

WESSEX REGIONAL OFFICE

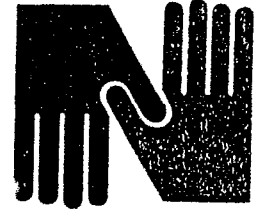
General Secretary:
Christine Hancock
BSc(Econ) RCNPatrons:
Her Majesty the Queen
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
the Queen Mother
Her Royal Highness
the Princess Margaret
Countess of Snowdon8 Southgate Street
Winchester SO23 9EF

Code A

SB/FFO

103444 367139

22 November 1991

Mrs I Evans
Patient Care Manager
Gosport War Memorial Hospital
Bury Road
Gosport
Hants
PO12 3PWROYAL
COLLEGE OF
NURSING

Dear Mrs Evans,

I refer to your memorandum to staff at Redclyffe Annexe dated 7th November 1991 and Keith Murray's letter to you dated 14th November 1991. I believe it is important that I reinforce the RCN's position as indicated to you in Mr Murray's letter.

This office was aware of the concerns that had been expressed by staff earlier this year and other discussions that had taken place with yourself as the Manager. It had been understood that the concerns raised would be addressed and the RCN had anticipated that clear guidance/policy would be promulgated as a result of the very serious professional concerns Nursing Staff were expressing.

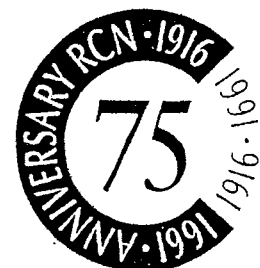
It is now a matter of serious concern that these complaints were not acted upon in the way that had been anticipated and that Management are, some months after those discussions now seeking formal allegations. I would reinforce Mr Murray's position that this is not acceptable and the RCN is not prepared to be drawn into what could emerge as a vindictive witch hunt that would divide Nursing Staff, Medical Staff and Management. The complaints were adequately reported to Management earlier this year and you have received further evidence by way of Gerrie Whitney's report dated 31 October 1991. We now expect a clear policy to be agreed as a matter of urgency.

If it is not possible for Management to achieve this, the RCN will need to seek further instructions from its membership to pursue this matter through the grievance procedure on the basis that Management have failed to manage this situation properly.

Yours sincerely

Steve Barnes
RCN Officer - Wessex

C.C: Keith Murray

Headquarters:
20 Cavendish Square
London W1M 0AB

Code A

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTH EAST HAMPSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Mrs. I. Evans
Patient Care Manager
Gosport War Memorial Hospital

TO: See Distribution

Your Ref.

My Ref. IE/LP

7th November 1991

It has been brought to my attention that some members of the staff still have concerns over the appropriateness of the prescribing of Diamorphine to certain patients at Redclyffe Annexe.

I have discussed this matter with Dr. Logan and Dr. Barton who like myself are concerned about these allegations. To establish if there is any justification to review practice we have agreed to look at all individual cases staff have or have had any concerns over and then meet with all staff to discuss findings.

I am therefore writing to all the trained staff asking for the names of any patients that they feel Diamorphine (or any other drug) has been prescribed inappropriately.

To ensure everyones views are considered I would appreciate a reply from every member of staff even if it is purely to state they have no concerns, by 21st November.

I am relying on your full co-operation and hope on this occasion everyone will be open and honest over this issue so we are able to address everyones concerns and hopefully resolve this issue in a constructive and professional manner.

Code A

I. Evans

Distribution

Every trained member of Staff at Redclyffe Annexe

copy to: Night Sister
Dr. Logan
Dr. Barton
Mr. Hooper

visited
MRS EVANS
to take
27/11/91 9:30 am