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News Mail
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YOUR VIEW:
Surgeon supported

I AM hoping you will print this letter of support for Dr Jay Patel. I would have no hesitation of having this highly qualified surgeon operate on any member of my family or myself.

In response to the article "Doctor hit with letter allegations" I must say that I am vacillating between sadness and disgust.

I have always supported the notion that as providers of healthcare we must be accountable to the communities that we serve and that this accountability should be transparent.

What saddens me is that all parties must be guaranteed a process that is in the first instance confidential and fair.

In the provision of acute healthcare services, death will always be a frequent and unfortunate reality.

This is obviously accepted as we willingly pay half of our acute care budgets on our fellow community members who have less than six months of life to live.

The grief associated with this is enormous and takes a heavy toll not only on the affected community but also the health workforce.

It is of interest that coronial inquiries for example take deliberate care to delay the process, lest any associated highly-charged emotionality cloud the objective findings.

Yet when this approach is taken in healthcare there are anxieties around cover-ups.

I am disgusted that as a result, confidentiality and due processes are sacrificed on the altar of politics.

Until we can disassemble this culture of distrust of due process, I do not believe that we deserve fine qualified medical specialists with the kind of work ethic that ought to be celebrated and rewarded.

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