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Code A

From: Sent: To: Subject: Grocott, David 20 June 2004 20:42 'jane.parvin@ports.nhs.uk' Operation Rochester

Jane.

Hi, we haven't met as of yet but I'm the officer who is responsible for identifying and organisation the interviewing and taking of witness statements from all your staff. Code A has asked me to write to you in respect of the question of doctors and or nurses seeing the medical notes prior to the interviews. I think that the reply from Neil Stubbs in an earlier e-mail answers the question. Unfortunately the answer is no. The explanation is briefly for the following reasons.

We will of course be bringing a full copy of the notes to any interview for the relevant healthcare professional to review and hopefully answer our questions. The questions we have invariably change from one person to another and need to be asked in person and the explanations recorded at the time. We also have to account for all copies of any records that are being used. It is impractical and also unethical for us to have copies of patients records in open circulation.

l accept however that the downside to this is that invariably the interviews can be protracted, we will always attempt to cause as little intrusion into the work and time of all your staff as is possible.

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If there are any other questions that I can help with (and I'm sure there will be over the next couple of months) please don't hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to answer them and assist where I can

Regards

Code A