

RESTRICTED

Form MG11(T)

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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: WEE, BEE LENG

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: CONSULTANT AND SENIOR

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: Bee Leng WEE

Date: 28/04/2006

I am Bee Leng WEE and I live at an address known to Hampshire Police.

I am at present a Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Palliative Medicine at Sir Michael Sobell House Churchill Hospital Oxford, Medical Sciences Division, Level 3 John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford in the Oxford Radcliffe NHS Trust and Harris Manchester College, Mansfield Road, Oxford. I am also Academic Director at Oxford International Centre for Palliative Care and also Head of WHO (World health Organisation) Collaborating Centre for Palliative Care, Sir Michael Sobell House Oxford.

I qualified in 1988 at Trinity College Dublin as an MB, BCh and BAO with Honours in Surgery.

In 1989 I obtained Full Registration of the Irish Medical Council (No 12557)

In 1990 I received a Diploma in Child Health (Ireland)

In 1991 I received a Diploma in Obstetrics (Ireland)

In 1992 I was awarded Membership of the Irish College of General Practitioners

In 1994 I obtained a Diploma in Palliative Medicine (University of Wales) with a Distinction

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In 1995 I obtained Full Registration of the General Medical Council UK (No 4164065)

In 2001 I was awarded Membership of the Institute for Learning and Teaching

In 2003 I was awarded a Ph.D (University of Southampton)

Between 1988 and 1989 I was a Pre-Registration House Officer at St James's Hospital, Dublin with 3 monthly rotations in Vascular Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Respiratory Medicine and Geriatric Medicine.

In July 1989 I began the Dublin Vocational Training Scheme for General Practice.

Between July and September 1989 I worked in Palliative Medicine, Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin.

Between October and December 1989 I worked in Accident and Emergency Care, St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin

Between January and March 1990 I worked in General Medicine at St Collumcille's Hospital Loughlinstown, Co Dublin

Between April and June 1990 I worked in General Medicine at St Vincent's Hospital Dublin

Between July and September 1990 I worked in Paediatric Surgery, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin Dublin.

Between October and December 1990 I worked in Paediatric Medicine, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin Dublin.

Between January and June 1991 I worked in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, National Maternity Hospital, Dublin

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Between July 1991 and June 1992 I worked as a General Practice trainee in a rural practice at Trim, Co Meath, Ireland.

Between July and September 1992 I returned to Malaysia on a personal matter and to prepare for my appointment as Medical Officer in Hong Kong.

Between October 1992 and July 1994 I was Medical Officer (Registrar) at Bradbury Hospice Hong Kong

Between July 1994 and March 1995 I was Medical Officer in Charge (Acting Medical Director) at Bradbury Hospice Hong Kong

Between April to August 1995 I was Locum Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Countess Mountbatten House, Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust

In August 1995 I was appointed Senior Registrar in Palliative Medicine at Countess Mountbatten House, Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust.

I did not take up this appointment as the following month, I was appointed to a substantive consultant post, by a formal NHS Appointments Advisory Panel.

Between September 1995 and July 2003 I was Consultant in Palliative Medicine and Director of Education at Countess Mountbatten House (CMH) Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust

I was also Senior Lecturer in Palliative Medicine at the University of Southampton

Between September 2000 and July 2003 I was Deputy Director of education at the School of Medicine University of Southampton

In July 2003 I moved to Oxford to take up my appointments as previously described;

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Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Sir Michael Sobell House

Senior Clinical Lecturer in the Nuffield Department of Medicine (Oxford University) and Academic Lead for Sir Michael Sobell House.

Associate Director of Clinical Studies at Oxford Medical School

Official Fellow and College Medical Tutor in Harris Manchester College Oxford.

Between April 1995 and July 2003 in my various roles as Locum Consultant, Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Palliative Medicine, I was responsible for patients within my Geographical "patch" of Fareham and Gosport. This involved first assessment of patients referred to Countess Mountbatten house, shared responsibility (with general practitioners and the community palliative care team) for their ongoing care in the community and primary responsibility for patients admitted to the Hospice. I also provided a hospital consultation service to patients in Royal Haslar Hospital previously a District General Hospital and Ministry of Defence Hospital, Gosport War Memorial Hospital (Community Hospital), Coldeast Hospital (Mental Health Trust) and Care Homes within Fareham and Gosport. My consultant colleagues at CMH and I provided an on call service for the hospice and a 24 hour telephone advisory service for healthcare professionals throughout our catchment area.

In 1998 I developed an outreach educational programme in palliative care for primary care teams in Fareham and Gosport. These were sustained on a two monthly basis, rotating around different venues in the community until I left CMH in 2003.

I attended Gosport War Memorial Hospital many times to provide the information and advice regarding palliative care and the use of syringe drivers as outlined above but I do not recall specific dates. Some of these were related to specific patient consultations. Others were open sessions where I would also answer questions related to palliative care. I had attended Sultan Ward in particular, but also Dryad and other wards at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital to

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provide teaching about palliative care and the use of syringe drivers.

With regard to syringe drivers I would advise;

When to use

When not appropriate to use

What drugs to put in the driver

What doses to start with: in my opinion 100 mgs of Diamorphine would not be appropriate to start with, even 50 mgs would probably not be appropriate in one dose, if the patient was opioid- naive, i.e. he/she had not previously had any morphine or other strong opioid and/or his/her pain did not warrant that amount of analgesia. However some patients may well require titration up to such doses and beyond if their pain levels require it.

The Analgesic Ladder.

We would also discuss the doses and the conversion from other drugs to injection including sub-cutaneous.

I would of course emphasise that each patient is different, and a judgement should be made accordingly.

I do not recall now who had specifically requested me to attend the GWMH. I also do not recall any specific conversations with individuals. I do not recall anyone raising any concerns with me regarding the use of syringe drivers at GWMH, but there were persons who obviously asked questions such as "How do we know if we are giving too much or not enough?" Again we would discuss the patient's or their family's concerns or anxiety and talk to them regarding the implications. A higher dose given would be a judgement call and down to experience as well as the amount of pain that the patient was suffering and the analgesic history for that patient. These questions were asked at all of my sessions which of course covered all aspects of palliative care not just the use of syringe drivers.

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