

SCENARIO

NAME: Dr Robin Battersby

CHARACTER

You are single and live alone. You are lonely and becoming depressed. You are 2 months into your 1st General Practice training job and have done undergraduate training in Leeds followed by the two 6 month house jobs. These jobs were very busy and you hated them. You were really looking forward to becoming a GP and the training.

SITUATION

There has been a complaint about you – namely you decided to give advice about a child of 4 years of age with diarrhoea over the phone. This advice was given about 5 days ago. The child was not terribly ill but the parent was asking for a visit. The advice was to give clear fluids for 12 hours and let things take their course. The parent was grumpy at the end of the phone conversation. You discussed this with your trainer afterwards and he agreed entirely with your actions. The parent had taken the child to hospital and the child had been admitted overnight and sent home in the morning having been given only clear fluids. You can't see what you have done wrong. You are very upset. Your trainer has decided to look at this complaint with you and also explore whether you have a learning need about dealing with patients on the phone. Soon after the trainer starts the conversation you burst into tears. Eventually you tell the trainer that you are lonely, depressed and homosexual/lesbian.