

Sent 10th Jan 2011

J.R.C.MEW BDS Lond; LDS RCS Eng; MFGDP (Uk); M. Orth RCS Edin
MICHAEL MEW BDS (LOND) MSc
SPECIALIST ORTHODONTISTS



E-mail: mikemew@gmail.com

Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence



10th January 2011,

Copied to 

Dear Sir/Madam

I am an orthodontist who has been practicing for over 10 years and work with my father who is one of the most experience orthodontist in the country. We are concerned that the practice of modern orthodontics is based on poor science and is not evidence based. Our attempts to engage the profession in scientific debate have been spurned and the normal response to a scientific challenge has not been followed.

Even though 30% of the population of this country is being treating without knowing the cause of the problem, the British Orthodontic Society has refused to enter into a debate on this issue. The GDC, after lengthy communication have stated "What you do not seem to understand is that, even if this is true (which the GDC does not accept) it is not the place of a regulator to become involved in a disagreement between you and the orthodontic profession as to the scientific basis of their practice.

I am fully aware of the GDC's responsibilities and obligations under the legislation. They do not include becoming involved in your dispute with the orthodontic profession about the scientific basis of orthodontics". If the public is being exposed to treatment that not scientifically supported that could be potentially harmful it should be for the GDC to hear my concerns. It is entrusted by government to oversee the dental monopoly in the interests of the public and I feel that it has failed to act as an independent regulator and has dismissed our concerned without listening to our evidence

I believe that I could prove that contemporary orthodontic practice is not evidence based, is lagging behind the science and is an ineffective use of money in these difficult financial times. I suspect that powerful vested interests within the BOS that extend into the GDC are trying to prevent painful and difficult change to an exceptionally well paid section of the NHS.

My enquiry is for you to ask the GDC why they have not taken the time to listen to my concerns and investigated this issue. It would be my pleasure to expand on this if you have 30min to spare.

Best wishes,

Mike Mew, BDS MSC