

From: Mark Winter (Mark.Winter@GRO-C)
Sent: 16 April 2007 10:31
To: Gordon Clarke; Peter Stevens; Simon Chapman; Martin Harvey; Russell Mishcon; Pat Spellman; Susan Daniels
Subject: Fwd: Update on Newsnight on Monday

dear all

it looks like the newnight expose is going ahead tonight

all the signs are that it will look to stick the knife in to the DOH and to various doctors

it wont do anything to improve relationships in the haemophilia community

we can discuss the implications of the programme - and the independent inquiry - when we meet next week

mark

Dr Mark Winter
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Kent Haemophilia Centre
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>>> "Gina Coladangelo" <ginacoladangelo@GRO-C> 13/04/2007 15:29
>>>
Mark,

I know you are in meetings all day today in London but I wanted to drop you a note about Newsnight. One of our colleagues met with one of the Newsnight team involved in the anticipated item on haemophilia last night - and confirmed that it is to be shown on Monday 16th. We believe that the piece aims to 'break' a new story, hence the reluctance of the individual to disclose too much.

Focus

Not a huge amount was given away in relation to the focus of the piece. The team who have worked on this item are still trying to finalise the focus of the piece, but the main idea is clearly to point the finger of blame at someone. As you know, a team of researchers has spent the past 12 weeks filming and collecting data for the slot. They have worked with 2 health trusts and also filmed with a manufacturer.

Content

It was suggested that they will look at the implications of a lack of regulation within the sector by the Department of Health and how this has impacted on sufferers of blood disorders. They will also look at the role of private sector providers within the NHS and whether there has been a breakdown in quality control and how advice is given around errors that might be made. The programme is also likely to suggest that action is necessary against certain NHS Trusts.

Our concern is that given the lack of detailed knowledge of this sector by those producing this item, it could mean that information is misrepresented.

Spokespeople

As mentioned, they have filmed with a couple of health trusts, as well as a manufacturer. An approach has been made, we believe to the Department of Health, for a spokesperson to appear on Monday night. This still has yet to be confirmed however.

Schedule

The item is still scheduled to run on Monday night. It is currently with the editorial team to be finalised. There are a couple of factors that might lead to it being delayed:

1. If the DH are unable to put up a spokesperson on Monday but can do another evening
2. If some more significant news story breaks as is always the case.
3. Most interestingly - because the Newsnight editorial team has received a complaint about the way one participating organisation's views had been misrepresented, depending on the decision the team take could mean that they delay showing the item. We believe that this is unlikely, however, because the impression we got was that the BBC feel that this is where their 'breaking' story is, and that the complaint is a reaction to them unearthing something significant.

The other key point to come out of the discussions last night, was that given the BBC's new approach to sharing news ideas across teams, if the piece does appear to uncover something significant, it could then be developed into a bigger item on another programme. This is a change in direction, as Newsnight have historically been quite precious about the material and stories they produce. It is worth noting that the piece has been put together by the in-house health and environment team at Newsnight.

We will of course let you know should we hear anything further, or if it looks like the piece will not appear on Monday's programme.

Hope that helps for now. Speak soon,

Gina

Gina Coladangelo
Partner
Luther Pendragon
T: GRO-C
M:

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 paula.bolton-maggs@ [GRO-C] savita.rangarajan@ [GRO-C] Mike Laffan;
 Savita.Rangarajan@ [GRO-C] cheng hock toh; [GRO-C] Martin
 Anthony McVerry; michael.richards@ [GRO-C] Angela.Thomas; ginacoladangelo@ [GRO-C]
 angela.thomas@ [GRO-C] David Keeling; paul.giangrande;
 Harvey; Charles Hay; e.tuddenham@ [GRO-C] Hanley, John; b.t.colvin@ [GRO-C]
 Tait, Campbell; Gerry.Dolan@ [GRO-C] Harrington, Christine;
 John Pasi; Desmond Creagh; Creagh, Desmond - RCHT; vicky.vidler@ [GRO-C] David Bevan; Vicky Vidler; M Makris;
 Jonathan.Wilde@ [GRO-C] Peter.Collins@ [GRO-C] Dr Elizabeth Chalmers
 Subject: RE: newsnight

Dear All,

I have spoken to Mark today and have previously expressed my views to Charlie but I didn't see the programme last night as I only got back from holiday yesterday.

It seems to me that the idea of a co-ordinated response with professional advice is important. I feel that we have nothing to hide and even though the enquiry is "unofficial" I fear that silence and/or a lack of co-operation would inevitably be mis-interpreted. Please let me know if you want me to assist UKHCDO in any way. I would be grateful if I could be kept informed even though I am now semi-retired, (as of this Monday). At the moment I intend to do one day a week for the NHS and will continue to see people with haemophilia for at least another 6 months.

I am not aware of any specific complaints about my previous conduct from my patients but I fully understand that the position may change at any time and I want to be a team player.

Yours,
 Brian Colvin

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Winter [mailto:Mark.Winter@ [GRO-C]]
 Sent: 18 April 2007 09:46
 To: David Perry; Henry.Watson@ [GRO-C] Colvin Brian;
 frank.hill@ [GRO-C] Pathology AD Mumford; MICHAEL WILLIAMS;
 P.w.collins@ [GRO-C] PETER W COLLINS;
 Peter.Collins@ [GRO-C] Christopher.Ludlam@ [GRO-C] LiesnR@ [GRO-C]
 paula.bolton-maggs@ [GRO-C] savita.rangarajan@ [GRO-C] Mike Laffan;
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 angela.thomas@ [GRO-C] David Keeling; paul.giangrande;
 Harvey; Charles Hay; e.tuddenham@ [GRO-C] John.Hanley@ [GRO-C]
 Tait, Campbell; Gerry.Dolan@ [GRO-C] Harrington, Christine;
 b.t.colvin@ [GRO-C] John Pasi; Desmond Creagh; Creagh, Desmond - RCHT; vicky.vidler@ [GRO-C] David Bevan; Vicky Vidler; M Makris;
 Christine; Jonathan.Wilde@ [GRO-C] Peter.Collins@ [GRO-C] Dr Elizabeth Chalmers
 Subject: newsnight

Charlie

It was as bad as we were fearing, you will agree

as we discussed on friday, I will now liaise in detail with luther pendragon as to how we should proceed. I do think that as an organisation we do need to have a formal plan as to how respond to these allegations, which have the potential to destabilise previously good relationships (by and large) in haemophilia care

my view would be that the programme contained serious material inaccuracies which we should look to correct, particularly in relation to:

- the claims that the 1983 letter would have greatly saved lives (not true, as we know from the RFH cohort that most were likely to have been infected 1979 onwards) that patients were used as guinea pigs (using heat treated FVIII to avoid hep C was responsible, not experimental) that the newsnight report showed that doctors were aware earlier than

previously known to have been unaware of the crisis (not true, the timelines are already in the public domain in the DOH report and on the tainted blood web site) that doctors continued to use FVIII and ignored the dangers (not true, the dangers were clear from 1982 onward) that patients were left uninformed of their HIV status from June 1984, thereby putting their partners at risk (not true, the test was not available till October 1984 onward)

and more besides

without discussing individual cases, it seems to me it would be useful to provide a briefing in response to the programme which could be used by centres in dealing with distressed patients (since many doctors and nurses wont be aware of the truth) and also for the media (if they are at all interested in knowing our side of the story)

if you need to talk to me I am on my mobile GRO-C

mark.

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From:
Sent:
To:

Mark Winter [Mark.Winter@GRO-C]
18 April 2007 10:00
David Perry; Henry.Watson@GRO-C
Brian.Colvin@GRO-C
MICHAEL WILLIAMS: P.w.collins@GRO-C
Peter.Collins@GRO-C
Christopher.Ludlam@GRO-C
savita.rangarajan@GRO-C
michael.richards@GRO-C
Angela Thomas: oinacoladangelo@GRO-C
e.tuddenham@GRO-C
Gerry.Dolan@GRO-C
b.t.colvin@GRO-C
Harrington, Christine: vicky.vidler@GRO-C
Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C
Chalmers
newsnight
Frank.hill@GRO-C
Pathology AD Mumford;
PETER W COLLINS:
paula.bolton-maggs@GRO-C
Savita.Rangarajan@GRO-C
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cheng hock toh; angela.thomas@GRO-C
Martin Harvey; Charles Hay;
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John.Hanley@GRO-C
Desmond Creagh; Creagh, Desmond - RCHT;
David Bevan; Vicky Vidler, M Makris;
Dr Elizabeth

Subject:

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mark.

Dr Mark Winter
Haemophilia Centre Director
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Kent CT1 3NG
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tel [GRO-C]
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From: Colvin Brian [Brian.Colvin@GRO-C]
Sent: 18 April 2007 13:15
To: Mark Winter; David Perry; Henry Watson@GRO-C
 frank.hill@GRO-C; Pathology AD Mumford; MICHAEL WILLIAMS;
 P.w.collins@GRO-C; PETER W COLLINS;
 Peter.Collins@GRO-C; paula.bolton-maggs@GRO-C
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 michael.richards@GRO-C; cheng hock toh; angela.thomas@GRO-C
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 b.t.colvin@GRO-C; John Pasi; Desmond Creagh; Creagh, Desmond - RCHT;
 Harrington, Christine; vicky.vidler@GRO-C; David Bevan; Vicky Vidler; M Makris;
 Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C; Peter.Collins@GRO-C; Dr Elizabeth
 Chalmers
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Sent: 18 April 2007 09:46
To: David Perry; Henry Watson@GRO-C; Colvin Brian;
 frank.hill@GRO-C; Pathology AD Mumford; MICHAEL WILLIAMS;
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 b.t.colvin@GRO-C; John Pasi; Desmond Creagh; Creagh, Desmond - RCHT; Harrington,
 Christine; vicky.vidler@GRO-C; David Bevan; Vicky Vidler; M Makris;
 Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C; Peter.Collins@GRO-C; Dr Elizabeth Chalmers
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GRO-C

mark.

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From:
Sent:
To:

Hanley, John [John.Hanley@GRO-C]
19 April 2007 08:16
Colvin Brian; Mark Winter; David Perry; Henry.Watson@GRO-C
frank.hill@GRO-C Pathology AD Mumford; MICHAEL WILLIAMS;
P.w.collins@GRO-C PETER W COLLINS;
Peter.Collins@GRO-C paula.bolton-maggs@GRO-C
Christopher.Ludlam@GRO-C LesnR@GRO-C Savita.Rangarajan@GRO-C
savita.rangarajan@GRO-C Mike Laffan; Anthony McVerry;
michael.richards@GRO-C cheng hock toh; angela.thomas@GRO-C
Angela Thomas; ginacoladangelo@GRO-C Martin Harvey; Charles Hay;
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Creagh, Desmond - RCHT; Harrington, Christine; vicky.vidler@GRO-C David Bevan;
Vicky Vidler; M Makris; Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C Peter.Collins@GRO-C
GRO-C Dr Elizabeth Chalmers
Cc: Talks, Kate
Subject: RE: newsnight

Dear All

I missed the programme but saw the podcast on the newsnight website last night. I was shocked to see the way the report was presented - Christopher Ludlam has been singled out by some individuals in an entirely unjustifiable way. The impression that Edinburgh patients (or elsewhere) were somehow infected with HIV on purpose, and then studied in an "AIDS study", without their knowledge, is clearly ludicrous and requires robust challenge. During my time in Edinburgh in the 1990s, I went through all the notes of patients registered at the Centre, as part of a longitudinal study in relation to HCV - at no stage did I come across anything which raised any concern in my mind that patients had not been kept fully in the picture during the 1980s.

Christopher should be getting appropriate recognition for what he contributed during those years. Along with Christine Lee and others - he did not panic - but set about trying to study what was going on in an organised and scientific way. He was ahead of the game - as he had already recognised the "immunomodulatory effects" of concentrates - that is precisely why there were so many stored samples in Edinburgh which proved so useful in studying what was going on - once HTLV3 had been identified. It would clearly have been better if he had sat on his hands and done nothing. If he had taken this approach - I doubt he would be on the telly now.

I was particularly sad to see Professor Savidge - after containing himself for so many years - adding confusion rather than clarification to the way the programme presented the information.

Also - in relation to more recent events - was it not the same Professor Ludlam who, at the time of the emergence of vCJD as a potentially transfusion-transmitted disease, stood up to all the vested interests and insisted, if there was any potential risk to haemophiliacs - that UK plasma should not be used. Clearly the act of someone who does not care about his patients.

I am sure, in the 1980s, medical practice did not tend to "share uncertainty" with patients and families - in the same way as we do now. As a result of this we have shared a huge amount of uncertainty with our patients/parents in relation to vCJD. As a result I have spent a lot of time with some parents "who can no longer look at their son" as they are convinced he will die at any minute from vCJD. "First do no harm" - not necessarily a clear-cut issue.

This type of reporting tends to scapegoat - any of us could be next - so a collective response is, I guess, the best way - happy to help if needed.

Regards
John

-----Original Message-----

From: Colvin Brian [mailto:Brian.Colvin@GRO-C]
Sent: 19 April 2007 13:01
To: Mark Winter; David Perry; Henry.Watson@GRO-C
frank.hill@GRO-C Pathology AD Mumford; MICHAEL WILLIAMS;
P.w.collins@GRO-C PETER W COLLINS;

From:
Sent:
To:

Bolton-Maggs Paula (RW3) CM&MC Manchester [Paula.Bolton-Maggs@GRO-C]
30 April 2007 16:00
Mark Winter, David Perry; Trevor Baglin; Brian Colvin@GRO-C
frank.hill@GRO-C PETER W COLLINS; Charles Hay; KHAIRK@GRO-C
LiesnR@GRO-C Savita.Rangarajan@GRO-C
savita.rangarajan@GRO-C Angela Thomas; ginacoladangelo@GRO-C
Martin Harvey; haemophilia@GRO-C Charles Hay; e.tuddenham@GRO-C
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John.Hanley@GRO-C Desmond Creagh; Harrington, Christine;
vicky.vidler@GRO-C David Bevan; Vicky Vidler; M Makris; Christopher Ludlam;
Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C Peter.Collins@GRO-C

Subject:

RE: BMJ

Yes, I was disappointed that they have perpetuated the factual inaccuracies you commented on before. Surely we should reply to this?
Paula

Dr. Paula Bolton-Maggs
Consultant Haematologist
Department of Clinical Haematology
Manchester Royal Infirmary
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9WL
Tel: [GRO-C]
Fax: [GRO-C]

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Winter [mailto:Mark.Winter@GRO-C]
Sent: 30 April 2007 15:51
To: David Perry; Trevor Baglin; Brian Colvin@GRO-C
frank.hill@GRO-C PETER W COLLINS; Bolton-Maggs Paula (RW3) CM&MC Manchester;
Charles Hay; KHAIRK@GRO-C LiesnR@GRO-C Savita.Rangarajan@GRO-C
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Makris; Christopher Ludlam; Jonathan.Wilde@GRO-C Peter.Collins@GRO-C
GRO-C

Subject: BMJ

have you seen the BMJ?

very disappointing that "our mag" chooses to get a journalist to in effect regurgitate the newnight story (plus big picture of carol grayson, plus extract from tainted blood website) without thinking to talk to those of us who actually belong to the BMA and who could have given a far more accurate and articulate account of the issues involved

- even our own "trade union" is against us, it seems

luther pendragon confirm that they cant work for us but another option would be red door communciations who specialise in media work and who have worked very effectively with the alliance in the past

let me know if you would like their details

mark.

Dr Mark Winter
Haemophilia Centre Director
Kent Haemophilia Centre
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Ethelbert Road
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Sent: 30 April 2007 16:00
To: David Perry; Trevor Baglin; Brian Colvin@GRO-C
 frank.hill@GRO-C; PETER W COLLINS; paula.bolton-maggs@GRO-C
 Charles Hay; KHAIRK@GRO-C; LiesnR@GRO-C
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