

From: Rachel.Dickson(**Code A**)
Sent: 19 November 2002 17:02
To: Baker, Prof R.
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL; FAO CMO

Importance: High

Please see attached response from Sir Liam

(See attached file: Baker R4 - Gosport data anlalysis.doc)

"Baker, Prof
R." To: Rachel Dickson/PR-OFF/DOH/GB@DOH

Code A CC:
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL; FAO CMO

11/11/2002
08:49

Dear Rachel

Could you pass this message on to Sir Liam as soon as possible. There are some issues that require urgent attention.

Thanks

Dear Sir Liam

I attach a summary report of a review of MCCD counterfoils held at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. There are inevitable weaknesses in this source of data, but I believe it is sufficiently complete to enable preliminary conclusions to be drawn. The matters of concern are that:

1. Dr Barton issued an MCCD in December 2001 (presumably to one of her own patients, in her role as GP of a patient in the ward set aside for patients managed by the GP);
2. a pattern can be identified associated with the deaths certified by Dr Barton - the greater the proportion of deaths at the hospital certified by her, the higher the total number of deaths, and Dr Barton was more likely to give bronchopneumonia alone as the cause of death. These features could potentially be explained by clinical factors, but are also compatible with the concerns expressed about the excess use of opiate and sedative medication.

Of course, much work remains to be done in order to complete the review, but in view of the potential danger to patients if Dr Barton continues in practice, the continuing police investigation, and concern among relatives, I wished to inform you of these findings at once.

I would be pleased to discuss these findings by telephone if that would assist.

Richard Baker
Leicester

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(See attached file: analysis report.doc)

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