

# Expert Review

**Kathleen Ellis**

**No. BJC/18**

**Date of Birth:** Code A

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Mrs Ellis was transferred to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 23 June 1999 from Queen Alexander Hospital where she had initially been admitted on 7 June 1999 as an emergency with acute confusion, cerebrovascular accident and a lower left chest infection.

The transfer to Gosport War Memorial Hospital was for continuing care and assessment.

Mrs Ellis' past medical history included fractures of her fibula and pelvis following falls in 1996 and 1997.

On admission Mrs Ellis was noted as being confused but compliant and, moreover, did not appear to be in any pain.

According to the notes at the time of transfer, Mrs Ellis was immobile, using a hoist for transfers. It was noted that she takes little diet and had a leg wound on her left leg. She was also noted as having dementia, a chest infection and was dehydrated.

Mrs Ellis had severely impaired swallowing and had been deteriorating for several months. With her further chest infection she was unable to swallow antibiotics and was kept on subcutaneous fluids. A nasogastric tube was attempted to be placed unsuccessfully on four occasions.

On 5 July 1999 Mrs Ellis died at 6.15 a.m.

The expert review concluded that she probably died of recurrent aspiration pneumonia. The care provided to Mrs Ellis was of a good standard.