to the licensing examinations conducted by registration authorities in other parts of the world.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Enc

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Royal College of Physicians  
11 St Andrew's Place  
Regent's Park  
London NW1 4LE

Dear

Code A

**Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board (PLAB)**

Thank you for your letter of 21 May 1999.

As you know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the Steering Group's recommendations, with the exception of those relating to governance. Stephen Brearley, Chairman of the Registration Committee, is arranging to discuss these aspects of the report with you and with the Presidents of the other bodies which are currently represented on the PLA Board.

I apologise for the apparent failure of process. Although we did not go out to formal consultation on the document, the bodies which previously nominated members to the Board were represented on the Steering Group and we had hoped that they would be feeding back regularly to their nominating bodies. Unfortunately, this appears not to have been the case.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Claremont Hospital  
401 Sandygate Road  
Sheffield S10 5UB

Dear

Code A

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 1999 about the review of the PLAB test.

I hope that you will be reassured by the contents of the Steering Group's report, a copy of which is enclosed. The Council accepted the Steering Group's recommendations, with the exception of those relating to governance which are to be the subject of further discussion with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board.

A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations in the report.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Enc

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999.

As you may know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the recommendations of the Steering Group, with the exception of those relating to governance which are to be the subject of further discussions with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board.

There is no suggestion that the current test is unsatisfactory: it is being redesigned in line with modern thinking on assessment and with our own guidance.

I enclose a copy of the Steering Group's report in case you have not seen it.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Enc

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Department of Surgery  
Royal Free & University College Medical School  
University College London  
Charles Bell House  
67-73 Riding House Street  
London W1P 7LD

*Don* Code A

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999 about the review of the PLAB test.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of the report of the Steering Group. The recommendations in the report were accepted by the Council, with the exception of those relating to governance which are to be discussed further with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board.

A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations in the report.

*Yao rich*  
Code A

Enc

**Code A**

Our ref: CAS/EH

22 June 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Review of the PLAB Test**

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999. You also wrote to

**Code A**

I hope that you will be reassured by the Steering Group's report, a copy of which was enclosed with **Code A**'s letter of 14 June 1999. You may also be reassured by the fact that a number of examiners have been, and continue to be, involved in taking forward the review.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

Your ref: RAFB/JHS  
Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Paediatric Department  
The Horton Hospital  
Oxford Road  
Banbury  
Oxon OX16 9AL

Dear Code A

PLAB

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 1999.

As you may know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the recommendations of the Steering Group on the Review of the PLAB Test, with the exception of those relating to governance which will be the subject of further discussion with the bodies which currently appoint members to the Board.

A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations of the Steering Group.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

Dear Code A

**PLAB Exam**

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 1999.

As you may know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the recommendations of the Steering Group on the Review of the PLAB Test, with the exception of those relating to governance which will be the subject of further discussion with the bodies which currently appoint members to the Board.

A number of examiners have been involved in the review and will be taking forward the recommendations of the Steering Group.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A



Code A

Our ref: DHI/EH

22 June 1999

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

*Yours* Code A

**New PLAB Format**

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 1999.

As you may know, at its meeting, the Council accepted the recommendation of the Steering Group, with the exception of those relating to governance which are to be the subject of further discussions with the bodies which currently appoint members to the PLA Board. These are now being taken forward by the Chairman of the Registration Committee.

A number of examiners have been, and continue to be, involved in the review.

I enclose a copy of the Steering Group's report in case you have not seen it.

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

Enc

**Code A**

22 June 1999

**Code A**

The Independent  
18th Floor  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5DL

**For Publication**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Sir,

Your article *Lessons in Rude Health* 17 June 1999, is inaccurate in saying that revalidation will only tackle the issue of professional competence. Our guidance, *Good Medical Practice*, issued to every member of the profession, states clearly that all doctors should 'listen to patients and respect their views, treat patients politely and considerately...and give patients information in a way they can understand.'

Revalidation will be based upon the attributes set out in *Good Medical Practice*, including how doctors relate to and communicate with their patients.

We have issued guidance to medical schools to ensure that communication skills form part of the curriculum for all medical students. We carry out regular visits to medical schools to ensure that our guidance is implemented.

Yours faithfully,

**Code A**

Code A

22 June 1999

Code A

The Independent  
18th Floor  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5DL

**For Publication**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Sir,

Your article *Lessons in Rude Health* 17 June 1999, is inaccurate in saying that revalidation will only tackle the issue of professional competence. Our guidance, *Good Medical Practice*, issued to every member of the profession, states clearly that all doctors should 'listen to patients and respect their views, treat patients politely and considerately...and give patients information in a way they can understand.'

Revalidation will be based upon the attributes set out in *Good Medical Practice*, including how doctors relate to and communicate with their patients.

We have issued guidance to medical schools to ensure that communication skills form part of the curriculum for all medical students. We carry out regular visits to medical schools to ensure that our guidance is implemented.

Yours faithfully,

Code A

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to the Liberal Democrats have been recognised by raising you to the peerage in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many colleagues and friends in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

House of Commons  
Westminster  
London SW1A 0AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Congratulations on your new post as Shadow spokesman for Health. I was delighted to read about this in last week's press and wonder if you would consider an informal invitation to dinner one evening when we could discuss matters of mutual interest and concern?

If you are in agreement with this tentative arrangement I will ask my office to contact yours in order to find a suitable date.

In the meantime, best wishes for the future.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Allegations by **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 31 May 1999 about the allegations by **Code A**

In the course of much correspondence, **Code A** and I have responded to your various concerns, including your interpretation of the duties and responsibilities of Council members. On that specific point, my position is clear. But nothing I have said should have led any member to believe they are entitled to attempt to substitute their judgement for the judgement of other members appointed by Council to undertake specific functions.

I very much regret that you have been unable to accept the information given to you. I have reluctantly concluded that it would be futile to attempt to find fresh ways of rehearsing points already made. In the circumstances, I do not believe I can usefully add to what has already been explained to you.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

University of Oxford Nuffield Dept of Clinical Medicine  
CTSU  
Harkness Building  
Radcliffe Infirmary  
Oxford OX2 6HE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you so much for your letter. **Code A** is away on leave at present so I am responding to you in his stead.

May I apologise for this mistake – it is a case of several departments being involved in checking the Honours List and writing the subsequent letters and we have made an unfortunate error somewhere along the line.

Thank you for your understanding note – please accept our apologies.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

British Medical Association  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Your Code A

Elections to the GMC

Thank you for your letter of 11 June 1999 about the elections to the GMC. This followed a report to your Executive Committee.

As Code A for the elections, I do understand the concerns expressed, particularly as reports in the medical press consistently exaggerated the scale of the problem despite extensive briefing by us.

The fault was confined to the constituency of England, where we received a total of 12 reports of defective sets of election papers. This compares with the 132,000 sets which were dispatched to doctors on the register.

I doubt whether, realistically, any affordable process can be guaranteed to be error free. However, we are certainly not complacent; and I do not underestimate how confidence can be damaged when an error of this kind occurs. For that and other reasons we will be reviewing all aspects of the elections to ensure that we learn any lessons. Meanwhile, we have kept the position under close and continuing scrutiny.

Best wishes

Code A



**British Medical Association**

BMA House Tavistock Square London WC1H 9JP  
Switchboard: 0171 387 4499

**Code A****Code A**

General Medical Council  
178 Great Portland Street  
London  
W1N 6JE

**Code A**

Our Ref: CS/IGB/JMF

11 June 1999

Dear **Code A**

**Elections to the GMC**

At its recent meeting the Executive Committee of the Association's Council received a report that problems had arisen in the printing of the booklet of candidates' submissions that was distributed with the ballot papers for the elections to the GMC. The committee was aware that Electoral Reform Ballot Services, which is organising the election and the printing of the papers, had advised that the integrity of the election would not be compromised by the error. Nevertheless, members have asked me to pass on to you their concern that the error had occurred and their suggestion that the GMC's electoral methods be reviewed.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

JMF U:LETTERSIRVINE6

**Code A**

*(Agenda Item)*

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

Yealm Medical Centre  
Yealmpton  
Plymouth  
PL8 2EA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

**GMC Elections 1999**

Thank you for your letter of 4 June 1999 to Code A about canvassing. I am replying as the Code A

The Electoral Scheme does not prohibit canvassing. Consequently, candidates are free to canvass. That said, judging from the comments we receive, many doctors appear to find canvassing distasteful; and many doctors simply rule out candidates who canvass for votes. As a result, our advice to candidates is that canvassing may be counter-productive.

We will be reviewing all aspects of the Electoral Scheme in the light of experience this year. This will include looking very closely at the guidance for potential candidates.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

Code A

21 June 1999

**Code A**

Walsgrave Hospital  
Clifford Bridge Road  
Walsgrave  
Coventry CV2 2DX

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

On 18 May 1999 you kindly wrote to me about the arrangements for training junior doctors. I understand that since then, you have received comments from the **Code A** of the Royal College of Physicians of London to whom, amongst others, you had copied your letter.

Matters concerning the education of doctors undertaking postgraduate training, insofar as they fall within the remit of the GMC, are dealt with by our Education Committee. You will, I am sure, have seen a copy of our latest recommendations on the training of senior house officers, *The Early Years*, which we published in December 1998.

This deals with the generic aspects of training at SHO grade, and emphasises the importance of the educational elements. Our guidance also suggests ways of maximising the educational experience of doctors in SHO posts, whatever their service load or their working patterns.

The Specialist Training Authority, rather than the GMC, is the competent authority for overseeing postgraduate training and issuing certificates of specialist training to hospital doctors who have trained in the UK, in terms of the European Medical Directive. A similar function in relation to doctors in primary care is performed by the Joint Committee for Postgraduate Training in General Practice. I am sure that **Code A** **Code A** who is a GMC member as well as Chairman of the STA, would be interested to read your comments about the experience needed for consultant appointments in the UK.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letters of 2 May 1999 and 29 May 1999 about the Professional Conduct Committee.

You refer to widespread disquiet but I have no evidence to support this. You are the only person who has raised the issue with me.

I will continue to discuss with all fitness to practise chairmen and deputy chairmen how best to secure the effective operation of committees. However, there has always been a wide range of acceptable approaches to chairmanship and I have no doubt this will continue.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

Community Hospitals Group  
 Priory Terrace  
 24 Bromham Road  
 Bedford  
 MK40 2QD

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Following our meeting in April 1999 between the Private Health Care Sector and the General Medical Council on quality systems, I would like to invite you to a further meeting on 2 September 1999 at 14:00. The meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the General Medical Council, at 44 Hallam Street.

The aim of this meeting is to continue our discussion about revalidation. In particular, I would like to ensure that the GMC has a full picture of the various categories of doctors that will need to be revalidated as well as existing and planned arrangements for local profiling and external peer review processes.

Before the middle of July, three reports will be sent to you, describing the above areas. We know that more needs to be done on them and we would be grateful for your help in this respect. If it would help, one of the GMC staff would be able to visit you or one of your colleagues to discuss the reports.

We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact **Code A** to take this forward.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

Community Hospitals Group  
 Priory Terrace  
 24 Bromham Road  
 Bedford  
 MK40 2QD

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
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*Joe*

Code A

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*Yas Sily,*

Code A

Code A

21 June 1999

**Code A**

BUPA House  
 15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
 London  
 WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

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 guiding doctors*

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*Yours only*

**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

Independent Healthcare Association  
22 Little Russell Street  
London  
WC1A 2HT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely

Code A



Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

British United Provident Association  
 BUPA House  
 15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
 London  
 WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
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*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

Hampshire Corporate Park  
Eastleigh  
Southampton  
SO52 3RY

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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*Protecting patients,  
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**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

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British United Provident Association  
 BUPA House  
 15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
 London  
 WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

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Jan  
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Jan  
 Code A

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

Nuffield House  
1-4 The Crescent  
Surbiton  
Surrey, KT6 4BN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

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**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

BMI Healthcare  
210 Euston Road  
London  
NW1 2DA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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*Yours sincerely*  
**Code A**

The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

21 June 1999

**Code A**

PPP Columbia Healthcare  
4 Connaught Place  
London  
W2 2ET

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

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guiding doctors*

*See* **Code A**

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*See only*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

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210 Euston Road  
London  
NW1 2DA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

Western Provident Association  
 Rivergate House  
 Blackbrook Park  
 Taunton  
 Somerset  
 TA1 2PE

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Don* **Code A**

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*Law only*

**Code A**



Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

Western Provident Association  
 Rivergate House  
 Blackbrook Park  
 Taunton  
 Somerset  
 TA1 2PE

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

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*Yours sincerely*  
 Code A

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

St Martin's Hospitals Ltd  
97-99 Park St  
London  
W1Y 3HA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Jan Code A

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21 June 1999

Code A

St Martin's Hospitals Ltd  
97-99 Park St  
London  
W1Y 3HA

**GENERAL  
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*Dear* Code A

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Code A

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21 June 1999

Code A

Prime Health  
 Wey House  
 Farnham Road  
 Guildford  
 Surrey  
 GU1 4XS

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dea

Code A

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7 as only

Code A

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

PPP Healthcare  
 PPP House  
 Vale Road  
 Tunbridge Wells  
 Kent  
 TN1 1BJ

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

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Code A

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21 June 1999

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Before the middle of July, three reports will be sent to you, describing the above areas. We know that more needs to be done on them and we would be grateful for your help in this respect. If it would help, one of the GMC staff would be able to visit you or one of your colleagues to discuss the reports.

We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact **Code A** to take this forward.

*Yes only*

**Code A**

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

PPP Healthcare  
 PPP House  
 Vale Road  
 Tunbridge Wells  
 Kent  
 TN1 1BJ

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Jan* Code A

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We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact Code A to take this forward.

*Jan only*

Code A

Code A

21 June 1999

Code A

PPP Columbia Healthdare  
 Nuffield House  
 1-4 The Crescent  
 Surbiton  
 Surrey, KT6 4BN

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Following our meeting in April 1999 between the Private Health Care Sector and the General Medical Council on quality systems, I would like to invite you to a further meeting on 2 September 1999 at 14:00. The meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the General Medical Council, at 44 Hallam Street.

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We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact **Code A** to take this forward.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

South Tees Acute Hospitals NHS Trust  
 South Cleveland Hospital  
 Marton Road  
 Middlesbrough  
 Cleveland TS4 3BW

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** on 3 June inviting him to take part in your York Conference on 23/24 September this year.

Unfortunately **Code A**'s very busy diary means that he is already committed on both of those days, but I have contacted **Code A**, a leading solicitor at the firm of Field Fisher Waterhouse (the GMC's solicitors) who has agreed to speak in his stead.

**Code A** and  
 his full address is :

**Code A**

I hope that this is of help to you.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

21 June 1999

**Code A**

The Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you so much for inviting me to Thursday's reception. Although I was not able to stay as long as I would have liked, I was able to meet several of my opposite numbers and I know that this will be immensely useful in future.

It was so kind of you to have invited me – it was a lovely evening, the gardens looked splendid and everyone seemed to be having an enjoyable time. Please would you also pass on my thanks to **Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

17 June 1999

Code A

Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London SW1A 2NS

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

When we met recently at the GMC Reception I suggested it would be helpful to get together soon. It seemed to me that this would be a good moment to take stock of where we are with the professional regulation agenda, and how this can best be aligned and 'docked' with your agenda for quality and, in particular, clinical governance.

I will bring you up to date with where we are on the huge task of bringing about the much needed change in the culture of medicine, the successful accomplishment of which is fundamental to what both the Government and the GMC are seeking to achieve. Revalidation and its relationship with clinical governance lie at the heart of this.

Other matters include the flow of information from the NHS to the GMC on dysfunctional practice about which we are currently unaware; and how we jointly prepare to use the Order making powers, in particular ensuring that we do not allow resource constraints, both administrative and legal, to get in the way of rapid progress.

My office will be talking to yours about possible dates.

Best wishes,

*Yours only,*

Code A

Code A

17 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Please find enclosed a copy letter from Code A at the Medical Research Council requesting a meeting with Code A yourself and Code A

I have identified two dates and wonder if you could let me know if either/both is suitable for you.

The dates are :

16 September	4pm
and	
17 September	4.30pm

I have let Code A know – her diary is clear on both occasions and I now await a phone call from the MRC.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

17 June 1999

**Code A**

Medical Research Council  
20 Park Crescent  
London W1N 4AL

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 9 June in which you mention that you would like members of the MRC to meet with **Code A**

I have identified two dates and wonder if you could let me know if either/both is suitable for you and your team.

The dates in question are :

16 September	4pm
and	
17 September	4.30pm

I have written in similar terms to **Code A** of the Standards Committee at the GMC, and **Code A** from our Standards and Education Directorate in the hope that they will also be able to attend.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

17 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

It was very kind and very thoughtful of you to write so fulsomely. I always look forward to our conversations, and I hope very much that we will continue to have these.

These are still difficult times for medicine, but I do believe that things are beginning to bottom out. At least I hope so!

Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

17 June 1999

Code A

Kings College London  
 James Clerk Maxwell Building  
 57 Waterloo Road  
 London SE1 8WA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

#### **Future Activities of the Standards Committee**

Thank you for your letters about the Standards Committee and Council. I understand that you had a very good discussion which I am sorry I missed as I think I mentioned to you when we spoke recently, I find myself very much in sympathy with the sentiments you express in your letter.

When the results of the election are known and you are successfully re-elected, we must talk about these matters further over the summer, before the new session really gets going.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

**Code A**

17 June 1999

**Code A**

Kingston University  
Kingston Hill  
Kingston upon Thames  
Surrey KT2 7LB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you very much indeed for your letter. You are quite right, I was perplexed and I am all the more ashamed for that now that the penny has dropped! I do most sincerely apologise.

Somehow or other I simply didn't make the connection, perhaps because we have not seen each other for such a long time and perhaps because of the setting.

It was very kind of you to write and I appreciate that.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**



**Code A**

17 June 1999

**Personal**

**Code A**

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Care  
50 Hallam Street  
London W1N 6DE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Just a note to say thank you very much indeed for your very kind thoughts upon me re-election. I did appreciate that.

I look forward to being able to return the compliment by the end of the month when the results of the elections to the GMC are known!

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

17 June 1999

Personal

Code A

37 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8DQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

I just wanted to write to say thank you very much indeed for your kind remarks upon my re-election. I must say that my remaining three years will not be quite the same without you there at the Dental Council. I shall miss you.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

Code A

17 June 1999

**Code A**

Harvard Medical School  
Department of Healthcare Policy  
180 Longwood Avenue  
Boston MA 02115-5899  
USA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

It was lovely to meet you again at Ditchley Park and I did appreciate the Millbank Quarterly which I had not seen. Some light reading over the summer!

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

17 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Surgeons of England  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Just a note to say thank you very much indeed for your kind remarks about my re-election. I appreciated that, and especially how supportive you have been.

I will let you know how I get in with **Code A** and look forward to meeting **Code A** with you.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

17 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am most grateful to you for your letter and for the sight of your reference to the GMC's objectives in medical education. You are absolutely right!

Thank you.

Yours sincerely  
Code A

Code A

17 June 1999

Personal

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

Thank you very much indeed for doing the honours at the Council dinner the other evening. You will have known that people were very appreciative, and I think we all thought you hit just the right note.

It was also good to see you looking in such good health. Many people remarked upon that which is good news.

*Yours ever*

Code A

**Code A**

17 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 14 June which arrived in this office today. Complaints are dealt with by our Fitness to Practice Directorate from whom I am sure you will hear in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

17 June 1999

**Code A**

Child and Family Health Services  
Wilderslowe  
121 Osmaston Road  
Derby DE1 2GA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your recent communications and copy letters which I will ensure **Code A** sees upon his return to London in a week's time.

We are grateful to you for your interest in this subject.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



Code A

16 June 1999

Personal

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Jan Code A

A wink and a little wave are perhaps not quite sufficient to establish effective relationships again. I think that would be an important thing to do. If you feel the same, why not let's have lunch together?

Yours ever,

Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Personal**

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I just wanted to thank you very much indeed for your sympathy and understanding about our recent bereavement, and for your good wishes on my re-election as **Code A** I very much appreciate your feeling and your sharing of your feelings with me.

Thank you also for your very active support in the run up to the election. It all helps!

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

Strictly Private and Confidential

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

**Screeners and Distinction Awards**

I am writing to acknowledge your sensitive and important letter about this matter, and your perception of the dilemmas that it poses for you. As I intimated to you when I saw you last week at Hallam Street, I think it would be very helpful if you and Code A and any other screeners who are similarly concerned meet with Code A and I at the GMC so that we can talk the thing through. I think that there are a number of things that can be done to help.

If you would like to do this, please contact Code A Code A to see what we can fix up. I am copying this letter and yours to the Code A Code A

With best wishes

Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* Code A

Just a note to thank you very much indeed for the photograph taken at the Henry Cohen Lecture, and for your very kind thoughts on my re-election.

Much appreciated!

*Yours sincerely,*

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

Personal

Code A

Bennetts End Surgery Team  
Gatecroft  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts HP3 9LY

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Just a note to thank you all very much indeed for your very kind letter of goodwill on my re-election as Code A of the GMC. I really did appreciate it.

The roses are doing well!

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Just a note to say how kind it was of you to write on behalf of the National Association of GP Tutors on my re-election as Code A

I very much appreciated your expression of support.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Open University  
Walton Hall  
Milton Keynes  
MK7 6AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Doctors for Tomorrow's World**

Thank you very much indeed for your very kind and helpful letter. I was indeed sorry that I could not be there on the occasion, but I have heard very good reports of the outcome. The Open University certainly has a lot to offer.

Kindest regards

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

RAND Health  
 1700 Main Street  
 PO Box 2138  
 Santa Monica  
 CA 90407  
 USA

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Yours* Code A

How very kind of you to write. I enjoyed meeting you at Ditchley Park and I enjoyed in particular your refreshingly direct and to the point remarks on quality.

When I am in the United States next I will certainly make a point of coming to see you at RAND as I am interested in what you have been doing on quality measurement and the performance of doctors.

With best wishes

*Yours ever,*

Code A



*The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE*

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Imperial College School of Medicine  
Norfolk Place  
London W2 1PG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*yes*  
**Code A**

**Explaining differences in English hospital death rates using routinely collected data**

Just a note to say how much I enjoyed your recent paper in the BMJ. And how timely it is that you raise such questions as many who work in the Service have a gut feeling that it is overstretched, to a point perhaps of impairing patient care.

I hope that you are not finding your current responsibilities too taxing. It is important work.

*yes*  
**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*J. ...* Code A

It was very kind and thoughtful of you to write about my re-election. I really did appreciate that. How very kind and thoughtful you always are.

*J. ...*

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Just a personal note to say how much I appreciated your letter. I shall remember the Saint Barton's Ode!

I appreciate just how busy you are. However, I hope that we will have a chance during the course of the summer to meet to talk again on how you can best help Council. The result of the national elections to the GMC will be known at the end of this month, so in July we know exactly what the new Council will look like.

I have asked Code A to give you a ring to see what we can do by way of a mutually convenient date.

With best wishes

Yours ever,

Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

King's College  
James Clerk Maxwell Building  
57 Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8WA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

#### **Relationship between the GMC and the Medical Schools**

Thank you for your note. As you know from our previous discussions, I think that this does need strengthening and I infer from your letter that you do also. This is one of the reasons why I had hoped we would be able to have a separate regular meeting with the Deans as a whole, on matters of moment in medicine where we have mutual responsibilities.

I would like to suggest that we talk about this further during the summer, when the elections are out of the way and we are beginning to map the way forward.

With best wishes,

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

The President Sir Donald Irvine CBE

16 June 1999

**Code A**

York Health Policy Group  
IRISS D Block  
University of York  
Heslington  
York YO10 5DD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

**Labour Policy on Primary Care**

Just a note to say thank you very much indeed for the pamphlet which I thoroughly enjoyed reading, and so did **Code A**

It was good to see you in York and thank you for the 'alert'.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

**Confidential****Code A**

Clinical Pharmacology Group  
 Biomedical Sciences Building  
 University of Southampton  
 Basset Crescent East  
 Southampton SO16 7PX

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Just a note to thank you for your thoughtful and helpful comments. I very much accept the principle, especially of strengthening inter-departmental connections. Finlay and I are proposing a regular monthly meeting of the Chairmen of the policy committees and the Directors, together with he and I. Then, after that, I hope that the Chairmen would be able to dine together so that there is a regular opportunity for taking stock.

None of this would, of course, undercut your point about the President's Advisory Committee which certainly needs strengthening.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

School of Health Services  
University of Newcastle  
21 Claremont Place  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE2 4AA

**Code A**

*Dear*

**Code A**

**Foreword on Clinical Practice Guidelines**

Thank you for your letter. In principle I would be very happy to write a foreword for your book on Clinical Practice Guidelines, but I would need to have the text. I would be grateful if you could let me have this.

**Code A** and I are going on holiday to France next Tuesday. I would be helpful if I could have the papers before then so that I could map something out whilst we are away, and then give it to you by the middle of July.

Best wishes

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

**Code A**

*Dear* **Code A**

**Accounts 1998 – 1999**

We are at that time of the year again! I enclose my accounts which I think are complete with the exception of the Form P11D, which I have yet to get from the GMC. The GMC will, incidentally, be sending you a copy in draft this year, so that you and I, and they, can be agreed upon the contents before it goes to the Revenue.

**Code A** and I will be on holiday for the next two weeks in France, and so not-gettable, but perhaps we can touch base when I return on July 8<sup>th</sup> as to whether you need any further information or not.

Best wishes,

*Jan van...*

**Code A**



**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

59 New Cavendish Street  
London W1M 7RD

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan* **Code A**

**Second Council of the Isles Health Conference, Dublin, 21-23 November 1999**

Thank you very much indeed for the invitation to the conference in Dublin. I am sorry to have to decline. Right in the middle of your conference I am committed to taking part in a BMJ Conference on Ageing.

Thank you for thinking of me.

*Jan*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

**Revalidation**

We are agreed of the need for a partnership between the Governments and the GMC over the implementation of revalidation. I think that we now need to put this agreement into practice.

As a first step, I think it would be helpful if you, the three other CMOs and I were to meet. We could then begin to ensure that our plans were mutually reinforcing. I hope that such a meeting would become a regular occurrence.

This meeting would, of course, be in addition to the Health Departments' participation in the network of Consultative Groups that the Council has established.

I suggest that the first meeting takes place on either the 8 or 16 July 1999. I will invite members of the Revalidation Steering Group to attend, and you may wish to bring with you members of your staff.

I should be grateful if your Office were to contact

Code A

to take this forward.

Yours ever

Code A

Code A

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Scottish Office Department of Health  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don*

**Code A**

### Revalidation

We are agreed of the need for a partnership between the Governments and the GMC over the implementation of revalidation. I think that we now need to put this agreement into practice.

As a first step, I think it would be helpful if you, the three other CMOs and I were to meet. We could then begin to ensure that our plans were mutually reinforcing. I hope that such a meeting would become a regular occurrence.

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I suggest that the first meeting takes place on either the 8 or 16 July 1999. I will invite members of the Revalidation Steering Group to attend, and you may wish to bring with you members of your staff.

I should be grateful if your Office were to contact

**Code A**

to take this forward.

*Lawson*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

Department of Health  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

### Revalidation

We are agreed of the need for a partnership between the Governments and the GMC over the implementation of revalidation. I think that we now need to put this agreement into practice.

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I suggest that the first meeting takes place on either the 8 or 16 July 1999. I will invite members of the Revalidation Steering Group to attend, and you may wish to bring with you members of your staff.

I should be grateful if your Office were to contact

Code A

Yours ever

Code A

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Welsh Office  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF1 3NQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

### Revalidation

We are agreed of the need for a partnership between the Governments and the GMC over the implementation of revalidation. I think that we now need to put this agreement into practice.

As a first step, I think it would be helpful if you, the three other CMOs and I were to meet. We could then begin to ensure that our plans were mutually reinforcing. I hope that such a meeting would become a regular occurrence.

This meeting would, of course, be in addition to the Health Departments' participation in the network of Consultative Groups that the Council has established.

I suggest that the first meeting takes place on either the 8 or 16 July 1999. I will invite members of the Revalidation Steering Group to attend, and you may wish to bring with you members of your staff.

I should be grateful if your Office were to contact

**Code A**

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

The Harveian Society of London  
11 Chandos Street  
London W1M 0EB

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

I thoroughly enjoyed the Annual Dinner of the society last week and write to thank you all for an excellent evening – even if I did have to sing for my supper!

I hope to see you all again at the Oratory and will, of course, be in touch to let you know.

Please pass on my thanks to all those involved in arranging the evening and especially to your

Code A

*Yours only*

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the CBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

I always remember the very sympathetic and kindly way you approached patients & colleagues when we were talking about the GME guidance on HIV. You showed, not I said them, to exemplify good medical practice.

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the MBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

Your sincerely

Code A



Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

Manchester Royal Infirmary  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9WL

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the OBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely*

Code A

Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

House of Commons  
Westminster  
London SW1A 0AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

Thank you so much for inviting me to yesterday's reception. A combination of excellent weather, a wonderful venue and interesting guests made it an event that I thoroughly enjoyed.

I apologise for having to leave a little earlier than I would have liked to, but another appointment beckoned.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Radiologists  
38 Portland Place  
London W1N 4JQ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for inviting **Code A** to your Annual Dinner on 16 September this year.

**Code A** has asked me to write to accept on their behalves.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Messrs Field Fisher Waterhouse  
Solicitors

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

By Fax : **Code A**

Dear **Code A**

**Code A** has asked me to see if you would consider speaking at a conference on 24 September (with a dinner the evening before) in York, on the subject "*when does negligence become criminal*".

I attach a copy of the original invitation sent recently to **Code A** in which you will note they ask for either him personally or a colleague. He asked me to sound you out because of the essentially legal nature of the suggested topic.

Could you let me know if you feel you can take this on – then I can reply to the conference organisers accordingly.

**Code A**

**TWO PAGES TO FOLLOW (total 3)**

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the CBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Jan* **Code A**

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*Jan*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

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MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
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Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Independent Healthcare Association  
22 Little Russell Street  
London  
WC1A 2HT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

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The aim of this meeting is to continue our discussion about revalidation. In particular, I would like to ensure that the GMC has a full picture of the various categories of doctors that will need to be revalidated as well as existing and planned arrangements for local profiling and external peer review processes.

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We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact **Code A** to take this forward.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**



Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

Community Hospitals Group  
 Priory Terrace  
 24 Bromham Road  
 Bedford  
 MK40 2QD

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

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*Yours sincerely*

Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

British United Provident Association  
 BUPA House  
 15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
 London  
 WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

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16 June 1999

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British United Provident Association  
 BUPA House  
 15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
 London  
 WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely,

Code A

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

BMI Healthcare  
210 Euston Road  
London  
NW1 2DA

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

I am writing at the end of your term of office to thank you very warmly for your contribution to the Council in your time as a member. Your efforts have been much appreciated and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who worked with you on the President's Advisory Committee and the Professional Conduct Committee, in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

Yours ever

Code A

Code A

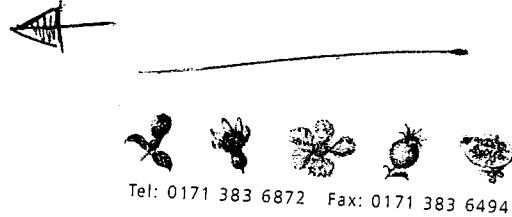


*Query Spelling*

16 June 1999

Code A

St Martin's Hospitals Ltd  
97-99 Park Street  
London  
W1Y 3HA



Tel: 0171 383 6872 Fax: 0171 383 6494

*☺* Code A

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*7 as said*  
Code A

**Code A**



**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Nuffield House  
1-4 The Crescent  
Surbiton  
Surrey, KT6 4BN

*(I think)  
but you have already  
written to him at the  
Independent Healthcare  
Assoc*

AL  
AL  
IL

Tel: 0171 383 6872 Fax: 0171 383 6494

*Dear* **Code A**

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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

BMI Healthcare  
210 Euston Road  
London  
NW1 2DA

**GENERAL  
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*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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**Code A**



Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

PPP Healthcare  
 PPP House  
 Vale Road  
 Tunbridge Wells  
 Kent TN1 1BJ

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

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Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

St Martin's Hospitals Ltd  
97-99 Park Street  
London  
W1Y 3HA

GENERAL  
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Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

Independent Healthcare Association  
22 Little Russell Street  
London  
WC1A 2HT

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Code A

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16 June 1999

Code A

Childworth House  
 Hampshire Corporate Park  
 Eastleigh  
 Southampton  
 SO52 3RY

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Jan* Code A

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Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

Community Hospitals Group  
 Priory Terrace  
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 Bedford  
 MK40 2QD

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16 June 1999

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British United Provident Association  
BUPA House  
15-19 Bloomsbury Square  
London  
WC1A 2BA

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MEDICAL  
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*Jan*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Western Provident Association  
 Rivergate House  
 Blackbrook Park  
 Tautin  
 Somerset TA1 2PE

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
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*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**



**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

PPP Columbia Healthdare  
Nuffield House  
1-4 The Crescent  
Surbiton  
Surrey, KT6 4BN

# GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*D. ...* **Code A**

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**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Western Provident Association  
Rivergate House  
Blackbrook Park  
Tautin  
Somerset TA1 2PE

**GENERAL  
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*Yas pih*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Prime Health  
Wey House  
Farnham Road  
Guildford  
Surrey GU1 4XS

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Joan* **Code A**

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*Joan*

**Code A**

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

PPP Healthcare  
PPP House  
Vale Road  
Tunbridge Wells  
Kent TN1 1BJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

16 June 1999

Code A

PPP Columbia Healthcare  
 4 Connaught Place  
 London  
 W2 2ET

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

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Code A

**Code A**

16 June 1999

**Code A**

Nuffield Hospitals  
Nuffield House  
1-4 The Crescent  
Surbiton  
Surrey, KT6 4BN

**GENERAL  
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*Protecting patients,  
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Following our meeting in April 1999 between the Private Health Care Sector and the General Medical Council on quality systems, I would like to invite you to a further meeting on 2 September 1999 at 14:00. The meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the General Medical Council, at 44 Hallam Street.

The aim of this meeting is to continue our discussion about revalidation. In particular, I would like to ensure that the GMC has a full picture of the various categories of doctors that will need to be revalidated as well as existing and planned arrangements for local profiling and external peer review processes.

The three reports attached begin to describe these areas. We know that more needs to be done on them and we would be grateful for your help in this respect. If it would help, one of the GMC staff would be able to visit you or one of your colleagues to discuss the reports.

We hope to receive your detailed comments at the next scheduled meeting on 2 September 1999.

I would be grateful if you would contact **Code A** to take this forward.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Independent Healthcare Association  
22 Little Russell Street  
London WC1A 2HT

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your fax which arrived here on Monday morning. I ensured that **Code A** saw it at the first opportunity but his very full diary prevents him from being able to spend time producing the 500 words you require by your Friday deadline.

The main problem we have is that **Code A** is away next week and so it means that this week he is under extra pressure.

I know that my colleague **Code A** spoke to you and let you know our difficulties and I hope that you will understand why **Code A** has had to say "no".

If you would like **Code A** to prepare something for a future edition please let me know.

**Code A**

Code A

14 June 1999

Code A

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
71 Quarella Road Bridgend  
CF31 1YE

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for your letter of 22 April 1999; I am very sorry for the delay in replying.

As you know, we regard doctors in management positions as responsible for ensuring that appropriate action is taken when significant concerns about a doctor's fitness to practise are brought to their attention. We may hold the Medical Director (and Chairman of the Trust if he or she is a registered medical practitioner) responsible for ensuring that patients; safety is not compromised and the doctor is not allowed to return to unsupervised practice until either the concerns are proved unfounded or the doctor's deficiencies have been rectified.

In the circumstances you describe, you have a responsibility to act fairly towards the doctor who has been retrained, and an overriding obligation to ensure, as far as possible, that patients' safety is not compromised.

The best way forward would be to obtain from the training centre an assessment of whether the doctor's deficiencies have been remedied by the training they have provided. I would suggest you try again to persuade them to provide this. In my view, all registered medical practitioners have a professional responsibility to participate, when reasonably asked to do so, in the assessment and retraining of doctors, where that is necessary for the protection and safety of patients.

Alternatively you could seek a further assessment of the doctor from another training centre or from a professional association. This would not necessarily need to be in the form of a formal opinion on the surgeon's fitness to return to work. It could, however, provide the basis for your decision on whether the surgeon should resume responsibilities and whether it was appropriate to provide supervision for a period, and if so, the nature and extent of that supervision.



If, despite best efforts, none of the options which I have suggested is capable of resolving the problem, you would have to consider a referral to our fitness to practise procedures. If (as seems likely) the concerns about the doctor are centred upon performance issues rather than conduct, we would require evidence of events, dating from 1 July 1997 (the date upon which our performance procedures became operational), suggesting seriously deficient performance. We would, of course, consider any such evidence and, if we concluded that it called into question the doctor's continuing unrestricted registration, we would initiate our own proceedings.

I hope that this is of help in dealing with what is clearly a difficult problem.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Medical Women's Federation  
Tavistock House North  
Tavistock Square  
London  
WC1H 9HX

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

### **Revalidation**

Thank you for your letter of 26 May 1999. I was pleased to learn that the Medical Women's Federation (MWF) supports revalidation.

You raise concerns about doctors engaged in a variety of fields of practise. The Revalidation Steering Group has already highlighted a number of areas in which arrangements for revalidation may be particularly complex – namely for locum doctors, doctors undertaking research, doctors working abroad and doctors who, for whatever reason, are not engaged in active medical practise.

Moreover, at Council's revalidation debate on 25 May 1999, the issue of doctors returning to practise after a career break was considered. It was agreed that it would be counter-productive for the profession as a whole to make it too difficult for doctors to return to medicine after a career break. The challenge for us all over the next two years will be to develop arrangements for revalidation which balance the needs of the profession against the public expectation that all doctors on the register are fit to practise.

You are also concerned about the provision of resources for revalidation. Council has already agreed that the introduction of any system of revalidation will require adequate resources - human and financial. Without such resources, the data, time and analysis required could not be delivered, and the purpose of the scheme - the promotion and assurance of good standards of care for all patients- would be lost. Discussions with Government and others will be required to ensure that the introduction of revalidation is linked with the provision of necessary resources.

**Code A**

In developing proposals for revalidation, Council is committed to a process which is as open and transparent as possible. With this in mind, we will, very soon, be engaging the MWF in a formal consultation exercise designed to ensure that the views of every sector of the profession are considered. We hope that you will be able to work with the GMC to take this important work forward. Meanwhile, however, I would be happy to meet with you informally to discuss any other issues of concern. If you would like to arrange a meeting, perhaps you would contact

**Code A**

I hope that this is helpful.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the OBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the DBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the CBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the knighthood in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**



**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

Department of Health  
 Richmond House  
 79 Whitehall  
 London  
 SW1A 2NS

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the DBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours ever,*  
**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

Code A

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the OBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours only,*

Code A

Code A

Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the MBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

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Yours ever,

Code A

Code A

15 June 1999

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GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

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guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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*Protecting patients,  
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We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

The Medical School  
Framlington Place  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE2 4HH

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*[Handwritten signature]* **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the CBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*[Handwritten signature]*

**Code A**

**Code A**

Code A

15 June 1999

**Code A**

University of Wales College of Medicine  
 Heath Park  
 Cardiff  
 CF4 4XN

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the CBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**



Code A

15 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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Yours sincerely,

Code A

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15 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

University of Wales Healthcare Trust  
Heath Park  
Cardiff  
CF4 4XW

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the OBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

St Martin's Practice  
319 Chapeltown Road  
Leeds  
LS7 3TJ

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I am writing on behalf of the Council to say how delighted we all were to learn that your outstanding services to medicine have been recognised by the award of the OBE in the recent Honours List. We all know how richly this award is deserved.

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*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

15 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

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We join your many friends and colleagues in wishing you well in the future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**Code A**

Code A

11 June 1999

Code A

Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

Code A

Thank you for your letter of 27 May inviting the General Medical Council to nominate an Observer to attend future meetings of the Royal Colleges' International Forum.

I have discussed this with **Code A** and he has suggested we should hold over our decision until the composition of our new Council is known next month.

I will be in touch with you then.

Yours ever

Code A

**Code A**

11 June 1999

**Code A**

Osteopathy House  
176 Tower Bridge Road  
London SE1 3LU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Thank you for sending me a copy of your Register of osteopaths.

I fully support the Osteopathic Council's efforts to raise standards within the profession.

I am sure that this book will be a very useful source of information but I rather hope that I will not be needing the services of one of your members for a while!

*Yours ever*

**Code A**

Code A

11 June 1999

**Code A**

Nuffield Hospitals  
Nuffield House  
1-4 The Crescent  
Surbiton  
Surrey KT6 4BN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for writing to **Code A** inviting him to speak at your conference on 15<sup>th</sup> October. **Code A** is out of town at present and so has asked me to write to you in his absence.

The date is firmly in the **Code A**'s diary and I confirm that he will be speaking on the subject of revalidation .

I look forward to receiving more information in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

10 June 1999

**Code A**

Scottish Home & Health Department  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

Further to my letter to **Code A** of 25 May 1999, I can now attach letters which I have written to **Code A** on the development of our work on revalidation.

We hope that **Code A** or other representatives of the Scottish Office Department of Health will be able to attend meetings of our External Group and four Consultative Groups.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

8 June 1999

Code A

Institute of Actuaries  
 Staple Inn Hall  
 High Holborn  
 London WC1V 7QJ

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
 guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

President's Dinner : 13 July 1999

I wrote to you on 25 May accepting your very kind invitation to the President's Dinner at Staple Hall. I now find myself unable to attend as I will have to be out of London that evening.

Please pass on my sincere apologies to Code A

Yours only

Code A

**Code A**

11 June 1999

**Strictly Personal and Confidential**

**Code A**

Halton General Hospital NHS Trust  
Hospital Way  
Runcorn  
Cheshire WA7 2DA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear*

**Code A**

I am writing to add my personal thanks to those you have already received from the members of the assessment team for the contribution which you have made to the development of the GMC's new procedure for assessing the professional performance of medical practitioners. While I have not seen the results of the studies which the assessment team conducted of your practice because they will be kept confidential, I understand that the team was most impressed by the way in which you allowed them to scrutinise your professional knowledge and skills.

We are very grateful to you for this and hope that you have also found this of some assistance to your continuing professional development.

*Yours sincerely*

**Code A**

Code A

8 June 1999

Code A

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dec Code A

### Convictions among medical students

Thank you for your letter of 25 May 1999.

The GMC has no direct responsibility for the admission of individual medical students to the undergraduate course. This is a matter for the universities with medical schools.

We understand that all prospective university students are required to declare any convictions they may have acquired, when submitting their applications for entry. In terms of our guidance in *Good Medical Practice*, we would expect those involved with medical student admissions to take a robust view of convictions which would bring a qualified doctor within the purview of our fitness to practise procedures.

The Council of Heads of Medical Schools has been active in this area and has recently published on its website a statement of guiding principles for the admission of medical students. The Deans have made it clear that criminal convictions may call into question candidates' fitness to embark on training for our profession, even though they have achieved the requisite level of academic attainment.

The circular you mention is specifically concerned with doctors and other NHS staff working with children, and the advice it contains is consonant with paragraph 21 of our own guidance about general clinical training in general practice,

published in July 1998. Our recommendations do, however, cover vulnerable patients generally and not just children.

There is presently no requirement to carry out police checks on medical students, perhaps because they are deemed not to have unsupervised access to young children when on paediatric attachments in the hospital or community. I understand, however, that a group convened by the NHSE is presently reviewing the existing guidance on medical students in hospitals, published by the former Management Executive in April 1991. One of the issues the group has been considering is the advice that should be given about access to paediatric patients. If you are agreeable, I would like to forward a copy of your letter to Dr Gabriel Scally, who is chairing the group, since I am sure its members would find your comments helpful.

*Law side*

**Code A**

e:\educat\ume\conhealt\rahmalet

**Code A**

9 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

I am writing at the end of your term of office to thank you very warmly for your contribution to the Council in your time as a member. Your efforts have been much appreciated and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who worked with you on the Registration Committee and the Professional Conduct Committee, in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

*Yours ever,*

**Code A**

**Code A**

9 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Don*

**Code A**

I am writing at the end of your term of office to thank you warmly for your contribution to the Council in your time as a member. Your efforts have been much appreciated and I know that I speak for all members, and particularly those who worked with you on the Preliminary Proceedings Committee, in saying how much we shall all miss you.

With very best wishes for the future.

*Yasir*

**Code A**





**Code A**

2 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

*Dear* **Code A**

Thank you for your letter of 21 May.

I am sorry you experienced difficulty discovering the name of the head of the Regulation Policy Section. There is certainly no secret. The culprit is **Code A**

**Code A**

As you are aware, on 10 February 1999 the General Medical Council endorsed key recommendations for the implementation of revalidation for all registered doctors.

Council is now embarking upon a programme of consultation and development to enable us to take these principles forward. Council aims, within two years, to consider a fully worked up model for revalidation.

In taking this work forward, Council will be looking at all doctors in whichever environment they may work - both within and outside the NHS. It will also be considering how to make arrangements for registered doctors who are retired or who are not practising medicine on a regular basis. We are at the earliest stage of development at the moment, and I regret that I cannot yet be more specific about how arrangements for retired doctors will work.

The paper to Council in February argued that an effective revalidation process must start with good methods and good data designed to give a continuing and objective profile of a doctor's performance. By way of illustration, these profiles could be based on data showing the doctor's record of continuing educational activity along with records of other activities. Of course many doctors already keep diaries or log books of CME activity. The implementation of revalidation procedures will have to be timetabled to ensure that unnecessary problems are not caused for all those doctors who are perfectly fit to practice.

All doctors will be up kept up to date on the progress of the revalidation project in future issues of *GMC News*. Moreover, important papers considered by the Revalidation Steering Group will be placed on our website - [www.gmc-uk.org](http://www.gmc-uk.org) - which is regularly updated.

I hope this is helpful.

*Yours truly*

**Code A**

**Code A**

8 June 1999

**Code A**

BUPA House  
15-19 Bloomsbury Way  
London WC1A 2BA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

for the invitation to the BUPA Foundation Awards Dinner  
on  
17<sup>th</sup> November  
in  
the Great Hall Lincoln's Inn  
and accepts with pleasure

**Code A**

**Code A**

8 June 1999

**Code A**

Department of Anaesthesia  
Newcastle General Hospital  
Westgate Road  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE4 6BE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** regarding a possible visit to speak to the North of England Society of Anaesthetists in November this year.

May I offer you the evening of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November as a possible date for this event. **Code A** has said that either Newcastle or Ashington would be suitable venues.

Perhaps you could contact me to let me know the chosen venue, approximate times, and any other details as soon as you know them.

**Code A**

**Code A**

7 June 1999

**Code A**

Commission for Racial Equality  
Elliot House  
10/12 Allington Street  
London  
SW1E 5EH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

**Code A**

for his kind invitation to a reception on 13 July  
and accepts with pleasure.





**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE**

Bootham Park,  
York YO3 7BY  
Telephone: (01904) 610700  
Fax: (01904) 454439

Ref: PFK/jmb

*Telephone enquiries please contact:*

**Code A**

28 May 1999

**IN CONFIDENCE  
FOR THE ATTENTION OF:**

**Code A**

01 JUN 1999

General Medical Council  
178 -200 Great Portland Street  
LONDON  
W1N 6JE

Dear **Code A**

**Re: Code A GMC Investigation into patients' allegations of sexual misconduct/assault.**

As promised in our brief discussion in Harrogate here is a brief summary of events leading up to investigations being initiated by the General Medical Council.

**Code A** was employed as a Consultant Psychiatrist at Clifton Hospital, York in the 1970s and 80s. There were rumours about sexual misconduct with female patients in the early 80s when I arrived in York as a Consultant Psychiatrist. Between 1984 and 1988, some women in particular made allegations of misconduct, but in each case refused to co-operate with any further investigation of the complaint. In 1988 I became District General Manager and after yet another allegation that the patient was unwilling to pursue I referred the matter to the Regional Medical Officer who persuaded **Code A** to retire.

My informal contacts in the City of York prevented him seeing patients at private hospitals and rooms but he did obtain employment at a private hospital in Harrogate and subsequently was appointed Medical Director of the North Durham Trust.

In 1997 the police started an investigation into allegations of sexual assault against another Consultant Psychiatrist who also had worked at Clifton Hospital in the 70s and 80s. They wrote to a large number of female patients who had been under the care of **Code A** and this attracted press publicity which did not name **Code A**. As a consequence, four women came forward each willing to pursue their complaints, three of whom had raised allegations in the 80s.



The police decided that there were no grounds for criminal charges after investigating the complaints of these women. The General Medical Council was first notified of complaints in November 1997 but decided to await the outcome of an NHS independent review set up by the Northern and Yorkshire NHS Executive. The outcome of this review was never published, mainly I think on legal advice because [Code A] declined to respond to any questions of the panel. [Code A] the then Regional Director referred the matter to the General Medical Council. Meanwhile [Code A] was suspended from his Medical Director post in Durham and was subsequently dismissed.

There was some perturbation in York when we heard the news that [Code A] would not have to answer the serious complaints against him simply because he had sought and had been granted removal from the register. I do know that Board members and the York Psychiatrists and others who are familiar with the above mentioned events believe there is a serious case to answer. One of the complainants has already let me know how distressed and hurt she is at this outcome.

I had understood from [Code A] Psychiatrists that the General Medical Council had changed its rules and no longer allowed Doctors to withdraw from the Register during an investigation into misconduct. Indeed he said that the Registrar of the College had held a conversation with a senior officer of the GMC on the 9 February last year who had confirmed to her that this was now the GMC position. We were therefore quite surprised to hear that [Code A] had been allowed to withdraw his name from the register.

It is difficult to predict whether there will be more publicity. After both [Code A]'s and [Code A]'s names had appeared in the Press with some information about the kind of allegations against them, a local MP was calling for a public enquiry. With [Code A] indicted for rapes and sexual assaults and [Code A] under investigation by the GMC there has been little further publicity presumably because all matters are sub-judice. But we do think that there is continued newspaper and television interest.

It would be most helpful to have some comment and advice from you on the reasons for the GMC decision.

With regards.

**Code A**



**Code A**

7 June 1999I

**Code A**

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges  
1 Wimpole Street  
London  
W1M 8AE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Principles for a Private Medical Clinical Quality Framework**

Thank you for sending **Code A** a copy of your recent framework publication which I will draw to his attention as soon as he returns to London.

I will also ensure that it is seen by the relevant Directorates within the GMC who I am sure will find it useful and informative.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

7 June 1999

**Code A**

Airedale General Hospital  
Steeton  
Keighley  
West Yorkshire

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**GP Study Week – March 2000**

Thank you for your letter to Sir Donald of 2 June. **Code A** has suggested two Members of the GMC Council who might be able to help you at your study week next year.

Their names are :

**Code A**

And

**Code A**

I hope that this is of help to you.

**Code A**

7 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your kind invitation to **Code A** in which you ask him to attend the inaugural ceremony of your National Working Committee Conference on 25 September this year.

**Code A** is away from London this week but he has seen your invitation and has asked me to reply on his behalf.

It is with great regret that **Code A** has to turn down this invitation as he will be in Newcastle that weekend.

He has asked me to send his best wishes and hopes that you have a most enjoyable and successful conference.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

7 June 1999

**Code A**

University of Liverpool  
Health and Community Care Research Unit  
Thompson Yates Building  
Quadrangle Brownlow Hill  
Liverpool L69 3GB

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Health and Community Care Research Unit Seminar 25 November, Liverpool**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** of 3 June. I can confirm that **Code A** would like to have a slide projector – but obviously I can be in touch with you at a later date with final requirements and details of **Code A**'s travelling arrangements.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

4 June 1999

Code A

"Broomfields" Medical Centre  
Hatfield Heath  
Bishops Stortford  
Hertfordshire  
CM22 7EH

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

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**The Albert Wander Lecture: 15 March 2000**

My Code A phoned your practice last week and spoke to one of your assistants. I hope that the message has been passed on to you.

May I say how very sorry I am to have to let you and the Royal Society of Medicine down in this way.

Having accepted your invitation in my letter to you of 19 May I now find that I will be out of the country for two weeks in March 2000 – and sadly the 15<sup>th</sup> is one of the days I am absent.

I deeply regret having to write with this news and hope that I have not caused you too much inconvenience.

To ensure that you receive this letter as soon as possible I am sending it by letter to your Practice and by fax to the Royal Society of Medicine.

**Code A**

4 June 1999

**Code A**

Ashford Hospital  
London Road  
Ashford  
Middx TW15 3AA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** on the subject of local volunteers engaging in clinical research.

**Code A** is away from the office until the middle of next week so I am passing your letter to **Code A** who heads our Standards and Education Directorate.

**Code A**



**Code A**

4 June 1999

**Code A**

The Royal College of General Practitioners  
14 Princes Gate  
Hyde Park  
London SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Sirs

**Meeting of Council – 18 June 1999**

Thank you for sending the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the RCGP Council.

**Code A** regrets he will be unable to attend. Please could you note this for Agenda Item 2.

Yours faithfully

**Code A**

Code A

4 June 1999

Code A

University of Durham  
Old Shire Hall  
Durham  
DH1 3HP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Would you thank Code A for his kind invitation to Code A regarding the meeting and dinner on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Code A is away at present, but, having looked at his diary, I note that he will be on annual leave during the first ten days of July so he will be unable to attend. Could I ask you to pass on his apologies.

Code A

**Code A**

4 June 1999

**Code A**

Millennium Festival of Medicine  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear

**Code A**

**Festival of Medicine Keynote Conference Steering Committee meeting 14 June**

Thank you for sending **Code A** details of the above meeting. I am afraid that he will not be in London on that occasion and so I am sending his apologies.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

4 June 1999

Code A

Faculty of Medicine  
The University of Liverpool  
Duncan Building  
Daulby Street  
Liverpool L69 3GA

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

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#### Visit to Liverpool Medical School - 16 and 17 March 2000

I wrote to you as recently as 19 May confirming the new dates for our visit, and I am ashamed to say that I am now unable to keep that appointment. I have been invited to take part in an international conference in South Africa which, unfortunately, clashes with the proposed dates for **Code A** and I to visit Liverpool.

Would it be possible for **Code A**, my newly appointed PA, to contact your office and arrange two new dates in the spring for us to come to see you. I do apologise for this confusion.



**Code A**

---

**From:**

**To:**

**Subject:**

**Date:**

**Code A**

Medical Uncertainty, Medical Collegiality, Imporance of Quality of Care  
03 June 1999 11:12

Hello **Code A**

Thank you for the chapter on Medical Uncertainty, Medical Collegiality and the Importance of the Quality of Care. It was very good.

A suggestion - for the section quoting from the Blue Book Page 8. This has now been superseded by "Good Medical Practice".

**Code A** has provided the following additional words if you would like to bring the text up to date. (See attachment)

One other point. On page 28 you refer to **Code A**

It shows I've read it carefully!

<<File Attachment: ROSENTH.DOC>>

Sent

**Proposed addition on Page 8 following quotation from the Blue Book 1992**

In 1995 the GMC issued new guidance in a series of leaflets collectively titled *Duties of a Doctor*. The core leaflet, *Good Medical Practice*, changed the focus of the advice from warning doctors against making malicious comments, to placing a clear duty on them to take action to protect patients:

‘You must protect patients when you believe that a doctor’s or other colleague’s health, conduct or performance is a threat to them.

‘Before taking action, you should do your best to find out the facts. Then, if necessary, you must follow your employer’s procedures or tell an appropriate person from the employing authority, such as the director of public health, medical director, nursing director or chief executive, or an officer of your local medical committee or a regulatory body. Your comments about colleagues must be honest. .... The safety of patients must come first at all times.’

The guidance on ‘disparagement’ is given separately and its scope is narrow –

‘You must not make any patient doubt a colleague’s knowledge or skills by making unnecessary or unsustainable comments about them.’

The emphasis on protecting patients, rather than on preserving the reputation of colleagues, is reflected in decisions taken by our fitness to practise committees and

in new guidance to be published later this year *Management in Health Care - The Role of Doctors*.



Code A

3 June 1999

Code A

Junior Doctor's Committee  
 BMA  
 BMA House  
 Tavistock Square  
 London WC1H 9JP

GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL

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### Revalidation of Junior Doctors

Thank you for your letter of 13 May 1999 in which you ask for comments on the Junior Doctor's Committee guidance for the postgraduate education, appraisal and assessment of trainees.

The GMC is quite clear that mechanisms for revalidation should be based, as far as possible, on existing arrangements. This was reiterated at our Council meeting on 25 May 1999.

As we discussed, we all now need to be sure that the current systems of medical regulation at local levels are working adequately. With this in mind, I am most encouraged by the guidance produced by your working group. It is easy to see how the evidence produced during a junior doctor's period in training – as recorded in a learning portfolio - could be used as evidence of continuing fitness to practise and, therefore, of revalidation. A robust system of this kind will simultaneously meet the educational and career needs of the individual doctor, the quality assurance requirements of the employer, and the fitness to practise requirements of the GMC.

You might wish to consider making some reference in your guidance to *Good Medical Practice* which sets out the standards the GMC expects of all doctors. While your guidance reflects the precepts in *Good Medical Practice*, it might be helpful to make this point more explicit. This is of particular relevance given that on 25 May 1999, Council decided that the demonstration of a doctor's fitness to practise in revalidation should be set against the principles of *Good Medical Practice*.

Code A

As I also explained to Code A we will, in due course, be looking to engage junior doctors in a formal consultation exercise designed to ensure that the views of every sector of the profession are considered. We hope that your committee will work with the GMC to take this important work forward.

I would be most interested to learn how your guidance is received at the educational conference you mention.

Code A

3 June 1999

**Code A**

Junior Doctor's Committee  
BMA  
BMA House  
Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9JP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
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### **Revalidation of Junior Doctors**

Thank you for your letter of 6 May 1999 about the two resolutions carried by the Junior Doctor's Committee on 19 March 1999. You explain that your Committee felt that revalidation arrangements for doctors in training should not involve the imposition of processes in addition to those mechanisms of assessment which already exist.

In endorsing the recommendation that:

The regular demonstration by all registered doctors that they remain fit to practise in their chosen field is best assured by a link with continued registration,

Council also agreed that revalidation arrangements should be based, as far as possible, on existing local arrangements. Moreover, while revalidation will apply to all registered doctors, the mechanisms for implementing the process will necessarily vary according to individual doctors' specialties, grades and working environments.

As you have pointed out, doctors in training should already undergo regular monitoring, assessment and appraisal. With this in mind, I was particularly encouraged to read the Junior Doctor's Committee guidance for the education, appraisal and assessment of trainees which Dr Trevor Pickersgill has kindly provided to me and upon which I have commented. I agree that we should be looking to build on these existing systems. If those systems were rigorously

implemented, they would simultaneously meet the educational and career needs of junior doctors, the quality requirements of employers and the fitness to practise requirements of the GMC. In that way, we can avoid parallel appraisal procedures which you – and we – consider to be unnecessarily burdensome.

In the next two years Council will be looking at how we can all be sure that these local systems are working properly, and producing the standard and quality of evidence necessary for revalidation.

You are also concerned about the provision of resources for revalidation. Council has already agreed that the introduction of any system of revalidation will require adequate resources - human and financial. Without such resources, the data, time and analysis required could not be delivered, and the purpose of the scheme - the promotion and assurance of good standards of care for all patients- would be lost. Discussions with Government and others will be required to ensure that the introduction of revalidation is linked with the provision of necessary resources.

In developing proposals for revalidation, Council is committed to a process which is as open and transparent as possible. With this in mind, we will, very soon, be engaging junior doctors in a formal consultation exercise designed to ensure that the views of every sector of the profession are considered. We hope that your committee will work with the GMC to take this important work forward.

I hope that this is helpful.

Code A

3 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal College of Physicians  
 11 St Andrews Place  
 Regent's Park  
 London NW1 4LE

**GENERAL  
 MEDICAL  
 COUNCIL**

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Thank you for your faxed letter of 16 April 1999. I apologise for the delay in replying.

You are concerned that, in developing proposals for revalidation, Council takes into account the pressures of medical colleagues in all areas of practice. You made a similar point during Council's debate on revalidation on 25 May 1999. I agree with that absolutely, doctors need proper time to practise well.

Clearly, for revalidation to be a success, we need to make sure that we have the support of the profession as a whole. Council has now agreed a structure to enable us to consult formally with representatives of the profession at every level and in every main field of practise. This is in addition to the comments and suggestions we have been receiving from members of the profession who have taken up the invitation issued in the Spring edition of *GMC News* to contact the regulation policy section with queries and suggestions. These views are being regularly reported back to the Revalidation Steering Group who will, in turn, incorporate into their deliberations, the concerns and expectations of doctors working in the field.

Please be assured that we are all very much aware of the important issues you raise. In accordance with the recommendations made by Council in February, membership of the Revalidation Steering Group has now been increased to 16. Of the 12 medical members in the group, most are in active medical practice. Our discussions at meetings and the proposals we shall be putting to Council in the future reflect this first hand experience

I hope this is helpful and thank you for your continued help and support.

Code A

2 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

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Dear **Code A**

I acknowledge receipt of your Recorded Delivery letter making a formal complaint against **Code A** which arrived in this office today.

Your letter and attachments will now be processed by our 'Fitness to Practise' Directorate and you will be contacted by them in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Code A**

1 June 1999

**Code A**

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons  
Belgravia House  
62-64 Horseferry Road  
London SW1P 2AF

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

**Medical and Veterinary Healthcare : a seamless collaboration  
Meeting on Wednesday 16 June 1999 : 5 pm : Royal Society of Medicine**

Following our conversation this morning I list below details of the attendees of the above meeting from the General Medical Council. I have sent them a copy of your letter dated 21 April. I have asked them to provide a short CV and also to prepare a paper to circulate at the meeting outlining what they are going to say in their five minutes. Sir Donald asked them in his letter dated 26 May to make contact with their opposite numbers.

**Code A**

**Education**

**Standards**

**Research**

**Practice**

**Pathology**

**Public Standards**

# Code A



**Public Health**

**Code A**

**Student Training in Practice**

I hope this gives you the information you need. Please let me know if there is anything further we can do.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Code A

1 June 1999

**Code A**

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
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**Medical and Veterinary Healthcare : a seamless collaboration  
Meeting on Wednesday 16 June 1999 : 5 pm : Royal Society of Medicine**

Further to Code A's letter of 26 May 1999, I enclose herewith a letter from Code A dated 21 April to the veterinarians which will give you more background information about the meeting. I also enclose a copy of Code A's letter to Code A

You will see from Code A's letter that the veterinarians have been asked to provide a short CV and also to prepare a paper to circulate at the meeting after they have spoken. Code A and Code A would be grateful if you could do the same.

You will remember that Code A asked if you would each contact your opposite number prior to the meeting.

We did not have the name from the veterinarians to talk on public standards when Code A wrote on 26 May. Here it is :

**Public Standards**

**Code A**

Code A

1 June 1999

Code A

University of London  
33 Millman Street  
London WC1N 3EJ

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you for sending a copy of your most recent Point of View Survey to Code A  
Code A

Code A is out of town at the moment, but I will ensure that the document is drawn to his attention upon his return.

In the meantime, thank you again for taking the trouble to send this information.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Code A

1 June 1999

Code A

Imperial College School of Medicine  
The Reynolds Building  
St Dunstons Road  
London W6 8RP

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Code A

Thank you so much for sending Code A the video of your new interactive TV teaching system.

Code A is away this week but I will ensure that he sees your letter and the video when he returns to London next week.

Yours sincerely

Code A

**Code A**

1 June 1999

**Code A**

Winston's Wish  
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital  
Gt Western Road  
Gloucester  
GL1 3NN

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you so much for sending **Code A** the video and the copy of 'Goodbye, Godbless' which I know he will study with interest as soon as he returns to London next week.

I shall ensure that after **Code A** has seen this information it is passed on to other relevant Directorates within the GMC.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

1 June 1999

Code A

Marketing and Development Office  
115 New Cavendish St  
London  
W1M 8JS

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

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guiding doctors*

Code A

and the Centre for Community Care  
and Primary Health for the invitation to Dr Code A's lecture on 30 June at 309  
Regent Street, but regrets he is unable to attend.

Code A

**Code A**

1 June 1999

**Code A**

Furnival Building  
The Archway Campus  
London  
N19 3UA

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

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guiding doctors*

**Code A** thanks the Provost and President of University College London for the invitation but regrets that he will be unable to attend the opening of Archway Campus on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Code A**

1 June 1999

**Code A**

Open University  
Walton Hall  
Milton Keynes  
MK7 6AA

GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending **Code A** copy of the information brochure you gave guests at the Reception held on 18 May. **Code A** is away this week, hence I am writing to acknowledge your letter in his stead.

I know that **Code A** was disappointed he could not be with you on that occasion and equally, I am sure he will find the information you have so kindly sent him extremely useful.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**



**Code A**

1 June 1999

**Code A**

University of East Anglia  
Weavers Centre  
Hellesdon Hospital  
Drayton High Road  
Norwich NR6 5BE

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for sending **Code A** a draft copy of your paper 'Who Rules. The new politics of medical regulation'.

**Code A** is away at present but I will ensure it is brought to his attention and that of our Standards and Education Directorate who will let you have their comments as they see fit.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

Code A

1 June 1999

**Code A**

Royal Colleges International Forum  
14 Princes Gate  
Hude Park  
London  
SW7 1PU

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear **Code A**

Thank you for your letter to **Code A** inviting the GMC to recommend a representative to attend meetings of your International Forum as an Observer.

**Code A** is away at present so I am copying your letter to **Code A** and I will obviously ensure that **Code A** sees it upon his return next week.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**