



---

November 2005

## **Part II Fellowship Examination in Administrative Medicine**

### **Case Study 2**

You are the Clinical Services Director of a medium sized general hospital. You receive a call from a journalist of the local tabloid newspaper, requesting your immediate comments on the issue of pornography on hospital owned computer. It seems that a problem has been exposed by one of the paediatric doctors of your hospital, who has contacted the press.

Apparently, pornography (including child pornography) was inadvertently discovered by this doctor after his consultant paediatrician had requested him to access his office computer to download some urgently needed medical references, since he was on leave and could not access these himself.

The press would like your early response, since they plan to publish the story the next day.

The consultant paediatrician concerned is your personal friend.

Identify the issues involved and discuss how you would deal with this.

<b>For Examiner</b>
---------------------

*A pass candidate would cover the following:*

- Hospital IT policies and procedures including code of practice, access rights, audit system.
- Ethical issues
  - Pornography and child pornography
  - Natural justice
  - Conflict of interest
  - Whistle blowing
- Legal issues
- HR issues
  - Management of staff performance
  - Interpersonal relationships
- Media management — action plan and line to take

*Outstanding Candidate*

- Explore issues of child pornography, its legality, access by a paediatrician v. adult pornography. Possible options for HR management.
- Whistle blowing - motivation, effectiveness, management, outcomes (supported by case examples).
- IT policy and practices within hospitals, development and monitoring procedures. Use of internet, not work related.
- Media management - comparison of options available with review of pros / cons of different approaches.