Expert Review

Gwendoline Parr

No. BJC/36

Date of Birth: Code A

Date of Death: 29 January 1999

Mrs Parr had been admitted to the Royal Haslar Hospital in December 1998 following a fall where she sustained a fractured neck and femur. She underwent surgery for a dynamic hip screw on 14 December 1998. During her stay at the Royal Haslar Mrs Parr developed acute abdominal pain and underwent umbilical hernia repair on 24 December 1998. She was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 31 December 1998 for rehabilitation.

The family note in the officer's report that they visited Mrs Parr daily at the Hospital and stated that "she was very chirpy and stated that she would soon be walking and going home".

Mrs Parr was noted to have deteriorated by 23 January 1999 and was commenced on Oramorph and thereafter remained poorly.

Mrs Parr died on 29 January 1999.

Dr Naismith notes that Mrs Parr was deteriorating before the opioids were started but that the first dose of Diamorphine given would have been high even for a lady with normal renal function. This contrasted with Dr Ferner who records the treatment as being optimal with the drugs being given in "proportional doses".