

Notes review 4

Wilfred Harrington

Date of birth Code A
 Date of death 21.7.93

PMH

MI, 1989

Mitral, tricuspid and aortic regurgitation

1992 – admitted for control of increasing cardiac failure; followed up by Dr Lord in Outpatients, gradually getting worse during 1992/3

Final illness

Admitted for treatment of CCF, sacral sore, incontinence, increased dependency, Daedalus ward 8.6, after assessment by Dr Lord

8.6.93 assessed on admission by Dr Barton

17.6.93 s/b Dr Lord. CCF not under control – metolazone

17.6.93 – referred to physio by Dr Barton

25.6.93 – ‘has become poorly over last few hours, went confused ... ?deterioration in renal function JAB’

5.7.93 – s/b Dr Lord, less mobile, happy for long stay

21.7.93 pain in hip, no # ‘.. continues to deteriorate for sc analgesia all nursing care JAB’

21.7.93 condition deteriorated rapidly died 1500hrs nurse confirmed death

The nursing notes indicate that the syringe driver was set up 14.30 – chesty and increasingly breathless; the hip Xray is said to have shown #L femur, too ill for operation, given oramorph 6hrly; however, the X ray report indicates no fracture.

Drugs

Oramorph written up by Dr Barton as required, not given. Diamorphine 40mg sc, Dr Barton, 21.7.93, one dose given, with hyoscine, midazolam

Comment

A frail man, getting gradually worse; the reason for the decline in the few days before death is not clear.

Lucy Shea

Date of birth Code A
 Date of death 27.11.93

Female

PMH

March 1993 – pre-renal failure, fall. UTI, old MI, pressure sores

Dementia

Breast lump, Barthel 3, depression – admitted Phillips ward

Final illness

Nurses notes; Admitted from F4 12.11.93. ?CI, confused.; 16.11.93, not for active treatment, to be referred to Redclyffe; 19.11.93 s/b Dr Lord, transfer to Gosport tomorrow. . 22.11.93 admitted from Phillip ward. 26.11.93 consistently refused medication, extremely agitated and distressed, pain all over. Discussion between Dr Barton and nursing staff concluded that analgesics via syringe driver would be best. Mrs Shea gave no objections, has been very chesty today. 27.11.93 condition deterioration through night, died 5.10

Medical notes – 22.11.93 – ‘transferred to long stay Redclyffe. Refusing tablets and fluids. Incontinent, doesn’t transfer doesn’t feed or dress try amitriptyline syrup/tablet JAB’

22.11.93 s/b Dr Lord, scratched breast lump, ct amitrip, for oramorph/diamorphine if distress

27.11.93 – condition deteriorated died 5.10 confirmed by nurse

Drugs

Diamorphine 40mg sc one dose 26.11.93, written up 22.11.93 (on admission), plus hyoscine and midazolam.

Comment

A patient with advanced illness; active treatment was ruled out.

Lily Azzopardi

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 21.12.93

Female

PMH

1983 – OA hip, cerebral atherosclerosis

1988 – poor hearing

1992 – shared care admissions to Redclyffe dementia

Final Illness

1993 – gangrene due to arterial disease – MST; letter from Dr Lord explaining that amputation would be difficult, does not expect patient to survive long.

15.12.93 – ‘transferred to long stay Daedalus. Very poorly gangrenous foot grazed sacrum very deaf BO today all nursing care if cannot cope with oral fluids may need sc analgesia JAB’

20.12.93 – s/b Dr Lord. On sc diamorphine

21.12.93 –died confirmed by nursing staff

Drugs

Oramorph 10mg 4 daily, 20mg at night Dr Barton, 15-19.12; diamorphine 80mg sc 20.12, with midazolam and hyoscine; 40mg with hyoscine & midazolam sc 18-19.12.93

Comment

Severely ill; management appears appropriate.

Lydia Phillips

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 14.12.94

Female

PMH

1994 - #Rnof -hemiarthroplasty

December 1994 #ribs following fall, chest infection, Parkinson's?, AF, transferred to Daedalus for rehabilitation

Final illness

8.12.94 admitted GWMH, assessed by Dr Barton

9.12.94 – n incontinent, needs a catheter, not eating or drinking illegible analgesia,

10.12.94 may need sc fluids JAB

11.12.94 – pyrexial refusing to take medication. Comfortable, no pain. Looks as though she has had enough. N.c. and keep comfortable only (signature illegible)

12.12.94 ‘further deterioration. Not eating or drinking comfortable on oxycodone JAB’

14.12.94 – condition deteriorated death at 4.45 (nurse)

Drugs

Oxycodone suppose, Dr Barton, bd, written up 9.2.94, started 11.12.94. Also diamorphine sc 40 mg written up 10.12.94, given 13.12.94 once, with hyoscine & midazolam

Comment

A highly dependent patient, who deteriorated.

Ethel Knott

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 9.10.94

Female

PMH

1994 – incontinence

1994 - arthritis

Final illness

Admitted to redclyffe long standing dementia treated at Knowle hospital, ?CVA, dementia, sacral pressure sore, 14.9.94
 14.9.94 – ‘transferred to Redclyffe annexe long stay pleasantly demented, hasn’t ... yet, recognises Lynne, catheterised 1.9.94 incontinent small sore on sacrum small blister on heel, needs hoist to transfer JAB’
 15.9.94 – breathless and rattly this am basal crackles start frusemide 40mg 1od,
 Jab
 16.9.94 – further deterioration overnight responding only a little chest isq, nor eating or drinking may need sc analgesia JAB
 17.9.94 – no improvement, son aware, has had last rites JAB
 21.9.94 – s/b another doctor, not clear who; LVF successfully treated, ct diuretics
 6.10.94 – dehydrated poorly, stop diuretics if doesn’t drink (same Dr as before)
 9.10.94 condition deteriorated rapidly, died 22.55 (Nurse)

Drugs

Written up for diamorphine sc 40mg on 16.9.94 by Dr Barton, given 9.10.94 with midazolam & hyoscine. Also written up for oramorph

Comment

The records are limited. The events that precipitated death are rather unclear.

Olive Heath

Date of birth Code A
 Date of death 5.10.94

Female

PMH

1994 – admitted with confusional state, dementing process since February 1994
 1994 – collapse ? cause, # nof ‘unlikely to rehabilitate and I will put her on the long stay list’. Had arthroplasty

Final illness

13.9.94 – ‘transferred to Edclyffe Annexe # R neck of femur 28.8.94 sacral pressure sore catheterised notes not available all nursing care JAB’
 5.10.94 gradual deterioration over last few days sc analgesia commenced yesterday died 13.10 for burial JAB’

Drugs

Oramorph written up 25.9.94, given 25-5.10.94; diamorphine written up 30.9.94, 40mg given 5.10.94

Comment

A very elderly and dependent patient who had a fractured hip, the advisability of surgery was debated; she deteriorated after transfer to Redclyffe.

Violet Beckett

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 29.9.94

Female

PMH

Severe dementing illness

fits

1994 – subtrochanteric # r femur - DHS

Final illness

September 94 – s/b orthopaedic surgeon, failing to mobilise. Further surgery and even X ray ruled out as would cause distress in view of mental state.

14.9.94 – remains poorly .. husband nor accepting needs to be seen pain relief controlled on oramorph JAB'

15.9.94 'had a further grand mal yesterday witnessed now drowsy and post ictal / phenytoin affected by .../oramorph? To see husband soon JAB'

15.9.94 subtherapeutic dose levels of phenytoin. JAB

entries by anoth doctor and orthopaedic surgeon

29.9.94 further deterioration overnight breathing shallow and rattly husband to be informed. May need sc analgesia soon JAB'

29.9.94 death confirmed 19.50 (signature not clear)

Drugs

Diamorphine sc 40mg written up Dr Barton 16.9.94, given 29.9.94, also midazolam & hyoscine. Oramorph written up 12.9.94 Dr barton given from 13.9

Comment

A frail patient, who was not expected to improve following her hip fracture.

Management appears appropriate, in general.

Doris Troake

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 9.7.94

Female

PMH

1966 – jaundice

1969 –R THR

1978 – hemigastrectomy

1983 – hypertension

1994 – L THR

Cirrhosis

Osteoarthritis

Poor vision

Final illness

Admitted by Dr Lord to acute ward for investigation; hepatic encephalopathy; ascites and raised INR, not for biopsy at present – cirrhosis ?cause, transferred to GWMH
 3.6.94 – transferred to Daedalus, transfers with 2, poor eyesight and hearing, feeding herself, catheterised incontinent of bowels barthel 3 JAB’
 6.6.94 – s/b Dr Lord, try to mobilise
 21.6.92 ‘ swollen red painful leg – diuretic and antibiotics. (Dr Barton)
 28.6.94 – confusion increased. ?hepatic encephalopathy. Heminevrin (?Dr Brigg)
 1.9.94 – ‘Increasingly frightened and anxious, confabulating, hallucinating, try chlordiazepoxide bd and use midazolam, sc analgesia if deteriorates further JAB
 4.7.94 – Dr Lord Daughter seen agrees further investigation and aggressive treatment not appropriate, and that she may not survive.
 9.7.94 – 08.35 death confirmed (signature illegible).

Drugs

Diamorphine 40mg sc written up 29.6.94, but not given

Comment

Notes thin, but care appears to have been appropriate.

William Darrington

Date of birth Code A

Date of death 15.3.94

Male

PMH

1993 – progressive CVA

Final illness

Nursing notes 13.3.94 is in obvious pain, to commence oramorph at 18.00. Use of syringe driver discussed with daughter and she is in agreement. 14.3.94 – syringe driver commenced 40mg diamorphine

Medical notes

26.1.94 Transferred from QA, assessed by Dr Barton; consultations with speech therapist, Dr barton, Dr Lord, Dr Knapman – problems with catheter recorded
 12.3.94 ‘further deterioration in general condition. Daughter seen and general management and syringe driver discussed JAB’
 14.3.94 – Dr Lord Comfortable on sc diamorphine
 15.3.94 died 6.45

Drugs

Oramorph written up 7.3.94, continued until 14th; diamorphine 40 mg sc written up 12.3.94, started 14th, with hyoscine & midazloam.

Comment

Again, notes limited.

Marie Hartley

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 19.3.94

Female

PMH

Feb 1994 – Thompson arthroplasty for # L hip

Final illness

16.2.94 – transferred to Daedalus; seen by Dr Barton. For long stay

28.2.94 ‘not doing much at all., legs contracted not weight bear feeds hislef occasionally, incontinent with catheter JAB’

28.2.94 Dr Lord – discussion re family. They had expected intense physio and individual nursing care – but long standing dementia, Barthel 0; agitated, for thioridazine.

14.3.93 ‘syringe driver started last night much more comfortable family fully aware JAB’

14.3.94 – Dr Lord was distressed over weekend, now comfortable. Family appreciative

16.3.94 ‘Syringe driver commenced Monday now very comfortable. Family visiting. JAB’

19.3.94 – died 0110 hrs

nursing notes indicate 11.3.94 oramorph given prior to washing and handling very effective. Patient less distressed. 13.3.94 very distressed and in obvious pain, syringe driver discussed with relatives, and started

Drugs

Diamorphine written up 16.1.94, signature \not clear. 2.5-5mg IM as required. Given 2-3 per day

Comment

The reason for starting the syringe driver is not recorded.

Daisy Holland

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 23.1.94

Female

PMH

1991 - deafness

Final illness

Nursing notes

17.1.94 Transferred from Haslar, #nof, L DHS. Then R CVA 27.12.93, needs help with all ADLs. 20.1.94 general condition deteriorating, in considerable pain – oramorph. 21.1.94 – diamorphine started

17.1.94 assessed by Dr Barton

17.1.94 Dr Lord gross neglect +. On R. Dysphasic – For long stay [this means neglect of r side by the patient, due to the CVA]

21.1.94 ‘further general deterioration needing oramorph regularly. I have seen niece today. She is in full agreement with TLC and anything appropriate. Rose will need sc analgesia soon JAB’

23.1.94 died 18.25 (Dr Beasley)

Drugs

Oramorph written up 19.1.94, given 18^{??}-21st. Diamorphine sc 40 mg written up 21.1.94, started 21.9.94 (Dr Barton). Also hyoscine & midazolam.

Comment

CVA plus # hip – management generally reasonable.

Gladys Westcoate

Date of birth Code A

Date of death 1.2.95

Female

PMH

1951 – Fothergills repair

1962 – hypertension

1982 – cholecystectomy

1986 – bladder cancer, allveolitis

1990 – macular degeneration

1995 – abdo pain

Final illness

1995 – admitted acutely, haemtemsis & abdo pain – carcinomatosis, primary unknown. Transferred to Daedalus for palliative care. Admitted there 26.1.95 – assessed by Dr Barton ‘may need sc analgesia JAB’

30.1.95 s/b Dr Lord. On diamorphine

31.1.95 ‘family with her. Sc diamorphine continued. Comfortable JAB’

1.2.94 died 2.40

Drugs

I could not find the relevant drug chart, but the sequence of events is reasonably clear.

Comment

Appropriate care.

Hilda Walker

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 27.6.95

Female

PMH

Rheumatic fever

Parkinsons 1978

femur 1992

R CVA 1993

Arthritis

Menieres

1992 – indwelling catheter (vast, paralysed bladder, detrusor failure)

1994 – admitted with funny turns

1995 – new CVA, admitted April

Final illness

Nursing records: 22.6.95 admitted from QA ‘poorly lady’ dense R CVA, L hemiplegia, ‘if appears to be in any pain to have oramorph’. 26.6.95 condition poor s/b Dr Barton syringe driver commenced, diamorphine 40mg

Medical notes

22.6.95 ‘transferred to Dryad ward long stay care. Dense R cva and L hemi old parkinsons, # no femur, immobility, ng tube in situ catheterised, pressure areas intact doesn’t wash or dress JAB’

23.6.95 ‘Has deteriorated running a temperature chesty needs sc analgesia. ... seen and fully understands prognosis and management JAB’

26.6.95 ‘further deterioration. Temperature, chesty, needs sc analgesia JAB’

27.6.95 deteriorated slowly, died 02.30 (nurse)

Drugs

Oramorph 22.6.95, Dr Barton, as required, one dose given on 23.6; diamorphine sc 40mg 22.6.95, given once 26.6.95, with hyoscine, midazolam; also regular paracetamol from 23rd

Comment

Certainly a very disabled patient. It is difficult to judge from the records whether the opiates were begun early – 2 months after the last stroke.

Frederick Dineen

Date of birth **Code A**

Date of death 29.6.95

Male

PMH

1988 – through knee amputation R
Parkinsons

Final illness

13.8.93 ‘transferred to Daedalus for long stay main problems COAD, amputee, Parkinsons disease, bowels x2 today JAB’
various entries, then
4.6.95 – ‘now passed urine + clots. Start trimethoprim, push fluids JAB’
28.6.95 ‘sudden deterioration in general condition. Confused leaning to one side prob TIA URTI needs analgesia just finished course of antibiotics ?peggy aware of general condition JAB’
29.6.95 ‘further deterioration now on sc analgesia very comfortable and peaceful JAB’
the nursing notes indicate deterioration 27.6.95 – cyanosed, dribbling, chesty, confused, oramorph and syringe driver discussed with relatives.

Drugs

Oramorph 25.6.95 Dr Barton, one dose given; diamorphine 40mg 28.6.95 one dose, with hyoscine and midazolam

Comment

A long stay patient with extensive disabilities; a decision was taken not to investigate actively a sudden decline in health. This was probably a reasonable decision.

Winifred Borsberry

Date of birth **Code A**
Date of death 26.9.95

Female

PMH

1989 – TIA
1993 - CCF
1994 - Ca l breast
AF
1992 - NIDDM
1994 CVA
Pressure sores

Final illness

1.12.94 – transferred to long stay Redclyffe – cva .. November, now pressure sores’ Barton
22.12.94 – ‘chat with next of kin. General feeling that chest infection etc should not be treated. BS consistently low, therefore no oral hypoglycaemics. All nursing care and sc analgesia if indicated. JAB’
17.8.95 R shoulder painful ??2 X ray everything otherwise very vocal JAB’

23.8.95 reduced shoulder pain on small ?? all well except sacrum breaking down (signed by another Dr)
 8.9.95 'increasingly poorly. Weakness R side and R upgoing plantar ?cva. all nursing care + sc analgesia I am happy for nursing staff to confirm death JAB'
 12.9.95 ' further deterioration sc analgesia commenced and effective JAB'
 17.9.95 s/b another doctor, advised warming to improve perfusion (?Brigg)
 20.9.96 ? Dr Tandy. Poorly, pain on moving TLC
 26.9.95 died (nurse)
 The nursing record indicates some decline in health in September – 2.9.95- nursed on side, 4.9.95 large black area now present on sacral sore

Drugs

Diamorphine 40mg written up 8.9.95, 8-11th, 80mg from 12th & 13th, the 120mg to 19.9.95, then 160mg to 25th, with midazolam; oramorph written up 5.12.94, given until 7.9.95. {Diamorphine was also written up as required 13.3.95, but not given}

Comment

Clearly a disabled patient, with multiple problems. The management appears reasonable, although the precise explanation for the terminal deterioration is not clear.

Richard Chadwick

Date of birth Code A
 Date of death 23.11.95

Male

PMH

Temporal lobe epilepsy
 Marked infarct dementia
 1980 aortic valve replacement
 1993 - TURP
 1995 – hoarse
 1995 – acute admission with temperature & dementia

Final illness

Nursing notes

20.11.95 seen by Dr Barton to commence oramorph 6hrly for relief of neck pain
 21.11.95 very chesty condition deteriorating unable to take diet or medication
 22.11.95 syringe driver commenced diamorphine 40mg; died 6.15.
 Medical notes – After long acute hospital admission, with various ups and downs,
 15.8.95 – transferred to Dryad ward, recent problems chest infection, ?CVA, dementia, occasional incontinence barthel 4. assessed by Dr Barton
 20.8.95- s/b another Dr, CCF, chest infection fall – coproxamol, frusemide, antibiotic
 21.8.95 'TIA today duration 3 hours now slightly brighter JAB'
 23.8.95 – still some weakness L arm
 20.9. grand mal fit; gradual decline (Dr Tandy)
 25.9.95 – catheter inserted
 various other entries

15.11.95 – more drowsy – melleril stopped + coproxamol. Oral thrush improving not dry, no temp, not chesty. Imp: not so well but nothing specific Dr Tandy
22.11.95 poorly again overnight chest and temperature I do not feel antibiotics justified but I will discuss with family. I am happy for nursing staff to confirm death JAB'
22.11.95 s/b Dr Tandy imp, bronchopneumonia. TLC I agree with management plan
23.11.95 died 6.15 (nurse)

Drugs

Oramorph written up by Dr Barton 21.11.95, and given; as required had been written 21.8.95, given from 20.11.; diamorphine 40mg with midazolam & hyoscine given 22.11 (date of writing up not on chart as in the PRN section).

Comment

A patient with significant illness, who had had a long inpatient stay; the problem that precipitated the final decline is not clear.