



# DENNIS AMEY



# DENNIS AMEY

## Dennis Amey

Date of Birth:  Age: 62  
Date of Admission to GWMH: 14th November 1990  
Date and time of Death: 16.30 hours on 20th December 1990  
Cause of Death:  
Post Mortem:  
Length of Stay: 38 days

Mr Amey past medical history shows that he suffered from:-

Prior to his admission to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital Mr Amey lived at home with his wife. He was admitted on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1990 for terminal care, he suffered from Parkinson's disease.

Mrs Amey requested that her husband was admitted.

Mr Amey had problems with his catheter, he was incontinent and was having spasms and was in pain.

He needed help with feeding and had difficulty with swallowing. He was noted to be irritable by the duty doctor.

He was nursed on a Pegasus mattress and had red sores.

It was noted in the clinical notes that he had pus discharging from his penis and had gangrenous areas around his scrotum and that he needed pain relief.

On 19th December 1990 Mr Amey was written up for **Diamorphine to be administered using a syringe driver**. The dosage was 120mgs over a 24 hours period.

On 20th December 1990 Mr Amey died at 16.30 hours.

**OPERATION ROCHESTER**  
**CLINICAL TEAM'S SCREENING FORM**

**Patient Identification****Exhibit number**

Code A

BJC-02

Care Death/Harm	Optimal 1	Sub-Optimal 2	Negligent 3	Intend to Cause Harm 4
Natural A		? – treatment sheet missing Effects of dose of diamorphine unclear		
Unclear B				
Unexplained By Illness C				

**General Comments**

Young man – 62, X-dockyards, but ill since 1984 with increasingly severe Parkinson's.  
Swallowing difficulties, falls, wheelchair from 1988, insomnia, confusion  
Also angina, asbestos

? at least 8 admissions in 1990  
Given antibiotics in 1990-06  
1990-12-11 'Surgical problem' re urinary drainage, 'pus from urethra', in view of very very severe  
Parkinson's, not for surgery. R. co-amoxiclav and diamorphine elixir. Subsequently diamorph 120  
mg over 24h (? by pump) from 1990-12-14.  
Died 1990-12-20 ?

NO R. chart  
NO nursing notes  
NO description of last illness

**Final Score:**

**Screeners Name: R E Ferner****Date Of Screening:****Signature**

BJC/02

DENIS AMEY

62

There are no drug cards or relevant nursing notes

Severe PD

Developed gangrenous – decided on conservative treatment

Started on morphine elixir on 11/12/90

On 120mg diamorphine sc per 24 hours by 19/12/90

This is a huge dose but might have been appropriate

There is not enough detail in the notes to be sure of what the opiate requirements were

- probably some medication cards and casenotes missing

He was clearly very unwell and in pain

However the dose of opiate might have contributed to his death

PL grading B but difficult to give a number

BJC/02	Amey, Denis	Admitted for terminal care (long term) because wife no longer able to cope. Very severe Parkinson's. Had long term catheter. Treated with Septrin for presumed UTI but then developed pyuria and oliguria, succeeded by scrotal gangrene. Surgical opinion requested but in view of very severe Parkinson's surgery not offered (not clear whether thought unsafe or just inappropriate). Managed with opioid pain relief, apparently by diamorphine via syringe driver. At one point from notes was on 120mg diamorphine/day. NO DRUG CHART IN NOTES RECORDED. It is therefore unclear, and cannot be determined from the evidence available to me at this time, whether the doses of diamorphine administered were escalated only in response to uncontrolled pain and indeed what those doses were.	B2
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## DOCUMENT RECORD PRINT

## Officer's Report

Number: R7BD

TO:  
STN/DEPT:

REF:

FROM: Code A  
STN/DEPT: MCD EREF:  
TEL/EXT:

SUBJECT:

DATE: 06/12/2003

I attended the home address of Lesley LOWE , the daughter of Denis George AMEY Code A at 1000 hrs on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2003 (27/11/2003). Also present was her sister, Susan MAY, Code A Code A The visit was as per the policy log, a set of their father's medical records were provided.

I outlined their concerns as per officers report 8C and they felt that they had nothing further to add in relation to their father, however they wished to bring to our attention concerns they have in relation to their mother, Freda AMEY , b. Code A who currently lives in a warden controlled complex.

Mrs AMEY has been a diabetic since her late 50's, early 60's. She suffered from Osteoporosis and her diabetes is now insulin driven.

Mrs AMEY was being treated by her GP, Dr BARTON and was being prescribed pain killers.

On one occasion Mrs AMEY had to see Dr KNAPMAN , a partner in Dr BARTON's surgery. Dr KNAPMAN said to Mrs AMEY "Why are you on morphine, you'll end up at ..." and said the name of a local undertakers. He took her off the morphine.

Some years later, around 1999, Mrs AMEY was suffering from back pain. Dr BARTON visited and gave her an injection. She was admitted to the GWMH to be assessed for her diet and diabetes.

After a couple of days after being admitted Mrs AMEY is described as being "out of her head", incoherent and slurring her words. Her tongue appeared swollen.

The family removed Mrs AMEY from hospital and after a couple of days she appeared to be her normal self.

Dr BARTON felt that Mrs AMEY should then have gone into a nursing home and she took Mrs AMEY off her patient list. Mrs AMEY now attends the Bridgemary Surgery and is under Dr EVSKIN .

They also mentioned their granddaughter, Emma BLOOD, who at the age of 21 yrs had a fall at her flat. She was admitted to the QA where she developed shingles. She was then transferred to the GWMH to recuperate from her illness. She had no injuries from her fall.

## DOCUMENT RECORD PRINT

Whilst at the GWMH she had a box which went somewhere into her neck, she died shortly afterwards.  
Whilst at the hospital she suffered from hallucinations, believing that she was in the workhouse.

The family are happy to be notified by letter.

# Expert Review

**Dennis Amey**

**No. BJC/02**

**Date of Birth:** **Code A**

**Date of Death: 20 December 1990**

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Mr Amey was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 14 November 1990 following a request from Mrs Amey. Mr Amey at that time had problems with his catheter, he was incontinent and was having spasms. Mr Amey had very severe Parkinson's disease. He was admitted for terminal care.<sup>DA1</sup>

Mr Amey was started on Morphine elixir on 11 December 1990 and by the time of his death on 19 December 1990 he was on 120mgs of Diamorphine subcutaneously per twenty-four hours. Dr Lawson notes that Mr Amey was very unwell and in pain.

The experts have determined that this dose of Morphine was high and possibly sub optimal but without additional documentary evidence cannot be clear as to whether the doses of Diamorphine was escalated only in response to uncontrolled pain.