

Expert Review

Daphne Taylor

No. BJC/47

Date of Birth: Code A

Date of Death: 20 October 1996

Mrs Taylor was admitted to the Royal Haslar Hospital on 29 September 1996 after suffering a cerebrovascular accident. She was transferred to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 3 October 1996 for rehabilitation.

On 7 October 1996 Mrs Taylor was felt to be in pain and was prescribed Fentanyl patches.

Mrs Taylor was noted to be in a great deal of pain and the strength of the Fentanyl patches were increased.

On 18 October, following a very unsettled night when Mrs Taylor appeared to be distressed and in pain, a syringe driver was set up with 40mgs of Diamorphine and 20mgs of Midazolam over twenty-four hours.

Although Mrs Taylor had a severe stroke which left her unable to swallow or speak, she was being tube fed. However, she was prescribed rapidly escalating doses of opioids without there appearing to be a comprehensive assessment made for her pain.

The experts note that she had an irrecoverable cerebrovascular and would have died soon in any event.