
Subject: Re: HSE methods of advising test results

From: Kent Madin (rett139@yahoo.com)

To: Angie.OBrien@hse.ie;

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2015 8:40 AM

Hi Angie,

Thanks so much for your time. My interest stems from the following article in which results are described as being delivered by mail.

<http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Ripley%27s+days+of+desert+trekking+are+over+due+to+MS+so+now+he+has...-a0366205289>

In researching a story about fake explorers and the way they use the internet to build their fraudulent "brand" I came across Ripley Davenport and his wife Laura, along with several others. While I have no definitive evidence that the Davenports have conspired to claim that Ripley has MS for the purpose of attracting sympathy, support, donations, etc. I do have considerable evidence of a pattern of intentional deceit by the couple in other areas.

They have created false histories of expeditions, university degrees, military service and have repeatedly harvested images from other websites to pass off as their own.

The article above is actually the first article by the Mirror on Mr. Davenport with emphasis on his stiff upper lip in spite of having MS. Here is a more recent one. <http://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/multiple-sclerosis-sufferer-ripley-davenport-5520194>

If Mr. Davenport does not, in fact, have MS then it is truly troubling that someone is being covered by the press, touting accomplishments of this kind as a show of how MS need not impede one's dreams. Both articles appear to have been written based on press releases from the Davenports, rather than in person interviews. Neither author has shown any interest, once apprised of the Davenport's history, in trying determine if they are telling the truth about the diagnosis.

MsIreland is also aware of the controversy that surrounds the Davenports but has made no effort to determine his medical status. In fact, they made Mr. Davenport a "School Ambassador" authorized to visit schools and talk with students about life with MS.

For me, as troubling (and interesting) as the possibility of a case of "Munchausen's for Publicity" is, the more troubling is the indifference of MSIreland and the local press to the possibility that they are aiding and abetting a fraud. MS is a disease that already evokes skepticism from many in the public precisely because of the variable and idiosyncratic symptoms involved. Efforts to improve public understanding of the disease would not be helped by stories of people faking the disease for publicity, sympathy and private gain.

I have stated many times that if Mr. Davenport is proven have MS, my apology will be public, forthcoming and sincere.

So, I hope this explains the reason for my question. If you are interested, you can find the full body of research on Mr. Davenport and his wife here: <http://ripleydavenport.net/Ripley%20MS.htm> and here: <http://ripleydavenport.net/>

Feel free to ask any questions.

Sincerely,

Kent Madin
Bozeman, Montana
Skype KentinBZN

On Tuesday, May 5, 2015 7:11 AM, Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager) <Angie.O'Brien@hse.ie> wrote:

Hi Kent

I don't know if you are aware of any other details about this particular instance as this is not how patients would normally be communicated with.

I've checked this out locally and clinicians routinely meet with patients face to face to advise them of such a diagnosis.

Angie

From: Kent Madin [mailto:rett139@yahoo.com]
Sent: 29 April 2015 20:29
To: Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager)
Subject: Re: HSE methods of advising test results

Hi Angie,
Any news on this?

Thanks

Kent Madin

On Tuesday, April 28, 2015 2:45 AM, Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager) <Angie.O'Brien@hse.ie> wrote:

Thanks, I'll check it out and revert.

Angie O'Brien
Area Communications Manager
Communications Division
HSE South
Tel: 021 4928522
Mob: 087 2422522

On 27 Apr 2015, at 21:09, " Kent Madin " <rett139@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Angie,
The patient in question is Ripley Davenport. That said, I want to make it CRYSTAL clear that I am not requesting his medical records or details of his medical condition, I am simply trying to determine what the method of delivering diagnosis results for MS would be in that area of Ireland.

Thanks! Kent

On Monday, April 27, 2015 9:30 AM, Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager) <Angie.O'Brien@hse.ie> wrote:

Thanks Kent
The hospital in Kenmare is a community nursing unit (residential and respite unit for predominantly older patients). A diagnosis of MS would most likely come from an acute hospital. Can you check which acute hospital it might be (there isn't one in Kenmare) or provide the person's name? I'll check out what might happen in general and revert.
Angie

From: Kent Madin [mailto:rett139@yahoo.com]
Sent: 27 April 2015 14:27
To: Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager)
Subject: Re: HSE methods of advising test results

Hi Angie,
I am a freelancer. No specific publication on board yet, though the story may become a short book. This is a pretty small detail in the overall story.

I'm trying to follow up on statements made by an HSE client who says that she received notification of her MS diagnosis in the mail. That struck me as something I wanted to verify independently, since my own

experience is that results for something like MS are usually conveyed in person by the physician. But I don't live in Ireland or use the HSE so trying to determine if that is in fact how test result notifications are routinely delivered.

The hospital in question would likely be in Kenmare.

Thanks,

Kent Madin

On Monday, April 27, 2015 3:25 AM, Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager) <Angie.O'Brien@hse.ie> wrote:

Hi Kent
Thanks for your email.
Can I ask what media outlet this is for and what's your deadline? Are you asking about a particular hospital or in general?
Angie

From: Kent Madin [<mailto:rett139@yahoo.com>]
Sent: 25 April 2015 22:51
To: Angie O'Brien (Area Communications Manager)
Subject: HSE methods of advising test results

Dear Ms. O'brien,

I'm working on a story and wonder if you can clarify an important detail regarding how HSE informs an individuals of test results.

In this case the disease being tested for is Multiple Sclerosis. How would a patient be advised of the results of a **positive** result for MS; by phone, email, a letter or an in-person appointment?

Thanks much for your time.

Sincerely,

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