

## SPSO decision report



**Case:** 201005373, Grampian NHS Board  
**Sector:** health  
**Subject:** communication, staff attitude, dignity, confidentiality  
**Outcome:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mr C complained that an employee of Grampian NHS Board passed on negative remarks about him (made by a third party) to his sister-in-law. This was in relation to the search for a care home for their relative, Mr A. The investigation revealed that the information had been relevant to the search and had not constituted any breach of confidentiality because Mr C's sister-in-law had power of attorney for Mr A. We also considered that the board had no responsibility to check whether the remarks were accurate or to give Mr C the chance to deny them.