

Submission
No 97

INQUIRY INTO OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW

Name: Dr Louis E McGuigan

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20 August 2016/ku

The Editor
St George and Sutherland Shire Leader
PO Box 205
KOGARAH NSW 2217

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing with respect to my colleague of many years, Dr Kiran Phadke. I notice with great distress that his name has been in the paper recently and he has been mentioned adversely.

I have known Dr Phadke since 1974. He used to be a resident doctor at St George Hospital at that time when I was a student. In that period I have been in virtual constant contact with him. This has been of a professional nature. He is one of the finest doctors I have ever met. I was lucky enough to be taught by him and over the years I have had a number of patients in common with him. He is compassionate, hard working and dedicated to patient care. If I had a relative who was sick with a haematological condition or cancer I would be ringing him first.

It would appear that his treatments have been criticised adversely because he has not complied to the letter with various protocols. After forty years in medicine I would point out that treatment is a highly individual thing and there are some patients who are unfit to comply with an objective protocol.

I know how distressing it must be for patients or the relatives of patients who have been treated by Dr Phadke to have their doctor criticised. It must undermine their confidence in him and in their treatment. I think this is a very bad thing to happen. All I can say to them is that having known Dr Phadke for forty-two years I have total faith in his judgement and integrity.

Best regards

Yours sincerely

(dictated but not sighted - electronic signature)

Dr. Louis McGuigan