

Doctor gave drugs to elderly in 'potentially hazardous' doses

GMC
Hearing

A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers to elderly patients who later died.

Dr Jane Barton has been accused at a disciplinary hearing of a series of failings over the treatment of 12 patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire in the late 1990s.

She told a General Medical Council panel that she had given instructions for doses of drugs which were "too wide".

The prescriptions meant 11 patients were at risk of receiving "potentially hazardous" doses, she admitted. The doctor, now a GP in Gosport, also failed to get advice when the condition of five of the patients deteriorated.

She was the only doctor at the hospital investigated over the deaths, but she was not charged with any criminal offences.

An inquest into the deaths of 10 patients at the hospital ruled that drugs given to five elderly people at the hospital contributed to their deaths. Dr



Dr Jane Barton denies serious professional misconduct

Barton faces 15 charges relating to her treatment of the 12 patients, including allegations of poor record keeping and a failure to assess patients properly before prescribing potent drugs.

She has also admitted she failed to keep clear, accurate and timely notes. Dr Barton denies serious professional misconduct.

The hearing continues.