

## SPSO decision report

**Case:** 201604033, A Medical Practice in the Lanarkshire NHS Board area

**Sector:** health

**Subject:** clinical treatment / diagnosis

**Outcome:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mr C complained to us about a delay in the medical practice referring him for a scan. The scan showed a diagnosis of testicular cancer. He had attended the practice on three occasions and it was only on the last attendance that he was referred for the scan. Mr C believed that the scan should have been arranged at either the first or second consultation.

We took independent GP advice. At the first consultation there was a report of a tender right testicle which had been present for two to three days. There was no lump and antibiotic medication was provided with a review the following week if the condition did not settle. A diagnosis of orchitis (inflammation of one or both testicles) was made. Mr C then reattended the practice some 12 weeks later with a report of right testicular discomfort again and repeat medication was provided. Mr C then attended again after a further five weeks and reported right testicular discomfort and a lump. The ultrasound referral was then made, in line with national guidance, which led to the diagnosis of testicular cancer.

We found that the practice had provided a reasonable level of care and that the referral was made at an appropriate time in view of Mr C's reported symptoms. We therefore did not uphold Mr C's complaint.