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**Code A**

**From:** Grocott, David  
**Sent:** 20 December 2005 11:42  
**To:** Williams, David M; Stephenson, Roy  
**Cc:** Grocott, David  
**Subject:** Expert update

Sir,

An update as to how we are progressing with the experts in relation to Op Rochester.

We have utilised the services of 5 experts this year in the fields of Palliative care, Geriatrics, Renal, Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Radiology. ( Wilcock, Black, Dudley, Marshall, Gillespie).

**Dr Black**

Dr Black has completed full reviews on 11 cases including Richards.  
He has also reviewed all of the statements made by Dr Barton with the exception of Packman.

Dr Black will be tasked in the new year with reviewing the 4 Cat 3A cases to identify any potential criminal negligence. He will then have to review the witness statements in all ten Rochester cases.

**Dr Wilcock**

Dr Wilcock has completed a full review on five cases. By the end of the year he will have completed an overview of each of the outstanding cases.

Dr Wilcock will then concentrate on completing a review of the statements of Dr Barton, (Spurgin, Gregory, Wilson, Packman, Service, Cunningham). I have tasked him to complete this work by the 7/02/06. We hope to start the final phase of interviewing in respect of Dr Barton on 01/02/06.

Dr Wilcock then has to complete the full review of 5 cases (Spurgin, Gregory, Wilson, Packman, Service) I anticipate that he will have completed this work by July as it takes approx 4 weeks to complete a report.

Dr Wilcock will then need to review the witness statements in seven of the cases. By July I would like to think that CPS will be in a better position to advise re criminal proceedings and it may be that the review of the statements can be prioritised if still necessary.

Dr Wilcock has also expressed a desire to complete an overview/ review of the whole case on completion of his reports.

**Other experts**

Both doctors during their reviews have indicated where they feel further areas of expertise are required. I have then identified the issues and appointed experts to address certain specific areas of work.

We currently have Dr Marshall reviewing the Wilson case in relation to alcohol, liver related cardiomyopathy

We are looking to task Dr Holden in relation to Clinical Assistant/GP workloads & supervision

An Orthopaedic Surgeon in relation to Compaction Syndrome in the Spurgin case

Potentially a Cardiologist for Wilson, dependant on the outcome of Dr Marshall

I have sought to appoint a Toxicologist regarding the levels of toxicity brought on by the combination of prescribed medicines. The advice from Dr Stephen Elliot is that the questions I need answers to are better addressed by a Forensic Pharmacologist. Once we have the information from the various drug companies I have requested then I will review the need for the Pharmacologist.

Prof Baker having produced a report on Wilson & Cunningham is now being treated in the same manner as our other experts and we await a more detailed product from him.

For Info

Dave Grocott

D/Insp

Int 641-404

**Code A**