

**Fiona Cameron - General Manager**

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**From:** Fiona Cameron - General Manager  
**Sent:** 31 January 2002 11:47  
**To:** Max Millett - Chief Executive; Eileen Thomas - Nursing Director; Ian Piper - Operational Director; Humphrey Lesley (RHU) Portsmouth Hospitals; Reid Ian (RHU) Portsmouth Hospitals; [Code A] - Assistant Business Manager  
**Subject:** CHI CASE NOTE REVIEW

Julie Miller rang yesterday evening to explain where they had got to in their thinking. The gist of it is that they now feel an anonymised case note review is not in keeping with their value of openness. Proposal was therefore to write to the relatives of all 49 deceased patients seeking consent (although consent is not required apparently). There would be a letter from CHI which I should get a copy of later today, and this would go out with a covering letter from Max.

The review panel will be Tony Luxton, Maureen Morgan, Gary Fraud a clinical pharmacologist and Kieth Munday a geriatrician plus or minus a GP, (not sure yet). The last two are individuals who have already been used by the police to provide expert opinion.

Have spoken with Julie again this am and registered our concern re the ethics of writing to all these relatives. She has agreed that their Caldicott guardian and ours could have a conversation re this and Linda Paterson will ring Ian tomorrow.

The issues prompting the desire for consent seem to be twofold

1. Can we guarantee records are **completely** anonymised?
2. When the report is published and people read that a notes review took place how will we manage the questions around 'were my mothers notes looked at and why wasn't I informed?'

They are still working on the methodology issues in particular struggling with a sample. Julie does believe this would be easier if they were working from anonymised notes. They need to ensure that they cover the six month period/the three wards/and sufficient to get a picture. They would be grateful for any suggestions we might have.

Julie is currently working on the terms of reference for the review which will be associated with administration of medicines, perception of the quality of nursing and medical care as evidenced by the notes as well as the application of policy - pain and prescribing - evidenced again in the notes. So any of the original terms of reference which fit.

Will keep you posted.

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