Expert Review

Ivy Williamson

No. BJC/53

Date of Birth:

Code A

Mrs Williamson was seventy-seven on her admission to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 3 August 2000.

Mrs Williamson has been admitted to Queen Alexander Hospital in July 2000 after suffering a fall and was found to have large pulmonary metastasis. She was diagnosed as suffering with advanced metastatic malignant melanoma and was informed that her outlook was poor. Since her husband was undergoing bilateral knee amputations at the Royal Haslar Hospital it was decided to transfer them both to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital so they could be together as Mrs Williamson did not have long to live.

Mrs Williamson became breathless towards the end of August 2000 and became pyrexial. She suddenly collapsed on 30 August 2000 and was commenced on small doses of Oramorph. She was prescribed Diamorphine in case she was in pain and distress.

She died on 1 September 2000.

The expert review of this case confirmed that the analgesia, by way of Opioids, together with the sedatives were prescribed in only very small doses and for good indications.