



PRESS RELEASE

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GMC DECISION RE GOSPORT DOCTOR

The GMC today decided not to strike off Dr Jane Barton, the doctor at the centre of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital scandal, in spite of finding her guilty of professional misconduct. They have imposed conditions on her practice. AvMA is calling for a public inquiry. Health Minister, Ann Keen, had promised AvMA that she would consider holding a public inquiry once the GMC had concluded its business.

AvMA Chief Executive, Peter Walsh, said:

“Whatever one thinks about this individual doctor, there are system-wide lessons that need to be learnt from this. Although the events took place a long time ago, there is no assurance that the NHS has learnt all the lessons. Patients’ and families’ concerns are still being ignored. Opiates such as diamorphine are still causing unnecessary deaths. There is still inadequate supervision and monitoring of drugs in care homes. And the GMC has continued to show itself to be reluctant to listen to the public, and inconsistent in the way it protects the public. The only people who can take credit from all of this are the families who have tirelessly fought to ensure facts are brought to light.”

AvMA has written again to Ann Keen MP asking her to convene a public inquiry.

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