

Expert Review

Dulcie Middleton

No. BJC/33

Date of Birth: Code A

Mrs Middleton was eighty-six at the time of her admission to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 15 August 2001.

Mrs Middleton died on 2 September 2001 in Petersfield Hospital under the care of Dr Varden.

Her past medical history had included left ventricular failure, angina, together with a dense stroke which required her to be fed through a gastrostomy feeding tube which was inserted on 31 July 2001.

Unfortunately, subsequent to the insertion of the tube, Mrs Middleton developed abdominal pain and vomiting. A possible abdominal obstruction was diagnosed and Mrs Middleton was commenced on Diamorphine which was 2.5-5mgs as required. This dose was increased when the pain was more severe and Midazolam was added when Mrs Middleton became agitated and distressed.

The expert review of this case confirms that Mrs Middleton was very unwell and was made comfortable with small amounts of analgesia which was gradually increased appropriately.