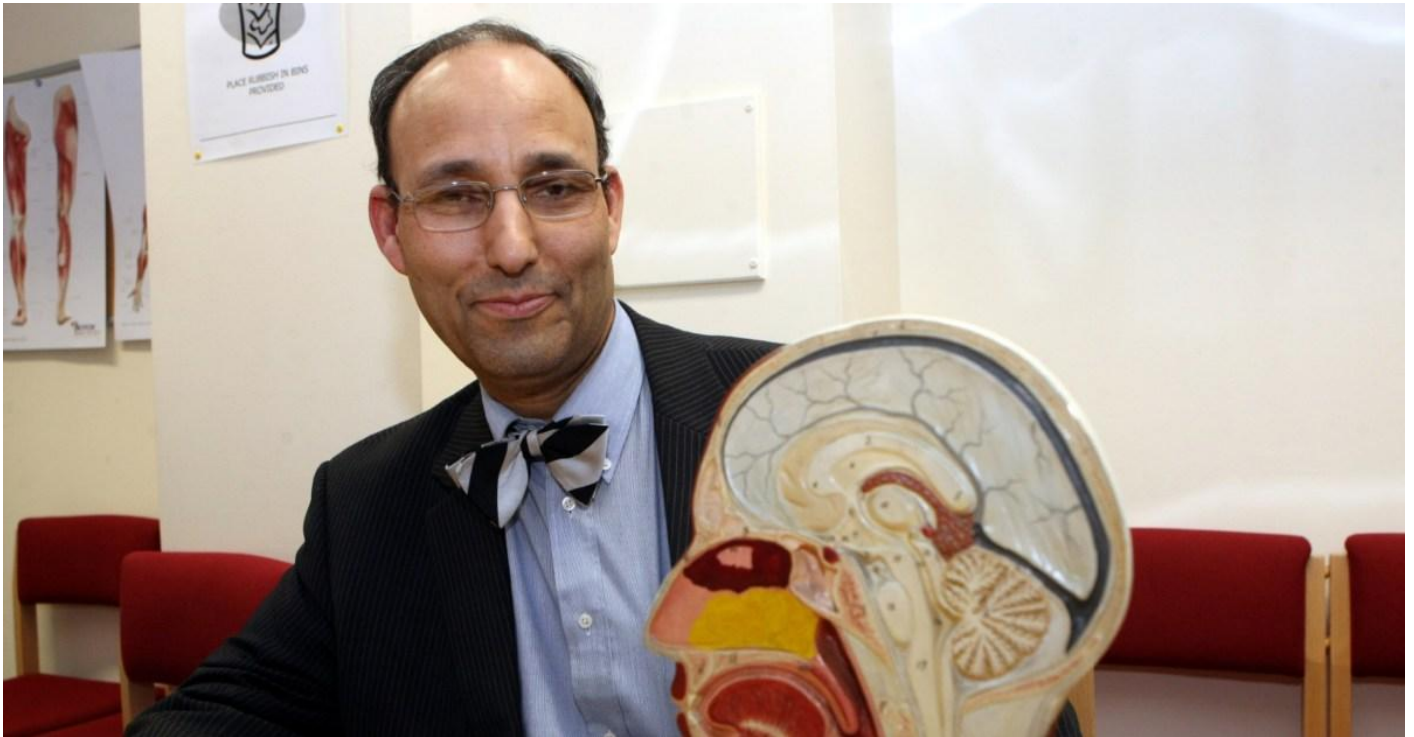


‘Butcher’ NHS surgeon ‘armed with a scalpel’ may have harmed more than 200 patients

Tom Sanders :: 09/11/2023



A victim of a disgraced brain surgeon has filed evidence to Police [Scotland](#), accusing NHS Tayside of ‘reaching the threshold of criminality’ while the doctor was ‘armed with a scalpel’.

Jules Rose, 55, was one of dozens harmed by Professor Sam Eljamel, who removed her tear duct instead of a brain tumour in 2013.

Prof Eljamel worked at NHS Tayside from 1995 until he was suspended in 2013 for his actions.

He is thought to have harmed more than 200 patients through a variety of botched surgical procedures, campaigners have warned.



Jules Rose is one of scores of patients believed to have been harmed by Prof Eljamel (Picture: PA)

Speaking to reporters outside Tayside Police Station in Dundee, Ms Rose said she believes the health board had failed Prof Eljamel's patients.

She said: 'Over the years I've collated a significant amount of evidence from various sources that I feel evidences the lack of clinical oversight with Tayside and reaching the threshold of criminality.'

'I had written a 20-page statement with the evidence that I'm going to submit in this folder today so I'm going to present that to Police Scotland.'

She added: 'Police Scotland have told me that they will use my evidence in conjunction with the current investigation that's ongoing with Professor Eljamel so that they will use this as the wider scope and it will be presented to the crown office.'

Professor Eljamel is now understood to be working as a surgeon in Libya.

Asked if she is angry that he has left the country, Ms Rose said: 'Yes. Many, many patients are irate and the anger and frustration that they feel that Eljamel has fled the country.'

'However, this is the wider picture now. And that's why I'm here today.'



Prof Eljamel is now believed to be working as a surgeon in Libya (Picture: PA)

'Because NHS Tayside, we feel, armed Eljamel with a scalpel and allowed him to do business and to cause harm.'

Ms Rose said she could not discuss any of the evidence at this time.

The mother-of-two leads a group of disaffected patients who claim to have been harmed by Prof Eljamel.

She previously said: 'I currently have 133 patient names who have approached me who have been severely harmed.'

'Of these 111 new patients, I only know five. So potentially, now, we're looking at 239 patients that have been severely harmed under NHS Tayside and Professor Eljamel. Literally, this number has increased overnight.'

Ms Rose added: 'All the patients know what's happened to them, we don't need to have what they're claiming to be independent reports into their care, we need a public inquiry so that people can be put under oath to explain what exactly went on in NHS Tayside.'

Following the release of the report, Health Secretary Michael Matheson said: 'This is a thorough report and lays bare some of the failings in NHS Tayside's response to concerns over Professor Eljamel. What is important now is that those people directly affected are supported to find the answers they need.'

'For that to happen properly, I have been clear that this needs investigation independent of both NHS Tayside and the Scottish Government. We will provide more details on this shortly.'

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: 'Enquiries are ongoing and we continue to work alongside partner agencies.'

