

**INQUIRY INTO OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF  
CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW**

**Name:** Mr Alan Branch

**Date received:** 26 October 2016

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to offer my full and unconditional support to Doctor Kiran Phadke as a patient of his for more than 30 years.

I have complete and utter faith in his judgment for the treatment he has given to me over all of these years and can only offer my praise for the care he has shown whenever I have encountered major health problems. Whether it be with my Cardiologist or when I have needed emergency surgery, Doctor Phadke was always there to assist with Hematology matters and never charging our medical system for his time.

Over 30 years I have been treated by him for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, twice with Radiation, numerous times in tablet form which managed to keep the Cancer in check. Then, 8 years ago I was treated by Kiran with Chemo therapy over many treatments with the end result, my tumours had all shrunk substantially.

From then on I was monitored 6 monthly, then 12 monthly, to the point that I felt a fraud to be wasting his time as I was clearly in remission to which he agreed.

I have had another eight good years of life thanks to Kiran but have now found that my Lymphoma has changed its nature to an aggressive form of the disease so I am now entering the fight of my life but there is no way I can look back with any regret and say I was not given the best of care.

I honestly could not sleep the night I heard that he had been suspended. I wanted to hug him and show him what he really has meant to me, to try to comfort him in some way. This good man does not deserve to be treated this way!

I am presently going through more Chemotherapy at StGeorge Hospital and it upsets me even more to see him recognised on a Board of Honour in the foyer of Radiotherapy but he now seems to be discarded as a social outcast.

One thing we all must keep in mind, people do die during Chemotherapy. I know it is soon to take my life but I remain positive and hope for a few more years.

Having spent time in hospital with Chemo patients, some handle it well while others simply don't want to go through it. I guess at some stage, Doctors then need to make subjective decisions on how best to deal with patients, to give some quality of life to those who can't cope due to age, medical conditions or just plain fear.

As I am unaware of the accusations against Kiran, all I can beg is that he is given the opportunity to defend his reputation and I trust my input may contribute to that very cause.

Yours sincerely, Alan Branch