

Winter 2006

Issue 15
Sink or swim



Mangling Medical Careers

More at <http://krishna.chinthapalli.co.uk/mmc>

MMC

MMC Voyage
Update

Captain's Log

October 2004

We departed reality, setting sail with a good wind behind us, to go forth and explore the world of junior doctors

August 2005

Land ahoy! Finally we could set up Foundations here, before making more waves with our proposals.

September 2006

Had our first encounter with the SHO 'lost tribe' who welcomed us with open arms. They hoped we were their saviours. We promised to bear gifts next time.

Planned future itinerary

28 February – 13 April

Launch face-to-face assault on the tribe across the land

19 April 2007

Select new MMC crewmates and disembark port

28 April 2007

Leave rest of the natives stranded on FTSTA beach

4 June 2007

MMC all at sea again

31 August 2007

Arrive back at reality, collect a golden handshake and jump on to the next quango ship

National News

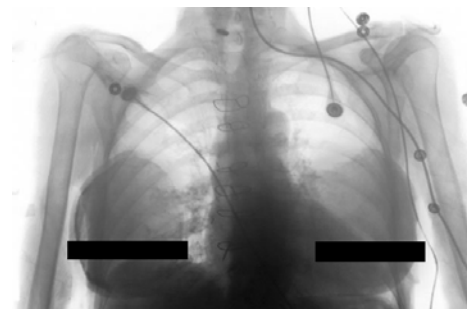
Porn doctor still not lynched by public

The first doctor to fall foul of the General Medical Council's new guidelines was struck off last week. Dr Seymour Mamrees was deemed unfit to practice after admitting to viewing pornography at work. As we thronged outside the courtroom, the visibly shocked doctor scurried away refusing to answer questions and covering his face with a copy of *Playboy*.

The new update of the GMC's Good Medical Practice guidelines were released in October 2006 and include a number of recommendations, one of which suggests that viewing explicit images at the workplace will result in disciplinary action. To compound matters, the image found on his PC was of one of his patients, and he had used the hospital's equipment to obtain it too. In his defence, the pervert argued that he was merely using it to help exclude a chest infection and other lung pathology in his patient.

Miss Anita Bohn, GMC spokeswoman, said in a statement "He's the one who's sick, not the patient. There is no acceptable excuse. Do you think it's a coincidence that 'X-rated' and 'X-ray' share their first three letters? Exactly."

Tabloid editors have meanwhile launched a separate investigation into why they have not yet been able to find out where the disgraced deviant lives.



A censored version of the offending image Dr Mamrees probably drooled over



East Ham: The best place in the world to be stabbed in. By a happy coincidence it is also one of the most likely places to be stabbed in.

East Ham has world's best health care

A new WHO report was published yesterday showing that East Ham is the by far the the region with the best health care in the world. It boasts a doctor-patient ratio of 5:1, dwarfing the second-ranked nation, Cuba, which can only manage 1:170.

The government has hailed the report as proof that the NHS is indeed the best system in the world, and a sign that it was working again after years of Labour investment. Locals are however quite underwhelmed. '5:1? That's nothing, I have 9 Asian doctors living upstairs in my guest bedroom' said one landlord.

The NHS Press Officer, Hugh Jass, stated 'At last our commitment to improving clinical services is paying off. The public now know we can offer a better medical service than a embargo-

stricken, third-world Caribbean dictatorship.'

'Who knows, we may even offer jobs to some of these doctors,' he chuckled, before suddenly becoming solemn and declaring '...That was a joke! There are no jobs for them here, no matter how many clinical observer attachments they've done. However we hope to be able to keep them here under false hopes and pretences until the next ranking is out too.'

Disclaimer: This newsletter is not affiliated to Modernising Medical Careers. Any similarity to actual persons or organisations is purely coincidental. Everything here is purely fictional, although that may not be the case next year.



Dr Ivan 'Schuey' Aston will be a frontrunner next year hoping to beat his record of 49.3 sec per consultation.

England to retain racing event

MMC would like to scotch rumours in the media by a certain Mr Ecclestone who earlier this month stated 'Due to financial constraints, Silverstone may lose its F1 GP from next year.'

However, MMC has stepped in and there will not just be one, but 300 F1 GPs in the year 2007. In another change, they will now be distributed across the country. Each participant will have to race around in circles, sitting in cramped conditions, before ending up back where they started. Note: Obviously, to take part, all GP contenders must have a driving licence by the time of application!

Frequently Asked Questions about MMC

How do I best prepare for my ST1/2/3 interviews?

Preparation is the key to any interview. Consider visiting the department and talking to the current doctors in the weeks beforehand. Take time to prepare answers to questions about you, the specialty, and the NHS. Try and read through recent medical literature, as well as current medical news in the mainstream media. Think about attending a course on interview techniques. Otherwise, an alternative can be to practise mock interviews with seniors in your current job. One thing is certain; if you leave it till the last two days you're unlikely to succeed.

How much notice will I be given for my ST1/2/3 interview?
 48 hours (via MTAS email)



A preview of the new interview panel for specialist training selection

MMC's new aim revealed

The MMC commission has announced a more realistic long-term goal for the organisation: We will attempt to be acknowledged by every TV programme, movie, publication and photo by the year 2100.

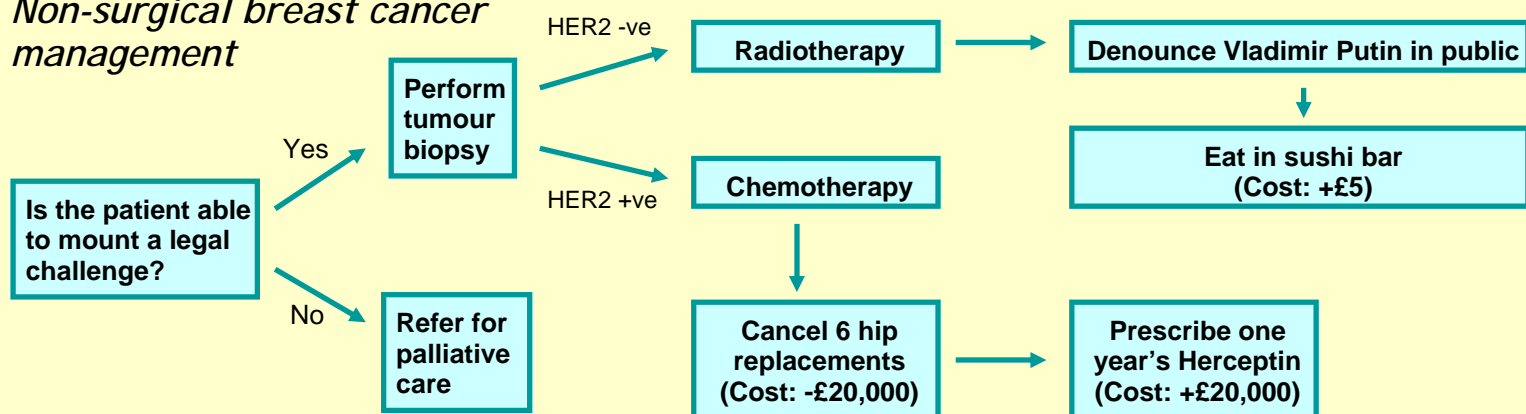
"It may only be in the credits or the inside cover, but we will strive to see 'MMC' on every copyrighted work in the year 2100, if not beforehand," said a spokesman.

The NICE way to treat breast cancer



We here at the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence have come under fire for our recent decision regarding the use of trastuzumab (Herceptin™). There is a perception that we fast-tracked our appraisal, and advocated its use under political pressure. There has also been confusion as to how a PCT will be able to find funding for trastuzumab (Hairceptin™) if a patient met our criteria. We would like to clarify the issue here with our updated breast cancer guideline below. The important point is that patients should not be denied trastuzumab (Hersoaplin™) on financial grounds.

Non-surgical breast cancer management





BOXING DAY SALE!

20% off everything at your local PFI store!*

*Minimum spend £100 million. Offer ends once New Labour & Tories leave office.

***PFI** have some great Christmas offers for hospital trusts everywhere. No matter what size and style of hospital you have, if you're thinking of replacing it, look no further!*

You can afford it!

Case study: *Greenwich Trust* didn't think they could afford a new hospital in Woolwich, which would have cost them £90m normally. Then they came to PFI. At PFI, they found a deal for our 'Queen Elizabeth Hospital' style for only £85m (+ £26m financing costs)!

They have had a new clean hospital for 5 years, and it's staying that way thanks to the Extra Care option they took out with us. For fixed instalments of £15m per year for 30 years, we run all of the maintenance and servicing needs of the hospital giving you peace of mind.

Now the Trust is bankrupt despite being more efficient than most. It has axed 150 jobs, and cut £11m from its treatment budget. But when they see their shiny fountain in the foyer, the directors know it was worth it.

'Durham' style >

Perfect if you want a hospital so short of beds that patients wait 11 hours in A&E. Other highlights are sewage leaks into the path lab and failing generators.



'Cumberland' style >

Design highlights include blocked fire exits, narrow corridors, shower-cum-storage areas. Patients love it so much they're prepared to wait 15 months for an MRI.



'Newsam' style >

Breaches every section of the fire code, has curving corridors for poor visibility and manoeuvrability, and out-of-the-way rooms where suicides are found 4 days later.



pfi

kwality built in



Jokes Corner

This issue, we have a special contribution from Prof C, who stresses the importance of humour in the workplace and leads by example on Hallowe'en:

It was a cold dark night — just what we had wanted. I and the other kids in the MMC office got dressed in our favourite costumes and started going from house to house using the GMC register.

"Trick or treat," I yelled at the first house. Dr KC sleepily answered the door as I bellowed "Trick or treat" at him again. He still did not understand until I thrust a box for completed DOPS, Mini-CEX and CbD forms at him.

"Oh..." he mumbled "I'm really sorry. I completely forgot to fill some for you. I'll get them next time!" Not even looking at the disappointment in our faces, he shut the door. Then I remembered our hilarious trick; we posted a P45 form through his letterbox!

All in all, it was great fun, and I'll go all over England next year!

Contact Us

*We are always pleased to receive positive feedback.
Email krishnachinthapalli@yahoo.co.uk
Visit krishna.chinthapalli.co.uk/mmc*

Letters to the editor

Dear MMC,

We at the MCC feel compelled to write after a number of highly embarrassing mishaps recently. It would seem that due to the similarity in our abbreviated titles, members of the public have been confusing MMC with MCC.

Under normal circumstances we would not mind, but our club has decided that we do not want to be confused with a bigoted, exclusive, sexist, white, upper class, unelected organisation like yours.

Please consider changing your name so we are not tarred with the same brush as you.

Yours faithfully,
The Marylebone Cricket Club, Lord's Cricket Ground

There is not enough space to respond to these vicious allegations here. See the website for details — Ed.

OUT IN CINEMAS NOW!
SEE WHAT THE CRITICS HAVE SAID:

BEST BOND EVER! HE MAKES \$100 MILLION FROM A \$15 MILLION INVESTMENT!
NATIONAL SAVINGS OFFICE, PREMIUM BONDS DEPT

"ONE OF THE MOST THRILLING BOND CAR CHASES! JUST DON'T BLINK"
THE MAIL

"HAVING AN ACCOUNTANT AS THE VILLAIN WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS. AND I WAS ALSO UNNERVED BY HIS LETHAL SPECIAL QUIRK: HE CRIES!"
THE STAR

"BALL-BREAKING ACTION"
BDSM MAGAZINE

"AS GOOD AS LATE-NIGHT POKER ANY DAY (NIGHT)"
CARD SHUFFLER MAGAZINE

WINNER OF THE 2006 MILLS & BOON MOST ROMANTIC MELODRAMA AWARD

BOND IS BACK!

CASINO
ROYALE
7

