

# Expert Review

**Hubert Clarke**

**No. BJC/10**

**Date of Birth:** Code A

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Mr Clarke was ninety-four when he was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 5 June 2000.

His previous medical history had included angina and a history of transient ischaemic attacks (“TIA”).

Prior to admission Mr Clarke, who was a widower, lived alone; he had two daughters one of whom would help cook and clean. He coped well but was admitted to hospital on 5 June 2000 following a fall at home. At the time of admission he was described as unsteady on his feet and very sleepy.

On 6 June 2000 he was found on the floor in the corridor having attempted to walk unsupervised and a question was raised at the time whether he would need a placement due to the fall.

On 9 June 2000 Mr Clarke became breathless and restless and was diagnosed with pneumonia.

By 12 June 2000 he was deteriorating and was prescribed subcutaneous Diamorphine 5mgs every four hours.

By 15 June 2000 the Diamorphine was being given via a syringe driver at a dose of 5mgs over twenty-four hours.

Mr Clarke died on 17 June 2000.

The expert review of this case confirmed that Mr Clarke was managed with very small doses of drugs including Diamorphine. The prescribing was within fixed doses and demonstrated good management prior to his natural death. In short he was well looked after with good use of medication.