

PE1463/SSS

Maureen Hardie Letter of 24 February 2016

Dear Convener and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my gratitude and support for Elaine Smith's excellent and coherent contribution to the debate (9th February) on Petition PE1463 regarding Thyroid and Adrenal diagnosis and treatment. As a patient herself she truly understands the problems.

I would also like to thank the other members of the Committee for their excellent questioning of the Minister and Professor Leese. They have correctly grasped that the petition is all about trying to change the status quo and I was quite honestly disgusted by the lack of knowledge of the Minister and the attitude of Professor Leese. The current situation is just not working for patients who keep coming up against a brick wall of intransigence by the Establishment.

Any doctor who really listens to patients and tries to help runs the risk of ending their career because they will be summoned before the BMA if they don't adhere to the "guidelines". The stories of Dr Peatfield and Dr Skinner, heroes to patients but a thorn to the Establishment show this. For those interested, more information about them in the links below:

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Durrant-Peatfield

http://www.thyroiduk.org.uk/tuk/campaigns/world_thyroid_register.html

Scotland has a chance here to take a lead, as we have done so often in history, by making changes which would give hope to patients not just in Scotland but further afield. Many are watching with interest and hoping for change.

Please consider this email to be a submission on behalf of the Petition.

Best regards

Maureen Hardie