

Coventry

30th September 2005

The Letters Editor
Evening Telegraph
Coventry
CV1 1FP

Dear Sir/Madam,

No-one can ever have believed that Managers at the Walsgrave Hospital have kept Heart Consultant, Dr Raj Mattu, under suspension for 4 years at a cost of millions of pounds to the tax payer for bullying a junior researcher who departed from the Trust weeks after the accusation.

The real reason behind the suspension of Dr Raj Mattu is now out. Patients crammed into overcrowded bays died, and it appears that at least 11 are known about. It is now known that whilst Dr Mattu has whistle blown about these deaths Trust Managers have maintained false claims about seriously ill patients never being placed in such vulnerable areas and that documentation of such patient deaths ever existed.

The Trust Chairman, Mr B Stoten, and his managers have vilified Dr Mattu and been critical of his supportive colleagues, and accused them of having no evidence to support such deaths. Although Mr Stoten is in post to represent and protect the interests of Coventry, it is now clear that he has not been open and honest with Coventry, and that Dr Mattu's warnings were founded. Mr Stoten must see that these deaths involved loved ones and families whose lives are now forever changed.

To let Mr Stoten and his NHS colleagues internally investigate this entire matter would effectively charge them to investigate themselves. Their record strongly supports the likelihood that they would do no more than try to find evidence allowing them to suggest that they did not mislead Coventry. No Trust enquiry can come close to the required independence and scrutiny necessary for reliable and trusted answers.

Coventry needs and deserves proper scrutiny and assessment of what happened and what is going on at our Trust.

Yours faithfully,

Mr V Begraj