

Mrs. L. Humphrey

Dr. A. Lord

LH/YJM

17th December, 1998

**Mrs. Richards deceased, Gosport War Memorial Hospital, 21st August, 1998**

Since our telephone conversation earlier this week, both of Mrs. Richards' daughters [Code A] have confirmed they are happy for us to release details of her care to the police.

I have not seen Mrs. Richards' notes yet; I understand they are on Dryad Ward.

On reflection, I think the best way forward would be for you, as consultant in charge, to prepare a statement explaining the decision made with regard to Mrs. Richards' care following transfer back from Haslar on 17th August, 1998 - in particular: the use of syringe driver analgesia, the decision not to start intravenous fluids, and what was explained/agreed with [Code A]. You will probably want to preface this with a summary of what went before.

Once I have received your statement (and the patient records, please) I will ask our solicitors to comment on the content.

Once we are all comfortable with the statement I will arrange for it to be forwarded to the police, with a covering letter from Max Millett.

Please let me know if I can be of any help in preparing the statement or offer support in any way. I do appreciate how stressful these situations are - all we can do is give an honest and straightforward explanation of what happened.

Thank you for your help.

Copy to: Mrs. B. Robinson  
Mrs. N. Pendleton