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Dr A Knapman

**Code A**

Dear Dr Knapman

RE NORMA WINDSOR **Code A**

**Code A**

Thank you for your letter regarding this lady. I had in fact arranged to meet her and her husband on 30<sup>th</sup> March to discuss her case. As you know, she was originally referred to us via Haslar and we investigated her and found her to have mild left ventricular impairment and three vessel coronary artery disease. She was subsequently referred on to Sunil Ohri at Southampton General Hospital at that time. The other complicating fact was that she has chronic lymphatic leukaemia. At the time of referral this was quite quiescent and she was under regular review by the Haematologists. Unfortunately, she developed lymphadenopathy and was found to have abnormal cytology. She has now in addition developed mild anaemia, quite a marked increase in her platelet count and abnormality in her white cell count as previously noted. I communicated this on to Sunil Ohri and it was thought best to suspend her from the waiting list for coronary artery bypass grafting. I know it is a question of semantics, but this does not mean that she has been removed, it just means that we are going to keep a closer eye on her until she is suitable for surgery again.

Unfortunately, although the correspondence between myself and Sunil is well documented, as is our observation of her case, neither of us have communicated effectively with Mrs Windsor. I have now had her and her husband up to clinic. I have explained to her that she is suspended from the waiting list because of the development of CLL and that we are keeping an open mind on this. Secondly, I will keep her under review in clinic and she will have an appointment to come and see me in 6 weeks' time. Should her angina deteriorate in that time we would of course be happy to admit her to hospital for intensive medical therapy, but until we are sure the CLL is clear or under control we can't put her forward for coronary artery bypass grafting. The abnormalities of her blood, particularly the high platelet count make the chances of thrombosis and stroke very high at present. I know she is on treatment with Chlorambucil and we hope that she has a good outcome from this.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

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