INQUIRY INTO OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW

Name: Ms Kim Dunn

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The Director Select Committee on Off-Protocol Prescribing of Chemotherapy in NSW

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I am writing in support of Dr Kiran Phadke. I have known Kiran for over five years. He came to work from our Southern Endocrine rooms where I work part time as a medical receptionist/secretary and has become a popular and affable character with all who work there. I have observed his professional, caring and friendly nature with patients and in turn respect, trust and fondness by patients and their families. His honest and direct approach to treatment and outcomes is appreciated.

Personally, I had the misfortune of being diagnosed in November 2015 with fallopian tube cancer. With no hesitation I nominated Dr Phadke as my supervising Oncologist. As my bowel was involved requiring several surgeries, colostomy and ileostomy, he coordinated treatment with my Colorectal Surgeon and Gynaecological Oncologist. I had six chemotherapy sessions with Paclitaxel and Carboplatin and several blood transfusions due to anaemia.

Following fourth chemo I became quite unwell with nausea, anaemia, diarrhoea and a 4kg weight loss in a week. I was admitted to Sutherland Hospital for a week where I had kidney issues and neutropaenia, and given a blood transfusion. Dr Phadke advised that these problems were due to chemo toxicity and so for my next two chemos the dose of Carboplatin would be reduced. Fortunately, with this approach I had no further issues and continued on treatment until finished.

Happily I have had a good outcome with normal cancer markers. I have nothing but gratitude and praise for this man, who apart from being a dedicated professional doctor, is a wonderful human being who only had my best interests at heart.

Having now returned to work after ten months, I am hearing about other patients' views and how upset they are by what Kiran is having to endure and are all keen for his return. In some cases, he has seen patients for 20 years or more and they only want to be seen by him. I am truly disappointed and saddened that I am unable to enjoy the success of my treatment with him.

This man has devoted his life to the care and welfare of patients, and to be dealing with these accusations is soul destroying and I would hope that this situation is rectified and his reputation restored as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Kim Dunn