

# Westminster Confidential

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## **Mother and former coroner hold Harley Street protest over radiologist's mistake that may have contributed to the death of Gaia Young**

Last year I reported on the tragic death of talented 25 year old Gaia Young 17 hours after she was admitted to University College Hospital with severe headaches. Her mother Lady Dorit Young was subject to an entirely unsatisfactory and unsympathetic coroner's inquest by Mary Hassell which let the hospital off the hook saying the cause of death was unknown. You can read my original blog [here](#).

The coroner blocked Lady's Young's attempt to get independent evidence from a neurologist but since then she has managed to get an independent neuro-radiologist and neurologist's report and UCLH have opened a further review into her tragic death.

The protest vigil on September 15 was sparked by the findings of the independent neuroradiologist who examined the CT scans of Gaia's brain. It showed quite clearly even to a lay person, according to Dorit, that the first scan taken and I quote "there is a gross cerebral and cerebellar swelling. There is effacement meaning ("literally meaning 'rubbed out': these fluid spaces should be visible but cannot be seen").

This is the opposite to the consultant radiologist who examined Gaia's scan who said: "The ventricles and basal cisterns are patent...Impression No acute intracranial finding."

The independent consultant's diagnosis was confirmed by Dr Charles House, the medical director, when he met Dorit and compared Gaia's scan with a normal brain scan.

The consultant radiologist who examined this first scan was Dr Ayman Mahfouz, who was on duty at UCLH at the time Gaia was admitted. Dr Mahfouz has a private practice in Harley Street.

His entry on the private practice site says he has specialist expertise in breast, gynaecology and general imaging.

He undertakes all aspects of breast imaging including mammographic (plain, contrast enhanced and 3D), Ultrasound, MRI and CT diagnostics. He performs all ultrasound and stereotactic breast related procedures including vacuum excision.

Dr. Ayman Mahfouz is a designated appraiser for doctors at UCLH and has previously been elected as a regional representative for doctors in training at the Royal College of Radiologists. At the time of Gaia's admission, he held the role as Emergency Imaging Lead for UCLH.

Gaia's mother would like to contact him about the scans but so far he has not responded. She does not know what pressure he might have been under at the time or how much time he took to examine the

Dorit Young and an ex coroner on a vigil in Harley Street