

## SPSO decision report

**Case:** 201800927, Tayside NHS Board  
**Sector:** health  
**Subject:** clinical treatment / diagnosis  
**Decision:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mr C complained about a consultation which he had with a consultant surgeon following a referral from his GP. Mr C had a complex medical history, including abdominal pain, and he felt that the consultant was not interested in helping him. Mr C said that he was told by the consultant that his health problems could be in his mind and also that stress could be the cause of his problems, along with him being overweight. Mr C was not satisfied that the plan was for him to be reviewed in six months in the hope that he had managed to reduce his weight. He complained that he did not receive appropriate treatment.

We took independent advice from a consultant in general medicine. We found that Mr C's care was complex and that previously he had seen a number of clinicians who had difficulty in reaching a diagnosis. We found that the consultant had spent a considerable amount of time with Mr C and that it was reasonable to arrange a review appointment in 6 months in the hope that any weight loss could improve Mr C's symptoms. It was also reasonable that, as the consultant had not reached a specific diagnosis, no additional medication was prescribed. We did not uphold the complaint.