

Email Message

From: Code A [EX:/O=UKCC/OU=UKCC PORTLAND
PLACE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN= Code A]
To: Code A [EX:/O=UKCC/OU=UKCC PORTLAND
PLACE/cn=Recipients/cn= Code A]
Cc:
Sent: 06/11/2009 at 10:47
Received: 06/11/2009 at 10:43
Subject: GWMH 12053 PPC tel note 20091105

This is a record of my telephone message left yesterday.

Chris Green's mobile number went to voicemail when I telephoned on 5 November 2009 at 17:30.

I explained that I would not be in a position to provide a considered response until Monday at the earliest. If I was not in a position to do so, I would email him in any event.

From: Green Chris [mailto:chris. Code A]
Sent: 05 November 2009 16:21
To: Code A
Subject: Gosport War Memorial Hospital. NMC referrals

Dear Code A

You will no doubt be aware of the allegations of inappropriate administration of opiate drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial hospital in the 1990s. There was a large police inquiry into these allegations starting in 1998. In the course of this inquiry, one doctor, Jane Barton, was referred to the GMC; several nurses were referred to the UKCC/NMC, namely:

Code A

These nurses are all RCN members, represented by me. There may have been other referrals but, if so, I was not made aware of them. These referrals were made known to the RCN by the police. None of the nurses listed above were ever contacted by the UKCC/NMC.

Eventually, in 2007 the Crown Prosecution Service decided that there would be no prosecutions.

In March and April this year, there was an inquest into the deaths of 10 patients at Gosport. Several nurses, all of whom were RCN members, gave evidence. They were represented by me. The jury's verdict was that all the deaths were by natural causes. In the case of 3 patients, inappropriate medication had contributed to the death but had not caused it.

In June of this year, in a press release, the NMC made the following statement:

'The Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) is extremely concerned about the length of time that it is taking to resolve the issues for the families of former patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

'There have been two police investigations, which concluded in 2007, followed by an inquest conducted by the local coroner and continuing proceedings before the General Medical Council (GMC).

'It is hoped that the evidence from all of these investigations will enable us to assess the conduct of nursing staff who may have been involved.'

Between June and August this year, there was a GMC hearing into allegations against Dr Jane Barton. This was adjourned on 21st August. The GMC panel has yet to decide whether Dr Barton is guilty of 'serious professional misconduct'. Several nurses gave evidence at this inquest; all of them were RCN members. The RCN provided support to these nurses during the hearing.

Next year there is likely to be another inquest, into the death of Gladys Richards in 1998. Again several registered nurses are expected to be called to give evidence. They are all RCN members, and I will be representing them.

I am instructed by all RCN members involved to represent them in any NMC proceedings which may arise from these investigations.

Naturally, the RCN members involved with this are very anxious. I would be very grateful if you would give me the following information:

- . Please confirm which, if any, of the RCN members listed above have been referred to the UKCC or NMC.
- . If so, what was the date of the referral?
- . Who was the complainant?
- . What were the allegations?

- . Has the referral ever been considered by a UKCC or NMC committee?
- . Did the UKCC or NMC carry out any investigations into these allegations?
- . Have any of the above cases been formally closed?
- . What are your plans for the future of these cases?

I would be happy to talk the situation over with you. Do not hesitate to ring me about this. If necessary, please ring on my mobile: Code A

Many thanks

Chris

Chris Green

Solicitor

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<http://www.rcn.org.uk> <<http://www.rcn.org.uk>>

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