

PE1463/BBBB

Anonymous Submission of 11 February 2016

It is out of sheer exasperation that I find the need to make contact regarding the above recent meeting. Where do I begin? I do not want to simply string together a list of each and every part of this meeting which either angered or upset me, nor do I wish to labour on the emotions which were provoked by hearing what I can only describe politely as utter rubbish.

However much swerving of answers took place, or sweeping generalisations being made by the minister or professor, the fact is that people are suffering out there, with many living completely compromised lives until they die, totally unaware that in many cases there was an answer to their health problems. I know this because I suffered terribly and remained undiagnosed for years until I met the late Dr Gordon Skinner.

It matters not how I present REPEATEDLY to my GP, and we are talking about extreme fatigue, twenty plus infections due to a compromised immune system, weight gain, puffy face, hair loss, feelings of extreme inner coldness, dry skin, flooding at the time of menstruation, anaemia, the list is by far longer than the this and I suffered from puberty until my late thirties. My mother, Grandma, aunts and cousins suffered with Thyroid disease too, but each time I visited my GP with another failing of health problem I was repeatedly told I did not have Thyroid disease because my TSH was always 'in range'. (Had I been a resident of a different country I would have received treatment from this point) But the fact that the T S H is wholly unreliable needs to be addressed alongside the 'healthy range' guidelines as this remains the critical stumbling block for so many desperately ill Thyroid patients, both undiagnosed and those suffering because they are either not getting enough medication or quite simply not the right medication in the first place!

I was prescribed Nature Thyroid by Dr Gordon Skinner, and in a matter of weeks my life began to change; I started to feel warm first of all, my ice cold fingers and toes began to warm up too, then I started to wake up. I could wake from an eight hour sleep without walking around my house like a zombie. I did not need to crash with sheer exhaustion mid morning which required sleeping again.

A little while later and the chronic repeat infections disappeared. This was amazing for me, in the space of a year I had endured around twelve infections of the urinary tract and invasive tests found no cause. My skin took a little longer to improve, the cracked sore areas did however return to normal gradually, and thankfully my periods settled down to normal levels of blood loss. There came more improvements along the way, including my self esteem and general mood following these changes.

This is not an anecdotal account simply because the nature of it is personal testimony, and I found the professor's attitude re what constitutes as 'anecdotal' to be highly offensive. How can real and harrowing accounts of actual suffering be disregarded in such an ill informed manner? I can only hope it is the former.

I pray that one day all of the accurate information (which is actually already out there) comes to light regarding Thyroid disease, as I feel extremely vulnerable since the passing of Gordon Skinner.

My own GP refused to honour his prescription or diagnosis of my condition, saying that he must have prescribed Thyroid hormone for another condition? So I am now in the precarious position of having to order my own medication over the internet, alongside scraping the money together once a year to undertake private blood tests so as I can assess how I am managing.

I thank the committee members who tried to gain factual answers from the professor and minister who either completely swerved direct questions or simply spewed out misinformation on an anecdotal level which I can only assume was a means to divert the pressing subject. Why? Why wouldn't we as a nation want to take care of our sick? Who could profit from this misery? Please please help us to gain fair treatment in this wholly inadequate state of affairs.