

Report of the Gosport Investigation Medical Notes Review Group

Purpose

CHI undertook a review of anonymised medical notes of a random selection of 15 patients who had died between 1st August 2001 and 31st January 2002 on either Daedalus, Dryad or Sultan wards at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

CHI's intention for this piece of work was to determine whether the policies and systems put in place by the Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust since the events of 1998 to address prescribing practices at the trust are being implemented and are impacting on the quality of care patients are now receiving. CHI review also considered the nursing notes for each patient and looked at the quality of nursing care as documented in the notes. Finally, the review considered whether the cause of death recorded in the notes was appropriate.

Methodology

The group received 15 sets of anonymised medical notes from the trust which related to the last admission of 15 patients. Five patients were randomly selected from each of the following wards; Daedalus, Dryad and Sultan. A total of 49 patients had died whilst on these wards during the sample timeframe.

Findings

Prescription, administration, review and recording of medicines

The group was satisfied with the general quality of prescribing, review and recording of medicines and of the administration arrangements, as far as were discernable from a written record.