

SPSO decision report

Case: 201507752, A Medical Practice in the Grampian NHS Board area

Sector: health

Subject: clinical treatment / diagnosis

Outcome: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mr C said that his late father (Mr A) attended the GP practice on a number of occasions with symptoms indicating a serious condition. He said that the practice unreasonably failed to consider the possibility of bowel cancer and carry out appropriate tests, investigations and referrals. Mr A died a few months after several admissions to hospital where he was diagnosed with bowel cancer.

We took independent advice from a GP adviser. We found that the care and treatment provided by the practice was reasonable including that referrals and investigations were arranged within a reasonable time before Mr A's first admission to hospital. We also found no evidence suggesting that the practice failed to monitor Mr A appropriately when he was discharged from hospital.