

### **The Clinical Team (Later re designated Key Clinical Team (KCT))**

The Clinical Team to review these cases was headed by Professor Robert Forrest a specialist in Toxicology, the other members being experts in the fields of General Medicine, Palliative Care, Geriatrics and Nursing.

Their terms of reference were to examine the patient notes independently and to assess the quality of care provided to each patient. The Clinical Team was not confined to looking at the specific issue of syringe drivers or Diamorphine but to look at the overall care in general. The purpose of the reviews being to screen the cases and identify where appropriate, areas for concern that may warrant further investigation by the Police. At the same time they could identify cases where there were no concerns and the treatment that had been provided was appropriate in the circumstances.

A matrix was devised by them to allow each patients care to be scored and assessed. As below

| <b>Operation Rochester.<br/>Clinical Team's Assessment Form</b> |              |                  |                |                              |
|---|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Care<br>Death/Harm  | Optimal<br>1 | Sub Optimal<br>2 | Negligent<br>3 | Intend to Cause<br>Harm<br>4 |
| Natural<br>A  |              |                  |                |                              |
| Unclear<br>B  |              |                  |                |                              |
| Unexplained by<br>Illness                                       |              |                  |                |                              |

The team was provided with approximately 20 cases for review every three months. At the conclusion of each review stage the experts attended a Conference where they could collectively discuss their findings and present them to the investigative team.

Each expert was briefed regarding the need to keep their notations and findings for possible disclosure to interested parties at a later stage in line with CPIA 1996. They were not required however, to produce evidential expert reports for reliance at Court on each individual.

### **Quality Assurance.**

The SIO in this case engaged the services of Mathew Lohn who is a partner in a law firm, Field Fisher Waterhouse. This firm is considered to be experts in the field of medico/legal issues and advise not only Governmental Departments but also various regulatory bodies.

Mr Lohn has been engaged to advise and assist the Police in many areas including their dealings with the regulatory bodies. In addition he is a qualified Doctor in his own right and he has been tasked with validating the KCT process of analysis and quality assuring the findings of the KCT set against the terms of the matrix that they have been using.