

Gordon R B Skinner MD (Hons) DSc, FRCPath FRCOG
22 Alcester Road
Moseley
Birmingham
B13 8BE
Tel/Fax 0121 449 8895

12th November 2007

Dear Patient,

Since I last wrote to you there has been a significant development in that the Fitness to Practise hearing was finalised on 11.11.2007. I am pleased to report that the Fitness to Practise Panel considered that I could continue to practice under essentially a continuance of the Interim Order conditions, which have been operating since the first Interim Order hearing in 2005.

This is gratifying on a personal and professional basis but more importantly allowing public debate on the question of diagnosis and management of hypothyroidism and will hopefully facilitate a formal examination of this critical issue in patients with suspected or proven hypothyroidism.

I sincerely thank the patients who attended these hearings (which included two weekends in rain drenched Manchester) and those of you who 'took the stand' as witnesses and were prepared to share personal and often painful memories of your illness; I am also grateful for your nearly one thousand letters of support to the General Medical Council and to myself personally. I have no doubt that the testimony of patients was of critical importance towards the favourable outcome of this case.

Oscar Warwick Skinner my grandson has arrived on the scene. I have now discovered that there is something more difficult than practicing private medicine in 2007; this is persuading an 8 week old that being put in a cot is not a signal for noisy protest and that it is not a good idea to be awake all night.

Once again my heartfelt thanks for your support during these difficult times.

Kind regards,

Gordon RB Skinner MD, DSc, FRCPath, FRCOG