For Distribution to CPs

PCC ruling on a complaint about BMJ obituary

The Press Complaints Commission has adjudicated on a complaint about the controversial obituary of Dr David Horrobin published in the British Medical Journal. The Commission considered the central part of the complaint to be raised under Clause 5 (Intrusion into grief) and accepted that it was right for the editor of the journal to offer to publish an apology for causing distress to the family of the deceased. Given that the editor had done so - as well as publishing a correction to factual inaccuracies and alternative (and more positive) views of Dr Horrobin - the Commission was satisfied that he had acted sufficiently under the terms of the Code.

To read the adjudication in full click here.

ENDS

For more information contact Stephen Abell on 020 7353 1248.

24 July 2003