Henry Ribble Associate Medical Director (and Consultant Anaesthetist)

"It's really bad that this has happened now, with a new chief exec just in the door. We've already been under massive pressure to meet our treatment time guarantees. Now we'll be lumbered with tons more safety compliance paperwork.

How could he take the wrong kidney out? I've anaesthetised for Paul Black before, and he seems like a very sensible guy. We haven't had any previous safety incidents involving him as far as I'm aware, and he seems to be liked and respected by his peers. His revalidation is up to date, just last year and he hasn't had a complaint against him for a few years.

I'm really surprised. If anyone was going to carry out wrong site surgery I would have put money on the orthopods. I really thought he was one of the good guys – and I don't understand why he wouldn't just follow procedure and do the time out. Let us know what you recommend when your investigation is finished."