

In medicine, there is a principle so sacred it forms the foundation of care: *primum non nocere*—"first, do no harm." But in Carlton, Nottinghamshire, the Jubilee Park Practice has chosen to abandon this principle, instructing their transgender patients to find alternative care.

This move is not just unethical—it is immoral. It is a betrayal of the trust that every patient places in their doctor, and it reflects a prejudice that has no place in healthcare.

A Disgraceful Decision

The Jubilee Park Practice is actively refusing to continue care for transgender patients, citing reasons that cannot withstand scrutiny. One common claim is that the cost of supporting trans patients is unsustainable. Let's be perfectly clear: this excuse is as false as it is insulting.

The sheer number of transgender patients within any given practice is minuscule. The cost of gender-affirming care, whether it involves hormone prescriptions, processing GIC referrals, or just ongoing monitoring, is negligible compared to the budgets allocated to other areas of healthcare. Diabetes management, cancer treatments, or even common medications for chronic conditions demand far greater resources.

This is not about cost. This is about naked, shameful discrimination.

The Cost of Abandonment

When a GP practice like Jubilee Park abandons its trans patients, the consequences are devastating. It isn't just a matter of inconvenience—it's a disruption of critical care. Transgender people already endure disproportionate levels of societal and systemic discrimination. To add healthcare abandonment to this is unconscionable.

If Hate Drives Your Healthcare Decisions, It's Time to Leave

Medicine is a profession of compassion and care. If hate drives your decision-making as a GP, then you have no business being in this field. Healthcare is no place for bigotry, and those who cannot provide care without prejudice need to consider a different career path.

To the decision making staff at Jubilee Park Practice: your decision is a dereliction of duty and a violation of the trust your patients have placed in you. You are failing to honour the principle of "first, do no harm."

A Systemic Failing

These actions are not a one-off, or an isolated incident. Across the UK, transgender people are being let down by a healthcare system that is too often silent in the face of prejudice. Regulatory bodies like the General Medical Council (GMC) must step up and take decisive action to prevent practices from abandoning patients based on their identity.

A Call to Action

To GPs who refuse to care for transgender patients: you are not healers. You are harm-doers. If you cannot provide care to all your patients without bias, it's time to leave the profession.

To policymakers and regulators: it's time to tighten the rules. The GMC must ensure that no GP can reject a patient because of prejudice. Healthcare must be a sanctuary for all, not a battleground for bigotry.

And to transgender patients affected by this shameful behaviour: you are not a burden. You deserve dignity, respect, and care. You are not alone, and we stand with you in this fight.

Medicine Must Do Better

The principle of first, do no harm must mean something. It must apply to every patient, without exception. When practices like Jubilee Park turn away their transgender patients, they are not just harming individuals—they are undermining the very foundation of healthcare.

We cannot let prejudice dictate who is deserving of care. It is time to demand accountability, advocate for change, and build a healthcare system where no one is left behind.

Medicine is not a weapon for discrimination. If you cannot wield it with compassion, then put it down.

by Councillor Tania Stevenson.

Elected member for Borrowash East (independent)

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