

RESTRICTED

INTERVIEW

Number: Y25

Person Interviewed	[REID, RICHARD IAN]
Time Concluded	[1000]
Interviewer	[Code A]
Other Persons Present	[Mr CHILDS - Solicitor]
Duration Of Interview	[39 MINUTES]
Place	[FAREHAM POLICE STATION]
Number Of Pages	[22]
Date Of Interview	[04/JUL/2006]
Interview Type	[ROTI]
Time Commenced	[0921]

Person Speaking	Text
[Code A]	This interview is being tape recorded, I am [Code A] and my colleague is?
REID	Right. We are interviewing Doctor Ian REID. Doctor REID would you give me your full name and date of birth please?
[Code A]	It's Richard Ian REID, and my date-of-birth is 12/05/1951.
CHILDS	Thank you very much. And also present is Mr CHILDS who is Mr REID's solicitor. Can you please introduce yourself Mr CHILDS?
[Code A]	Oh yes it's Will CHILDS for Radcliffes Le Brasseur Solicitors in Westminster.
REID	Thank you very much. This interview is being conducted in an interview room at Fareham Police Station in Hampshire. The time by my watch is 0921, and the date is the 4 th of July 2006 (04/07/2006). At the conclusion of the interview we will give you a notice explaining what will happen to all the tapes. Okay?
[Code A]	Yeah.
REID	I will remind you Doctor REID that you are still entitled to free legal advice, Mr CHILDS is here as your legal advisor. Can you confirm, or not, that you have had enough time to consult with Mr CHILDS in private, or would you like further time before we start the interview?
[Code A]	I mean, I mean I've had enough time, but obviously I don't know what's...
REID	Sure, yeah.
[Code A]	What you've got.
REID	Yeah fine. So the next bit is, I'll explain that if, at any time, you wish to stop the interview and take further legal advice from Mr CHILDS just let us know that and we will do that. Okay?
[Code A]	Okay.
REID	Yeah?
[Code A]	Yeah.
REID	Now it's already been pointed out to you twice already this morning that you've attended voluntarily,...
[Code A]	Yeah.
REID	... you're not under arrest, you've come here of your own free will. If at any time you wish to leave the police station, leave the interview room and leave the police station you're entitled to do that, we can't stop you and we won't stop you.
[Code A]	Right.
REID	Okay?
[Code A]	(Silent)
REID	Now I have to caution you,...
[Code A]	Right.
REID	... and the caution says you do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you fail to mention, when questioned, something which you later rely on in court and anything you do say may be given in evidence. Do you understand that caution?
[Code A]	Yes.
REID	Would it help you if I sort of did a sort of layman's...
[Code A]	Yes.
REID	Yeah, okay. It can be broken down into three bits. The first part is that you've got a right not to say anything and we respect that and so anything we ask you you don't have to answer. Okay?
[Code A]	(Silent.)
REID	The second part is a little bit more confusing, but if this matter should go to court if you should be charged, or reported for offences and you go to court it might harm your defence if you wish to rely on something as part of your evidence that you haven't told us, but you've had the opportunity to tell us.
[Code A]	Right.
REID	Yeah. So if we ask you questions today and you choose not to tell us an answer to those questions, but then come out with answers in court it may harm your defence.
[Code A]	Right.
REID	Right, okay. And so in other words a court might draw what they call an 'adverse inference'...
[Code A]	Right.
REID	... wondering why you didn't mention it during the entire process.

REID

Code A

Yeah.

And the third part is that it is being recorded and if it goes to court the transcript of this interview may be available to the court.

Okay?

REID

Code A

(Silence)

On this occasion the room that we are using is equipped with a monitoring facility and there's a red light that's on which tells us that someone is monitoring at the moment and that will be DI GROCOTT the chap you met just now. ...

REID

Code A

Right.

... The reason he's doing that is that it enables us to carry out any enquiries that may come about as a result of anything you say to us today expeditiously. No person can hear anything via the equipment when the machine isn't running, so if this tape recorder isn't running that microphone doesn't work. Okay?

REID

Code A

Right. So what you're saying is that, is it D?

DI GROCOTT.

REID

Code A

DI GROCOTT is listening into this. ...

Yes. I will do most of the talking today, but DC YATES will almost certainly be taking notes as we go along. ...

REID

Code A

Right.

... and he will be asking you some questions as well at some stage I should think.

REID

Code A

Right.

Operation Rochester is an investigation being conducted by Hampshire Constabulary and it started in September of 2002, so it's already been running for the best part of four years now. It's an investigation into allegations of the unlawful killing of a number of patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1990 and 2000. Now no decision has yet been made as to whether a ny offence, or offences have been committed, but it's important to be aware that the offence range that we're investigating run from potential murder right the way down to assault. Okay?

REID

Code A

(Silence)

Part of the ongoing enquiry is to interview witnesses who were involved in the care and treatment of the patients during that period. Now you were the Consultant Geriatrician for the Gosport War Memorial Hospital during part of the time that these deaths occurred, so your knowledge of the working of the hospital, the care and the treatment of the patients is very central to our enquiry. The interview today will be what we term as a 'generic interview' in that we wish to talk about yourself, your qualifications, your training as well as the policies and procedures pertinent to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital during this time period. Now the groups of questions will come under particular topic headings and we will endeavour to try and explain the topics at the start of each stage. Okay?

REID

Code A

(Silence)

And do you think you are quite comfortable with,

REID

Code A

Yeah.

As comfortable as can be

(Pause) So the interview, as I just said will be generic and it's not patient specific. Okay?

REID

Code A

(Silence)

During the interview we will ask you questions about several topics such as your qualifications and the role of the consultant, that sort of thing.

REID

Code A

Uh-huh.

When we start on your topic area we will tell you what it is and the reasons why we want to ask those questions about that particular subject. Now the first topic area to cover is about your qualifications. ...

REID

Code A

Right.

... The reason we want to speak about these now is that it's not only, it's a good point to start off with but we need to establish exactly what your qualifications are as a doctor and how experienced you are etcetera. Okay?

REID

Code A

Yeah.

Can you tell us when you qualified as a doctor?

REID

Code A

1974.

Thank you. And where was that?

REID

Code A

Glasgow.

And where did you do your pre-registration training?

REID

Code A

Um I did six months in a town called, well the Royal Alexandra Infirmary in Paisley, Scotland. Yes that's the first six months, and the second six months was at Stirling Royal Infirmary, Stirling, Scotland.

Yeah. And that's Junior House Officer as well then yeah?

REID

Code A

These are both what are called the 'Pre-registration House Officer'. Yeah.

Yeah. And where did you train as a Senior House Officer?

REID

Code A

Um I did, um, there were several posts, um, the first one was, can I just look back to...

Yeah sure.

REID

Code A

... (inaudible) over here. There's the Senior House Officer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Paisley Maternity Hospital, Paisley, Scotland and that was from August 1975 to January 1976, and then following that, um, I did training as a Senior House Officer in Geriatric medicine at the Victoria Geriatric Unit in Glasgow from February 1976 to July 1976, and following that I was a Senior House Officer in Cardiology at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary in Scotland from August 1976 to April 1977. Um so that covers the Senior House Officer.

Uh-huh. And where were you the Registrar, where did you train as a Registrar?

REID

Code A

Uh yeah in Kilmarnock Infirmary, Kilmarnock, Scotland and that was from May 1977 to to July 1979.

Thank you. And then Senior Registrar?

REID

Code A

Yeah, um, I became a Senior, well it's, one was appointed to what was called a Wessex Rotation, um, which involves spending different periods of time in different hospitals...

Yeah, yeah.

REID

Code A

... and for me it was Portsmouth and Southampton...

Code A
REID Yes.
...and that was from August '79 to July 1982.

Code A
REID And then the next stage of your career was to become a Consultant?
A Consultant in Geriatric Medicine at Southampton General Hospital and that was from August 1982 to March 1998.

Code A
REID And from '98 to present?
Yeah from, in April 1998 I was appointed as Consultant in Geriatric Medicine and along with that I was the Medical Director of, well at that time was Portsmouth Health Care Trust.

Code A
REID Uh-huh. And so that's covered all your hospital appointments really hasn't it...
Yes.

Code A
REID ...from when your career starts?
Yeah.

Code A
REID Why did you want to become a Consultant then?
(Pause) Um, (laughs)...

Code A
REID (Laughs) It's forty-five minutes the tape.
Um, well I mean the choice one's faced with is either, either becoming a, in general terms becoming a G.P. or become a Consultant. I mean in fact I had been going to, um, become a G.P.,...

Code A
REID Oh right.
...um, but, um, for sort of personal reasons, um, when I was sort of a Senior Registrar, um, I was sort of married before that, my marriage broke up and I thought, you know, 'I don't want to go into a sort of small town and be a G.P. I'd rather sort of have a bit of a social life (laughs)', um, so I stayed in hospital and I'd really quite enjoyed my time in Geriatric Medicine,...

Code A
REID Yeah.
...um, at the Victoria Geriatric Unit and so that was when I applied to, um, become a sort of Senior Registrar in Geriatric Medicine down here, and I also felt I wanted a change from the West of Scotland.

Code A
REID Yeah.
(Pause) And in kind of some ways General Practice and Geriatrics is sort of quite similar, they're very sort of broad based.

Code A
REID Okay. And how did you get the, you answered a role; there was an advert in the papers, or in the magazines, or something like that?
Yes I mean the medical journal carries advertisements.

Code A
REID As the Consultant what was your first position that you were initially employed in?
In Southampton in Geriatric Medicine.

Code A
REID In Southampton?
Yes.

Code A
REID Okay and then when did you come over to the Queen Alexandra then?
That was in April 1998.

Code A
REID That's nicely covered your career background. Doctor REID what is the organisational set up of the hospital, the Queen Alexandra?
You mean which organisation does it belong to?

Code A
REID Yeah go on, because we know that it changes over the years...
(Laughs)

Code A
REID ...doesn't it?
When I came to Portsmouth in 1998, um, the non primary care / community care was covered, in Portsmouth was covered by two organisations the Portsmouth Hospital's, um, NHS Trust as it was called and Portsmouth Health Care Trust. Now Portsmouth Hospital Trust ran most of the, um, beds, if not all of the beds at St. Mary's Hospital and most of the beds in Queen Alexandra Hospital other than the beds which are used for the Department of Elderly Medicine. The Department of Elderly Medicine, um, was part of Portsmouth Health Care Trust, which, um, was responsible for running St. James's Hospital, mental health services, um, community paediatrics, um, district nursing, health visiting, school nursing, um, so it was almost everything that was sort of not acute hospital and not strictly G.P.

Code A
REID Yeah, okay. So when did all that, and when did all that change then? Because what they called, what does it come under, what does it come under now?
It's East, it's East Hampshire Primary Care Trust,...

Code A
REID Yeah.
...um, now run, um, elderly, the elderly medicine beds at Queen Alexandra Hospital. I mean I should also have said that, um, Portsmouth Health Care Trust ran all the community hospitals so that was Havant War Memorial, Petersfield, Gosport War Memorial, um, I'm sorry I can't remember your last question you asked me.

Code A
REID We were just trying to find out when it all changed over ...
When it changed?
...to its current positioning.

Code A
REID Uh I can't remember when the last reorganisation was whether it was 2002 maybe. So I went to Portsmouth, Portsmouth Health Care Trust was dissolved and basically split into three organisations Portsmouth City Primary Care Trust, Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust and East Hampshire Primary Care Trust.

Code A
REID Yeah so that's covered that, so it's covered, that's how it's changed since 1998 basically then?
Yes.

Code A
REID Yeah okay. And what about your department.
Elderly Medicine?

Code A
REID Yeah.
Well the Elderly Medicine Department had beds, um, in Petersfield Hospital, at that time St. Christopher's Hospital in Fareham, which is no longer there and Gosport War Memorial Hospital as well as St. Mary's Hospital and Queen Alexandra Hospital. Um we also had, you know, day hospitals at Petersfield Hospital, at Gosport and both at Queen Alexandra Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital.

Code A
REID So have you, you haven't got any more qualifications then since those we just talked about...

Code A
REID Yeah.

Code A
REID ... but have you undertaken any other training in the field of medicine since working at Q.A.?

Code A
REID No.

Code A
REID Apart from obviously the general.

Code A
REID Not in medicine I haven't, no.

Code A
REID No. But you've done something else in something else?

Code A
REID Well I've been, I mean I was sent away on a three-week management course.

Code A
REID Oh right when?

Code A
REID A long time ago.

Code A
REID Yeah. And your GMC registration number?

Code A
REID 1341171.

Code A
REID Okay. And under that registration what do you understand as being your responsibility under that registration?

Code A
REID Um to, um, well the GMC...

Code A
REID Yeah.

Code A
REID ... produces guidance, you know, of the duties expected of a doctor. I mean for a long time that was, you know, remained unchanged, but it's been, in the past, um, few years that's been sort of fairly regularly, um, updated.

Code A
REID Any major changes in that then?

Code A
REID Oh um I think making it very clear that ones sort of first responsibility is to patients.

Code A
REID Yeah. Has anything in particular brought that change or?

Code A
REID Um well I think probably lots of, um, um, unhappy, um, events that have, you know, hit the national press...

Code A
REID Yeah, uh-huh.

Code A
REID ... over the years where, um, it was perhaps felt that doctors were, um, you know, not, um, doing as much as they should for patients.

Code A
REID Okay. Now as the Consultant, in the Consultant's role obviously has it changed since you've taken, since you've ceased doing Medical Directors, or are you doing the same job as a Consultant as you were when you first joined?

Code A
REID More or, more or less the same.

Code A
REID Yeah, okay. So what are you contracted to do as a Consultant then?

Code A
REID I mean I'd have to go back to...

Code A
REID Sessions.

Code A
REID Oh yeah right okay, right. Um, um, it's, um, well it's changed again since I made this first statement. ...

Code A
REID Yeah.

Code A
REID ... I'm contracted at the moment to, um, what I call 11PA's, and now PA is a programmed activity. Now a programmed activity is a session, a normal session of four hours work.

Code A
REID One session is four hours?

Code A
REID Yes.

Code A
REID Or one PA is four hours?

Code A
REID Yes. Um I should perhaps also, um, just for completeness sake that, um, from the 1st of June I've also agreed to do some additional work although not as a sort of PA for Portsmouth City Teaching Primary Care Trust.

Code A
REID And do you still have on call responsibilities?

Code A
REID Yes, yes. And, and, and they're, they're recognised within that 11PA's.

Code A
REID That's all part of that?

Code A
REID Yes.

Code A
REID Oh right. And so if you had a, if you're on call tonight for instance...

Code A
REID Yeah.

Code A
REID ... is that one PA one session?

Code A
REID Oh no if only (laughs).

Code A
REID No?

Code A
REID No. Um it, it's to search the time you spend working. So if I, when I go in on a Saturday and a Sunday morning as part of a ROTA, um, that's totted up over a year and then, you know, the number of hours on average per week that is, ...

Code A
REID Uh-huh.

Code A
REID ... it becomes, I mean it's .75 of a PA's is equivalent to actually going into hospital and working at weekends. We get a separate payment, um, for, um, on call which I think is about, and it depends how onerous your on call is but I think it's about, something between 1 and 3% of your salary. So if I'm on call to night I get a, for doing that a 1 in sort of 8 or 10 places, I get it back next year at 2% or something like that, it's something like that, I mean I couldn't tell you exactly.

Code A
REID And you do weekend responsibility as well you're saying?

Code A
REID Oh yes.

Code A
REID How many is that?

Code A
REID Um it's approximately, um, I think it was, it's 1 in 6, um, going on to the wards at Queen Alexandra and being on call for the rest of the week. Sorry 1 in 12 I should say.

Code A
REID 1 in 12?

Code A
REID Approximately, somewhere between 1 in 10, or 1 in 12 it fluctuates a bit depending, because with some consultants leaving and what have you.

Code A
REID Right yes.

Code A
REID Um so 1 in 12 I do that and I am on call for the weekend and on call 1 in 10 of 12 week days, but I also go in another 1 in 12 to work on the Medical Assessment Unit and that's seeing patients who have come in as an emergency, um, on a Saturday and a Sunday morning and that's takes sort of four or five, um, hours to do, but once that's over there's no on call commitment. So if you like I'm in at weekends roughly 1 in 5 or 1 in 6.

Code A
REID Sure. Now so is yours a full time National Health Service contract then?
Yes.

Code A
REID Yeah. And that's a typical contract is it for a Consultant?
Yes. The minimum is, well the normal is 10, but a lot of people are doing more than that.

Code A
REID Yeah. So the programmed activity or session has that changed then recently?
Um it changed with the new consultant contract, which was introduced in 2003 I think.
And was it 3½ before that?
It was yeah, it was what were called 'sessions' and a session lasted 3½ hours.

Code A
REID Yeah. And was a session, would that have been the same for, a G.P. session would have been 3 ½ hours as well would it, ...
Um.

Code A
REID ...or was that a common figure or not?
Sort of, well nominally.

Code A
REID Yeah.
I mean what, what often happened was that G.P.'s, if you like the currency was sessions in terms of paying people, so you might pay a Clinical Assistance or pay a G.P. four sessions worth of pay to provide twenty-four hour responsibility because you're recognising that there weren't working all these hours. Does that make sense?
Yeah, yeah. So do you have any other responsibilities within the hospital in addition to your consultancy now?
Well I mean I've, as I've said just taken on an advisory role at Portsmouth City as a teacher.
(Inaudible) is it you say?
No, no, it's, um, they call it a Teaching Primary Care Trust because, ...
Oh.
... because the university's down in Portsmouth, ...
Yes.
... it doesn't, it's nothing to do with, no it's not teaching.
Oh right, okay. And do you have any other responsibilities outside of the Q.A.?
At the moment?
Yeah.
Well I'm working down in Gosport again.
Oh are you?
Yes.
Right. What, as a?
On Dryad Ward.
Oh right, okay. When did you start that again then?
Uh (pause), um, (pause) it's either September or October last year.
Oh right. And what's your commitment to that?
Um one ward round, or one session a week, one PA a week.
Now that covers the present time. So back in '98 what were your responsibilities outside of the hospital then, outside of Q.A. then?
In 1998?
Yeah '98 / '99 that time.
Our Consultant time-tables changed, um, not on a, perhaps every nine months or so, so I could probably, one of our secretaries is very diligent and keeps them all so I might be able to find exactly what I did back in 1998, but as I remember my contract was basically half time as Medical Director and half time clinical. Um I was certainly looking after Ann Ward in Queen Alexandra Hospital and I was also, um, I had an outpatient clinic I think in Queen Alexandra Hospital and I had I think a session in Dolphin Day Hospital at Gosport when I first came in 1998, but not working on the, directly on the wards.
Yeah. When did you start working on the wards then?
Well it was in 1999, I mean somewhere in the Spring of 1999...
Yeah.
... but I can't ...
I think it was February wasn't it?
I admit it was either February or April I can't, I can't remember.
Yeah that's fine. I mean we say February I think because we've actually taken it out of the statement you supplied to the police, ...
Yeah, yeah.
... we haven't got it from anywhere else.
No.
So you had responsibility to Dryad Ward?
Yes.
Yeah for about a year?
Yes.
Yeah. And did you also cover for Doctor LORD on Daedalus?
Yes. Um I mean it was really only covering if there was a major problem.
Yeah. Such as they weren't available for something?
Well yeah if there was some sort of crisis really.
And what about if Doctor LORD wasn't available to do her weekly ward rounds ...
It wasn't done.
It wasn't done.
We'll probably cover that more in a minute.
Yeah we'll do that again in a minute. Can you explain, I think you've probably already given the answer in a way but can you

REID

explain how you became responsible for a ward at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital?

Um well as I say every so often, um, Doctor JARRETT and one of the, um, um, we've got a, she's not a secretary like a sort of administrative person who looks at all the sort of the, who deals with all the medical staffing issues in the department. They would sort of sit down and re-jig the time tables.

Code A

Uh-huh. So we've established that you were on Dryad Ward, and what type of ward was Dryad Ward (TAPE MACHINE BUZZES)... That little buzzer indicates that the tape is coming to an end. What we'll do, is everybody happy to continue?

REID

Yeah.

Yeah just carry on.

Shall we stop there [Code A] and turn them over?

Yeah turn them over.

Code A

The time is 1000 and I'm turning the machine off.

INTERVIEW CONCLUDES - TAPE MACHINE IS SWITCHED OFF.