



HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

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Your Ref.

11th February 2004

Mr I Williamson

Code A

Dear Mr Williamson

Re: Operation Rochester: Expert Review

Ivy 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 mother, Ivy 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 Ivy 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 mother 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 Ivy 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.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Nigel Niven
Deputy Senior Investigating officer

Expert Review

Ivy Williamson

No. BJC/53

Date of Birth: Code A

Mrs Williamson was seventy-seven on her admission to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 3 August 2000.

Mrs Williamson has been admitted to Queen Alexander Hospital in July 2000 after suffering a fall and was found to have large pulmonary metastasis. She was diagnosed as suffering with advanced metastatic malignant melanoma and was informed that her outlook was poor. Since her husband was undergoing bilateral knee amputations at the Royal Haslar Hospital it was decided to transfer them both to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital so they could be together as Mrs Williamson did not have long to live.

Mrs Williamson became breathless towards the end of August 2000 and became pyrexial. She suddenly collapsed on 30 August 2000 and was commenced on small doses of Oramorph. She was prescribed Diamorphine in case she was in pain and distress.

She died on 1 September 2000.

The expert review of this case confirmed that the analgesia, by way of Opioids, together with the sedatives were prescribed in only very small doses and for good indications.