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CLINICAL ASSISTANT ELDERLY MEDICINE GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

I was very disappointed and also quite concerned to be shown a letter from yourself dated the 16th February on the subject of the bed crisis at Queen Alexandra and addressed to the various ward managers and Sisters.

Less than a month after I wrote a letter to the Clinical Director expressing my concerns about the situation in our continuing care unit., I find that we are being asked to take on an even higher risk category of patient .

These post acute patients have a right to expect a certain standard of medical care, appropriate levels of therapy and supervision and appropriate out of hours cover during this period of time in hospital.

I find myself without a consultant or seamless locum consultant cover for a period of a further month on one of the wards and the other consultant cannot be expected to provide anything other than firefighting support during this time.

As a result I am unable to do the clinical Assistant job to a safe and acceptable standard which will inevitably lead to further serious and damaging complaints about the service given in my wards. In addition my staff are subjected to ever increasing pressures from patients and relatives , causing stress and sickness levels to rise.

I would also question the term understilisation in a unit which is handling approximately 40% or the continuing care don't by Elderly Services at this time.

I hope you will give this serious consideration,

Yours Sincerely