



HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

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Your Ref.

11th February 2004

Mr I Williamson

Code A

Dear Mr Williamson

Re: Operation Rochester: Expert Review

Jack Williamson

I write further to my letter of 2nd February 2004, where we notified you of our intention to inform you of the category to which we have assigned the case of your father, Jack Williamson. The work required to reach this decision has now been completed by our team of experts and I am writing to notify you of their findings.

In providing you with this information, may I also take this opportunity to remind you of the advice given to you by the Operation Rochester team and Alexander Harris, Solicitors regarding the prejudicial impact that media reporting may have on the investigation and on any subsequent Court proceedings.

During the review, the team of experts examined the records both individually and together at a multidisciplinary team meeting where they had an opportunity to discuss their conclusions. Following the team's work a summary has been produced to outline the care provided to Jack Williamson at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. We attach a copy of the summary with this letter.

I am now able to inform you that our experts concluded that there was no evidence of any unlawful activity in the care, which your father received. The review of the records revealed that the actions of the nursing or medical staff did not contribute adversely to the deterioration of the condition of Jack Williamson.

Notwithstanding the above findings we anticipate that in due course, the General Medical Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the regulatory bodies responsible for the professional regulation of doctors and nurses, may wish to review all the cases we have been examining. We would therefore be grateful if you would confirm, by signing the enclosed form, that you have no objection to us subsequently making both the documents we have collected and our findings available to those bodies. We have enclosed a Freepost envelope for your reply.

Finally, may I take the opportunity of thanking you for your co-operation and assistance with this difficult inquiry. If you have any questions arising from the conclusions of the team, the summary note or the enclosed form please do not hesitate to contact us.

Code A

Nigel Niven
Deputy Senior Investigating officer

Expert Review

Jack Williamson

No. BJC/54

Date of Birth: Code A

Mr Williamson was aged eighty at the date of his admission to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 29 August 2000.

His previous history had included ischaemic heart disease and he had suffered for many years with leg ulcers. He had been admitted to hospital on a number of occasions and had had skin grafts taken to improve his legs.

Mr Williamson eventually underwent bilateral below knee amputations on 18 August 2000 following which he was transferred to Gosport War Memorial Hospital for rehabilitation and, moreover, to be with his wife who was there having been diagnosed with cancer.

Prior to his amputation he was on Morphine Sulphate 40mgs twice a day and needing Oramorph 10mgs for breakthrough pain although this was stopped post operatively.

On 31 August 2000 it was noted that his right stump area was sloughing and by 11 September 2000 there was oozing from both stumps. Microbiological testing confirmed MRSA in the wound on 16 September 2000 and consideration was given as to whether to transfer Mr Williamson to the surgical team at Haslar.

On 17 September 2000 Mr Williamson's condition deteriorated and it was considered that he was unlikely to survive much longer. He was commenced on Oramorph 2.5mgs four hourly. Mr Williamson died at 21.55 p.m. on 18 September 2000.

The expert review of this case has confirmed that he was only given very small doses of analgesia appropriately at the correct dose.