

SPSO decision report

Case: 201202019, A Medical Practice in the Lothian NHS Board area
Sector: health
Subject: clinical treatment / diagnosis
Outcome: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mrs C's daughter (Miss A) attended a GP appointment with symptoms of depression. She was prescribed Prozac (an anti-depressant medication). Mrs C complained that this treatment was inappropriate. She felt that the GP had not tried to properly establish the cause of her daughter's depression and had unreasonably prescribed medication that could increase the risk of suicide in young people.

However, after taking independent advice from one of our medical advisers, we found that the GP's treatment of Miss A was reasonable. A review appointment had been made for a week later. We found that it was appropriate to prescribe such medication for Miss A's symptoms, particularly as the review appointment was in place to assess her reaction to, and mood level, whilst taking the medication.