

Hampshire

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Primary Care Trust

	transferred to F&GPCT, whilst management of Medicine for Elderly People service, including employment of medical staff working at GWMH, transferred to EHPCT.	
July 2002	CHI reports. 1991 events made public. SHA set up helpline as more families come forward with concerns.	CHI
Sept 02	Police begin collating evidence for third investigation. The Chief Executives of Fareham and Gosport and East Hants PCTs temporarily redeployed whilst independent investigation commissioned by SHA/PCT initiated. This was because they were party to management decisions taken in 1991.	3 rd Police inv.
Nov 02	Joint Action Plan between F&G and EH PCTs to address recommendations made in CHI report approved by F&G PCT Board.	CHI
March 03	Tony Horne and Ian Piper reinstated in their posts.	
Jan 04	F&G Clinical Governance group takes over responsibility for overseeing CHI Action Plan, which has met its objectives.	
March 05	F&G and EH PCTs linked into one cluster PCT	New organisational arrangement
Sept 06	F&G and EH PCT cluster formally dissolved.	
Oct 06	Portsmouth Hospitals Trust takes over the management of services for Medicine for Older People (DMOP). Now both nurses and medical staff have same employer. Dryad and Daedalus ward teams formally transferred to PHT, and so medical services for older people now provided in Collingwood and Ark Royal wards. CPS concludes the 3 rd Police investigation, saying insufficient evidence to prosecute any health care staff.	New service provider
May 07	Home Secretary ordered inquest into the deaths of 10 people at GWMH (listed earlier).	
Aug 07	Coroner met with Ministry of Justice and DH to discuss inquest	
Dec 07	GMC decides to hold hearing into deaths regarding the role of Dr J Barton	
May 08	Coroner opens and adjourns inquests into ten deaths at GWMH.	
Jan 09	Coroner holds pre-inquest review with families and legal teams from NHS and NMC.	
March 09	Inquests start.	

Abbreviations:

CHI	Commission for Health Improvement
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
DMOP	Division of Medicine for Older People, part of Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust
DH	Department of Health
F&GPCT	Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust
GMC	General Medical Council
GWMH	Gosport War Memorial Hospital
NMC	Nursing and Midwifery Council
PCPCT	Portsmouth City Primary Care Trust
PHCT	Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust
SEPCT	South East Hampshire Primary Care Trust
SHA	Strategic Health Authority

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Details of previous investigations

Background

In 1996 Mulberry Ward at GWMH comprised 40 beds split into A (13 beds), B (13 beds) and C (14 beds) areas. All areas were run by Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust (a predecessor of PCTs and a separate organisation from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust).

In January 2000 Mulberry A, B and C became Ark Royal Ward (13 beds) and Collingwood Ward (27 beds). Later these numbers became 17 beds on Ark Royal and 17 beds on Collingwood.

In April 2002 Fareham and Gosport PCT took over responsibility for management of Dryad, Daedalus and Sultan wards at GWMH. East Hampshire PCT took over responsibility for managing the older people's mental health service in Ark Royal and Collingwood wards and employed consultants for this service at GWMH.

In April 2006 responsibility for Dryad and Daedalus wards and the employment of the nursing and medical staff transferred to Division of Medicine for Older People (DMOP) at Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust. Nursing staff on Sultan Ward transferred to Hampshire PCT, but medical input was provided by the local GP consortium. Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust took over responsibility for Older People's Mental Health Services in Ark Royal and Collingwood wards.

In line with national guidance the mental health service was transferred to Dryad and Daedalus wards on the ground floor in Feb 2008.

DRAFT**Early Police investigations**

Between 1998 and 2002, Hampshire Constabulary undertook two investigations into the potential unlawful killing of patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

These investigations did not result in any criminal prosecutions, but the police shared their concerns about the care of older people at Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) with the then Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) (a fore-runner of the Healthcare Commission) in August 2001. These concerns centred on the use of some medicines, particularly analgesia and levels of sedation, and the culture in which care was provided for older people at the hospital.

Commission for Health Improvement investigation

In 2001, CHI commenced an investigation into the management, provision and quality of healthcare at Gosport War Memorial Hospital managed by Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust (the predecessor of the then Fareham and Gosport PCT and East Hampshire PCT and a different organisation to Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust).

CHI concluded that in the late 1990s there had been a failure of the then PCT systems to ensure good quality patient care, including insufficient local prescribing guidelines, lack of a rigorous, routine review of pharmacy data, and the absence of adequate Trust-wide supervision and appraisal systems.

CHI also concluded that by the time of their investigation, in 2002, the successor PCTs had addressed these. CHI reported that the PCTs (Fareham and Gosport PCT and East Hampshire PCT) had adequate policies and guidelines in place governing the prescription and administration of pain relieving medicines to older patients and that these policies and procedures were being adhered to.

Outcome of the final Police investigation

The publicity accompanying the announcement of the findings of the CHI investigation prompted a number of relatives of patients who had died at GWMH to contact the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority regarding the care and treatment of their relatives between 1998 and 2001. Following these contacts the police initiated another investigation into the deaths of patients at GWMH in September 2002.

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Following detailed investigation and expert reports ten cases were passed to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for review once the police investigation was complete. The CPS concluded that there was insufficient evidence to prosecute and that there was no realistic prospect of any conviction.

Following the CPS' decision, the police met with the General Medical Council (GMC), the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and H.M. Coroner to determine whether general 'standard of care' issues in respect of the deaths required further examination. The Police, however, reiterated that their investigation was now closed.

Coroner

Following the meeting with the Police and representation from families of the deceased, the Coroner met with the Minister for Justice, the Department of Health and the Assistant Chief Constable to discuss the potential of opening inquests on 10 cases. Following this meeting the Coroner (SE Area) opened and adjourned Inquests on 10 named cases. The Coroner held a pre-inquest review meeting with the families in August 2008. No NHS representation occurred at the pre-inquest review as the invitation did not reach the appropriate people within the NHS.

The Coroner has announced that he intends to conduct separate inquests into each death, and has set aside six weeks for the inquests to take place. Verdicts into each death will be reached when all inquests have been concluded.

General Medical Council (GMC) and Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

The Police forwarded papers in respect of 14 cases to the GMC and NMC. Until the completion of the Police investigation, neither organisation felt able to consider any of the referrals they had received in order not to prejudice the police investigation. The GMC are holding a hearing scheduled to take place from June 2009. Staff are being supported through this process, to date the NMC have not taken any action.

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GWMH IN 2009

Since the time of these deaths over ten years ago and the subsequent CHI review in 2002 much has changed at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, in line with developments in clinical practice across the country.

1991 saw the commencement of a £10.5 million, two-phase development which was complete in 1995. This was followed by a £6m redevelopment in the last year.

The Hospital now houses:

- 20 bed GP ward
- 32 beds for older peoples' mental health
- 35 beds for stroke and general rehabilitation
- Blake birth centre
- Physiotherapy department
- Two day hospitals for older people
- X-ray and ultrasound
- Red Cross
- Minor injuries unit
- Endoscopy unit
- Community health clinics
- GP Out of Hours Service

By the time of the CHI investigation in 2002 the regulator was satisfied that GWMH had adequate policies and guidelines in place governing the prescription and administration of pain relieving medicines to older patients and that these policies and procedures were being adhered to. This remains the case and there have been no incidents subsequently which have required external investigation by CHI or its successor the Healthcare Commission or the Police.

Policies and procedures at the Hospital are reviewed regularly and staff receive mandatory training every year. Details of the policies in place on Sultan ward can be found at:

<http://www.hampshirepct.nhs.uk/index/documents/policies-home/policies-clinical.htm>

Details of policies in place on Ark Royal and Collingwood wards are available from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust on request.

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The Patient Environment Action Team inspection last year rated the Hospital as good on cleanliness, excellent for food and good for privacy and dignity. Patient experience surveys are conducted regularly and feedback is very positive, with comments including 'privacy and dignity is well respected' and 'cleanliness impeccable'.

There were six complaints relating to Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust re: the Department of Medicine for Older people, Stroke and Rehabilitation last year (this includes GWMH and QAH) and five relating to Hampshire Community Healthcare for the other wards at GWMH. All complaints are taken very seriously and investigated internally in line with the PCT and Trust's complaints policy. All complaints in 2007/2008 were resolved locally.

The Hospital also receives many thanks and compliments from patients and their families, with over 200 cards and letters last year.

Staff at the Hospital received a Chairman's award from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Chairman in 2007 for their professionalism and dedication.

In 2008 Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust's modern matron at GWMH received a Clinical Governance Award from the Trust's Patient Experience Council. This award of £9773 contributed to the installation of cushioned floor in both wards, to minimize injury if a patient should experience a fall during rehabilitation.

In February Ark Royal, Collingwood and Sultan wards have benefitted from anti microbial curtains and new bedside lockers and tables which are much easier to clean. Overhead hoists are available over every bed and in bathrooms and the Trust have increased call bells in day room areas enhancing patient safety.

In 2008/09 Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust was independently assessed as providing an 'excellent' quality of services by the Healthcare Commission (formerly CHI) and Hampshire PCT was assessed as providing a 'good' quality of services by the Healthcare Commission.

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Q&A

Q. What is the purpose of an Inquest?

A. The purpose of an inquest is for the coroner to determine how an individual met his/her death, the cause/ nature of the death and the circumstances around that person's death. An inquest is not a trial.

Q. What is this inquest concerned with?

A. This inquest is concerned with the deaths of people who were in-patients on Dryad and Daedalus wards, at Gosport Ward Memorial Hospital (GWMH) between 1996 and 1999. These deaths came to police and public attention following one complaint made by a relative in 1998.

Q. Isn't it rare to have an inquest 10 years after the death of a person and in the absence of a body or post mortem reports?

A. Yes it is. The decision to conduct these inquests was taken by the Coroner following representation from families of the deceased and a meeting with the Minister for Justice, the Department of Health and the Assistant Chief Constable. There have been three thorough police investigations and a further independent investigation (Commission for Health Improvement) into these matters since 1998.

Q. Why has an inquest into these deaths been called when the police investigations found no evidence of wrong doing?

A. The police investigations focused on whether there was any evidence that any crime had been committed with respect to patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The police were satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that there was no evidence of any criminal wrong-doing.

The purpose of an inquest is to determine how a person met their death and potentially the circumstances surrounding that death.

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Q. Were any staff disciplined as a result of the police investigations?

A. No. At the time two senior members of management were redeployed for six months, while internal investigations took place – this is standard practice. However both internal investigations and the CHI review concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that any individual should be disciplined and the staff members returned to their posts.

Q. What measures have been put in place since these incidents?

The CHI investigation in October 2001 concluded that the PCTs had put in place adequate policies and guidelines governing the prescription and administration of pain relieving medicines to older patients and that these policies and guidelines were and are being adhered to. **Full details can be obtained from [www](#).**

Four NHS organisations providing services in the south east Hampshire area have also undertaken their own more recent reviews of compliance with the recommendations CHI made. The Board of each organisation has received assurances that all policies are correct and current and that the quality of care being provided is of the highest standard and in line with modern Clinical Governance standards. Assurances have also been provided to South Central Strategic Health Authority (SHA) as the organisation responsible for monitoring quality within organisations in its area. The SHA will in turn provide assurance to the Department of Health.

Since the deaths at GWMH all NHS organisations now work to modern clinical governance standards which require risk management systems and clinical audit departments. These are integral to the delivery of health services in a modern NHS and have been part of NHS evolution over the last decade.

Q. What is CHI?

A. CHI – is the Commission for Health Improvement. This organisation was replaced by the Healthcare Commission (in April 2004). The Healthcare Commission is the independent watchdog for healthcare in England. It assesses and reports on the quality and safety of services for patients and the public. From April 2009 a new "super-regulator", the Care Quality Commission will combine the functions of the Healthcare Commission, the Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission.

DRAFTQ. What is Clinical Governance?

A. Clinical Governance is essentially a term used to describe the way the NHS manages the delivery of health services within a structure of accountability and responsibility. It is intended to ensure that clinical care is delivered on the basis of agreed standards and that outcomes are measured against these standards of care.

Q. Is the mortality rate at GWMH higher than at other community hospitals?

A. There is no statistical assessment that would enable us to compare mortality rates. The range of treatments, patient circumstances, local demographics and the numbers involved all contribute to make a statistical analysis impossible at this current time although we are increasingly putting measures in place that will enable us to work towards this type of data.

However, the care provided by PHT and Hampshire PCT was rated 'excellent' and 'good' by CHI's successor last year and the Hospital received good results from the Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT).

Q. Please comment on the findings of the Baker audit

A: We haven't seen the Baker audit but would be happy to review it if you have a copy for us.

Q. Is this another 'Shipman' case?

A: Absolutely not. There have been three separate police investigations since 1998 plus an independent investigation by the Commission for Health Improvement. None of these four investigations found there to be any evidence of criminal wrong-doing. The current inquest aims to establish how the cause of death arose for the ten patients concerned.

Q. Why is Dr Barton still practising?

A: The GMC has concluded that Dr Barton remains safe and fit to practice. Due to the pressures surrounding these investigations, Dr Barton has resigned from GWMH but still practices as a GP.

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Q: Why was nothing done when concerns were initially raised by nurses?

A: It is regrettable that no action was taken although these concerns were brought to the attention of the management team which was in place at the time. It is also regrettable that staff who raised these issues were not supported as they would be now.

The way the NHS monitors patient safety and the quality of care has changed considerably since the early 1990s. Staff are now required to report all incidents and 'near misses' and these are immediately logged and reviewed at the local integrated governance group, if appropriate a detailed action plan is developed and monitored.

This is supported by an active and open policy encouraging staff to report anything they are unhappy about, without fear of blame. We have policies and procedures in place to encourage staff to report any matters of concern and we take immediate action to address these.

Q: Why has it taken so long to reach an inquest?

A: Each of the four independent and police investigations has taken a period of time to complete. Each investigation was extremely thorough and the NHS has co-operated fully and quickly in each instance. Each of the four investigations concluded that there was no evidence of criminal wrong-doing.

Q: How do you account for the procedural failures that have been identified?

A: It has already been established in the four previous investigations that no criminal act has been committed. The CHI investigation details the procedural shortcomings at that time and we acknowledge that it is regrettable that our predecessor organisation did not have sufficient policies and procedures in place to optimise care in 1998. We are confident that these issues were addressed prior to and after the CHI review and in more general terms by changes in NHS governance and procedures.

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Core messages – please review all

Corporate NHS

Spokesperson - Richard Samuel (NHS Hampshire)

- The NHS in Hampshire supports the coroner's inquest as a valuable opportunity to look again at events of the late 1990s and for the families of the deceased to establish closure.
- We sympathise with relatives for the uncertainty that has surrounded these issues over the last ten years, and also with our staff who have been through four investigations over that period.
- Quality and safety is at the heart of all we do. I would like to reassure people being cared for at GWMH today that the quality of care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is of the highest standard.
- Friends and relatives of patients should not be alarmed by these inquests which are concerned with incidents which took place more than ten years ago and practices which are now outdated.
- The CHI report found that our predecessor organisation didn't have adequate policies and procedures in place and that there were some elements of care that required improvement. It is a matter of regret to the NHS that in 1996 it was found not to have adequate policies in place to optimise care, however action was subsequently taken and this is no longer the case.
- I would like to reassure people that the right policies and procedures are in place at GWMH now to ensure that the care provided is of the highest standard. The Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) investigation in October 2001 concluded that our predecessor organisation had addressed the issues raised and had put in place adequate policies and guidelines, and that these policies and guidelines were being adhered to. Quality and safety are at the very heart of all we do.

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- The care provided by PHT and Hampshire PCT was rated 'excellent' and 'good' by CHI's successor last year and the Hospital received good results from the Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT), which were 'Good' cleanliness, 'Excellent' for food, and 'Good' for privacy and dignity.

Clinical practice Graeme Zaki (PHT); Sue Harriman (HCHC), Dr John Hughes

- Safety and quality is at the heart of everything we do. The way the NHS monitors patient safety and the quality of care has changed considerably since the early 1990s. Staff are now required to report all incidents and 'near misses' and these are immediately logged and reviewed at the local integrated governance group, if appropriate a detailed action plan is developed and monitored.
- This is supported by an active and open policy encouraging staff to report anything they are unhappy about, without fear of blame. We have policies and procedures in place to encourage staff to report any matters of concern and we take immediate action to address these.
- We actively seek to quickly reduce and eliminate risk as an ongoing learning process. Untoward incidents or a pattern of care which suggested that clinical practice is not up to standard would be picked up there and then through these procedures and investigated internally. If necessary the Trust concerned may also commission an external investigation.
- Both PHT and Hampshire PCT have a modern matron working at GWMH. These highly experienced senior nurses are responsible for driving-up standards, ensuring privacy and dignity is protected, and that their wards areas are clean and suitable for their patients, whilst leading by example.
- There are much tighter governance arrangements in place in relation to the prescribing and administration of medicines. Reviews of prescribing practices and all medicines related incidents are reported on the national risk learning database and analysed by the Trust and action plans developed, where

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appropriate. HCHC also has a pharmacist who reviews practices and prescribing and also trains and educates staff.

- Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust and HPCT are members of the South Central Patient Safety Federation and have a multi-disciplinary approach to integrated working. There are number of work streams in place to improve the safety of patient care, including one on the management and administration of medicines.
- All NHS organisations have well developed clinical audit departments. The quality of services at GWMH is monitored via these audits and feedback from patients on their experiences at the Hospital. HCHC has an audit strategy which includes a stringent timetable for completion of audits and implementation of improvements, where required.
- There are no similarities whatsoever between this matter and the investigation which took place at Fordingbridge Community Hospital. It is not appropriate for me to comment on the Fordingbridge investigation at this current time.

Pharmacy: Neil Hardy (NHS Hampshire)

- As current service providers Hampshire PCT and Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust have a range of up-to-date policies and procedures governing the administration of medicines.
- HCHC also has a dedicated pharmacist who reviews practices and prescribing and also trains and educates staff.
- There are now much tighter governance arrangements in place in relation to the prescribing and administration of medicines than there were in the early 1990s. Reviews of prescribing practices and all medicines related incidents are reported on the national risk learning database and analysed by the Trust. Action plans developed, where appropriate.
- Current policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and monitored to ensure that they are adhered to.

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Primary Care / GP: [Stuart Morgan or LMC representative - TBC](#)

- We are confident that the care provided at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is of the highest standards and have complete confidence in referring our patients to the hospital.

Key words:

1998 / more than ten years ago
Predecessor organisation
Integrated working
Multi-disciplinary approach
Confidence
Reassure
Quality and safety
Patient centred care
Dedicated pharmacist
Audits / CHI report
Ongoing learning
Supportive policies and procedures
Minimise and eliminate risk
Tighter governance
High standard of care
Four thorough investigations since 1998
No evidence of criminal wrong-doing

Media coverage from Dr Jane Barton's GMC hearing

Date	Media	Link	Opening line
Friday, January 22	Portsmouth News	Accused Gosport GP waits to hear if she will be struck off	The doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital will have to wait to learn her fate.
Thursday, January 21	The Press Association	GP faces panel of over drug doses	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Portsmouth News	Panel urged to strike off Jane Barton in deaths probe	A doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital should be banned from practising, a panel heard.
	The Daily Telegraph	Dr Jane Barton: hospital painkiller prescriptions doctor 'should be struck off'	A hospital doctor, Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed overdoses of powerful painkillers to a dozen elderly patients who later died should be struck off to prevent further public danger, the General Medical Council heard.
	BBC News	Gosport doctor Jane Barton 'should be struck off'	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients should be struck off, a General Medical Council panel heard.
Wednesday, January 20	Yahoo News	GP faces panel of over drug doses - Yahoo! News UK	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Southern Daily Echo	Hearing resumes over Gosport hospital doctor	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions today about whether a Hampshire doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
Tuesday, January 19	The Portsmouth News	GP's hearing back in public	A hearing into the fitness to practice of the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is to resume in public.
Sunday,	Daily	Doctor faces action over	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the

January 17	Telegraph	morphine deaths of elderly patients	centre of a police investigation into the deaths of nearly 100 elderly patients, faces being struck off the medical register for prescribing excessive doses of painkillers.
Tuesday, November 3	Portsmouth News	MP joins fight to secure inquiry into Gosport War Memorial Hospital deaths	Families calling for a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital have secured the backing of a high-profile MP.
Saturday, October 17	Portsmouth News	Families calling for new probe into War Memorial deaths	RELATIVES of elderly patients who died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital have called for a change in the law as they demanded a fresh criminal investigation into a GP.
Sunday, August 23	Independent	Calls for inquiry as GMC 'runs out of time' in GP probe	Relatives of 12 elderly patients who died in a Hampshire hospital are left waiting for answers.
Saturday, August 22	Portsmouth News	War Memorial doctor to hear her fate early in new year	The doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at a hospital could face harsh consequences for her actions – even if she is not struck off.
Friday, August 21	Daily Mail	Doctor who gave lethal doses of painkillers to 12 elderly patients faces being struck off	A doctor who gave lethal cocktails of painkillers to 12 elderly hospital patients could be struck off after she was found guilty yesterday by the General Medical Council.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton's conduct was 'inappropriate'	A doctor who prescribed 'potentially hazardous' levels of drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton could be struck off as panel slams her drug doses	Relatives have welcomed damning proof which could lead to the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital being struck off.
	Telegraph	Doctor facing disciplinary action over drug prescriptions	Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, could be struck off after she was found guilty of recklessly prescribing the powerful painkillers.
	Metro	'Dangerous' doctor still fine to work	The families of 12 patients who died in the 1990s face another delay to find out if the doctor who recklessly prescribed them powerful painkillers will be struck off.
Thursday, August 20	Daily Echo	Dr Jane Barton closer to being struck off after Gosport War	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of

		Memorial allegations	drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Telegraph	Doctor faces being struck off over painkiller prescriptions	A doctor faces being struck off after prescribing overdoses of powerful painkillers to 12 elderly patients who died in her care.
	BBC News	Doctor's conduct 'inappropriate'	The conduct of a doctor in the treatment of 12 elderly patients was inappropriate and possibly potentially hazardous, a panel has ruled.
Wednesday, August 19	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 18	No coverage		
Monday, August 17	No coverage		
Sunday, August 16	No coverage		
Saturday, August 15	No coverage		
Friday, August 14	No coverage		
Thursday, August 13	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 12	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 11	No coverage		
Monday, August 10	No coverage		
Sunday, August 9	No coverage		
Saturday, August 8	No coverage		
Friday, August 7	No coverage		
Thursday, August 6	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 5	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 4	No coverage		
Monday, August 3	No coverage		
Sunday, August 2	No coverage		
Saturday, August 1	No coverage		
Friday, July 31	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton described as 'excellent GP'	The doctor at the centre of elderly deaths at a hospital was always 'careful and considerate to patients', a hearing was told.
Thursday, July 30	Portsmouth News	Expert says drug doses 'reasonable'	Powerful drug doses prescribed to elderly patients by a doctor have been defended by a world leading cancer expert.

Wednesday, July 29	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 28	No coverage		
Monday, July 27	No coverage		
Sunday, July 26	Independent	Gosport doctor denies putting patients on 'terminal pathway'	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the centre of nearly 100 suspicious deaths at the hospital between 1995 and 1999, denied she put patients on a "terminal pathway". ...
Saturday, July 25	Portsmouth News	Doctor: No regrets about medication	The doctor at the centre of the deaths of 12 elderly patients at a hospital has 'no regrets' about the medication they received, a panel heard.
Friday, July 24	No coverage		
Thursday, July 23	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 22	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 21	No coverage		
Monday, July 20	No coverage		
Sunday, July 19	Independent	Doctor defends drugs policy at deaths hospital	GMC Gosport hearing told: 'I was aiming to ensure the maximum comfort and dignity for my patients'
Saturday, July 18	Portsmouth News	GP: I wouldn't change the way I treated dead patient	A DOCTOR said she wouldn't change the treatment of an elderly patient whose death sparked a police investigation, a panel heard.
Thursday, July 16	BBC South	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a disciplinary hearing.
Wednesday, July 15	BBC Berkshire	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a ...
Tuesday, July 14	No coverage		
Monday, July 13	No coverage		
Sunday, July 12	Independent	Doctor prescribed sedatives 'for no reason'	Professor Ford was called as an expert witness by the GMC as part of its inquiry into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton related .
Saturday, July 11	No coverage		
Friday, July	No coverage		

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Thursday, July 9	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 8	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 7	Mail on Sunday	Female doctor 'overmedicated elderly patients with cocktails of ...	Dr Jane Barton allegedly overmedicated patients with 'cocktails' of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Portsmouth in the 1990s. ...
	Telegraph	Hospital doctor 'hastened the death of elderly patient' with ...	Dr Jane Barton faces being struck off over allegations that she over-medicated a total of 12 patients with cocktails of drugs at the ...
Monday, July 6	BBC South Today	GMC panel shown painkiller device	A doctor's panel at a hearing looking into the actions of a doctor accused of serious professional misconduct at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been shown a device used to give the painkiller diamorphine to patients who died there.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing - The GP at the centre of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquests is to appear before the General ...
Sunday, July 5	No coverage		
Saturday, July 4	No coverage		
Friday, July 3	Portsmouth News	GP's care for elderly 'generally sensible'	The doctor accused of misconduct over the deaths of 12 elderly hospital patients has been praised for her standard of care
Thursday, July 2	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 1	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 30	No coverage		
Monday, June 29	Independent	Nurses who blew whistle on drugs 'driven out of jobs'	The panel is inquiring into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton in relation to the treatment and death of 12 elderly patients in ...
Sunday, June 28	No coverage		
Saturday, June 27	No coverage		
Friday, June 26	Portsmouth News	I quit over prescription of drugs, says nurse	Mrs Holman told a hearing in London that she had launched the hospital's official grievance procedure against Dr Jane

			Barton and Sister Gill Hamblin.
Thursday, June 25	No coverage		
Wednesday, June 24	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 23	No coverage		
Monday, June 22	BBC South Today		
Sunday, June 21	No coverage		
Saturday, June 20	No coverage		
Friday, June 19	No coverage		
Thursday, June 18	Portsmouth News	Unrousable patients 'the norm' after painkillers	Dr Barton's fitness to practise is being assessed by a five-strong panel from the GMC after the death of 12 patients at the hospital in the late 1990s. ...
Wednesday, June 17	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 16	Portsmouth News	Man's relative told doctor she was murderer	Charles Stewart-Farthing said he had asked Dr Jane Barton to remove a syringe driver – an automatic pump for giving drugs – from 69-year-old Arthur ...
Monday, June 15	BBC South Today	DOCTORS PANEL HEARS FAMILY OF PATIENT AT GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	The family had asked for drugs to be stopped so that they could hear his final wishes. The GMC heard that Brian Cunningham had been given diamorphine and was unconscious. Dr. Jane Barton faces a charge of serious medical misconduct in her treatment of twelve patients.
Sunday, June 14	No coverage		
Saturday, June 13	Portsmouth News	GP 'didn't tell me mum was dying'	The doctor at the centre of deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been accused of telling a woman what would be written on her mother's death certificate before even breaking the news that she was dying.
	Independent	Doctor to face hearing over patient deaths	If found guilty, Jane Barton, who was the senior doctor in charge at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, may be struck off the medical register. ...
Friday, June 11	Portsmouth News	'Nurses can confirm death' – Doctor's note on woman, 84	An elderly woman, described as 'well and comfortable' the day before she was sent to a Gosport hospital, had a note written on her records on arrival saying a doctor was happy for nurses to confirm her death.
Thursday,	Southern	Daughter weeps as court hears	THE daughter of an elderly

June 11	Daily Echo	of mother's hospital treatment	patient wept today as she described her mother's treatment by a Hampshire doctor accused of over prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients.
	Portsmouth News	'Doctor told my mum: It won't be long now...'	A daughter claims her mother died hours after being given a cocktail of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial.
	BBC News	Drug case told of woman's decline	Dr Jane Barton is accused of serious professional misconduct in treating 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) in the 1990s. ...
	Daily Mail	'It won't be long now': Chilling words of doctor who 'killed 12 ...	Dr Jane Barton's patient Alice Wilkie, 81, was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire for rehabilitation but within two weeks she was dead. ...
Wednesday, June 10, 2009	Portsmouth News	Doctor Jane Barton admits drug mistakes	The doctor at the centre of a probe into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has admitted she made mistakes.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - Portsmouth Today	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - An elderly patient of a doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives was dosed up with opiates to 'keep quiet', a disciplinary panel heard today.
	Daily Mail	Doctor accused over death of 12 elderly patients who were 'over-sedated and left in comas'	Twelve elderly patients died after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by the same doctor, a disciplinary hearing was told yesterday.
	Press Association	Doctor admits over-prescribing	A doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients has made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing. Dr Jane Barton ...
Tuesday, June 9, 2009	Nursing Times	Hearing to look at fatal over-prescribing of painkillers	Dr Jane Barton faces a General Medical Council hearing over the alleged over-prescription of painkillers after five patients died at the Gosport War ...
	BBC News	Patients in 'drug-induced comas'	Dr Jane Barton is accused of a series of failings in her treatment of 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital in the late 1990s. ...
	Daily Telegraph	Patients died after doctor prescribed 'potentially hazardous' doses	A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers

			to elderly patients who later died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
	TeleText Scotland	Doctor faces dosage probe	Dr Jane Barton was in charge of care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital when the patients died in the early 1990s. A General Medical Council panel will look ...
	BBC Radio Solent		
Monday, June 8, 2009	Channel 4 News	Doctor faces hearing on NHS deaths	Now Dr Jane Barton, who was in charge of care at the Hampshire hospital at the time of the deaths in the late 1990s, is to face a General Medical Council ...
	The Guardian	Pressure grows for inquiry into deaths of elderly patients at ...	Jane Barton, who worked with elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial hospital, ... order on Barton, the main doctor in charge of two wards at the hospital, ...
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing ...	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing - The doctor in charge of care at a Hampshire hospital where medication contributed to the death of five patients is to face a fitness to practise hearing today for alleged ...
	Southern Daily Echo	Hampshire doctor admits mistakes over drugs	A HAMPSHIRE doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton admits over-prescribing drugs	Elderly patients were left in 'drug-induced comas' after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by a Gosport doctor, a disciplinary panel heard.
	BBC South Today		
BBC Radio 2			
Wave 105			

Media coverage from Dr Jane Barton's GMC hearing

Date	Media	Link	Opening line
Friday, January 22	Portsmouth News	Accused Gosport GP waits to hear if she will be struck off	The doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital will have to wait to learn her fate.
Thursday, January 21	The Press Association	GP faces panel of over drug doses	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Portsmouth News	Panel urged to strike off Jane Barton in deaths probe	A doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital should be banned from practising, a panel heard.
	The Daily Telegraph	Dr Jane Barton: hospital painkiller prescriptions doctor 'should be struck off'	A hospital doctor, Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed overdoses of powerful painkillers to a dozen elderly patients who later died should be struck off to prevent further public danger, the General Medical Council heard.
	BBC News	Gosport doctor Jane Barton 'should be struck off'	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients should be struck off, a General Medical Council panel heard.
Wednesday , January 20	Yahoo News	GP faces panel of over drug doses - Yahoo! News UK	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Southern Daily Echo	Hearing resumes over Gosport hospital doctor	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions today about whether a Hampshire doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
Tuesday, January 19	The Portsmouth News	GP's hearing back in public	A hearing into the fitness to practice of the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is to resume in public.
Sunday,	Daily	Doctor faces action over	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the

January 17	Telegraph	morphine deaths of elderly patients	centre of a police investigation into the deaths of nearly 100 elderly patients, faces being struck off the medical register for prescribing excessive doses of painkillers.
Tuesday, November 3	Portsmouth News	MP joins fight to secure inquiry into Gosport War Memorial Hospital deaths	Families calling for a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital have secured the backing of a high-profile MP.
Saturday, October 17	Portsmouth News	Families calling for new probe into War Memorial deaths	RELATIVES of elderly patients who died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital have called for a change in the law as they demanded a fresh criminal investigation into a GP.
Sunday, August 23	Independent	Calls for inquiry as GMC 'runs out of time' in GP probe	Relatives of 12 elderly patients who died in a Hampshire hospital are left waiting for answers.
Saturday, August 22	Portsmouth News	War Memorial doctor to hear her fate early in new year	The doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at a hospital could face harsh consequences for her actions – even if she is not struck off.
Friday, August 21	Daily Mail	Doctor who gave lethal doses of painkillers to 12 elderly patients faces being struck off	A doctor who gave lethal cocktails of painkillers to 12 elderly hospital patients could be struck off after she was found guilty yesterday by the General Medical Council.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton's conduct was 'inappropriate'	A doctor who prescribed 'potentially hazardous' levels of drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton could be struck off as panel slams her drug doses	Relatives have welcomed damning proof which could lead to the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital being struck off.
	Telegraph	Doctor facing disciplinary action over drug prescriptions	Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, could be struck off after she was found guilty of recklessly prescribing the powerful painkillers.
	Metro	'Dangerous' doctor still fine to work	The families of 12 patients who died in the 1990s face another delay to find out if the doctor who recklessly prescribed them powerful painkillers will be struck off.
Thursday, August 20	Daily Echo	Dr Jane Barton closer to being struck off after Gosport War	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of

		Memorial allegations	drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Telegraph	Doctor faces being struck off over painkiller prescriptions	A doctor faces being struck off after prescribing overdoses of powerful painkillers to 12 elderly patients who died in her care.
	BBC News	Doctor's conduct 'inappropriate'	The conduct of a doctor in the treatment of 12 elderly patients was inappropriate and possibly potentially hazardous, a panel has ruled.
Wednesday, August 19	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 18	No coverage		
Monday, August 17	No coverage		
Sunday, August 16	No coverage		
Saturday, August 15	No coverage		
Friday, August 14	No coverage		
Thursday, August 13	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 12	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 11	No coverage		
Monday, August 10	No coverage		
Sunday, August 9	No coverage		
Saturday, August 8	No coverage		
Friday, August 7	No coverage		
Thursday, August 6	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 5	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 4	No coverage		
Monday, August 3	No coverage		
Sunday, August 2	No coverage		
Saturday, August 1	No coverage		
Friday, July 31	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton described as 'excellent GP'	The doctor at the centre of elderly deaths at a hospital was always 'careful and considerate to patients', a hearing was told.
Thursday, July 30	Portsmouth News	Expert says drug doses 'reasonable'	Powerful drug doses prescribed to elderly patients by a doctor have been defended by a world leading cancer expert.

Wednesday, July 29	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 28	No coverage		
Monday, July 27	No coverage		
Sunday, July 26	Independent	Gosport doctor denies putting patients on 'terminal pathway'	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the centre of nearly 100 suspicious deaths at the hospital between 1995 and 1999, denied she put patients on a "terminal pathway". ...
Saturday, July 25	Portsmouth News	Doctor: No regrets about medication	The doctor at the centre of the deaths of 12 elderly patients at a hospital has 'no regrets' about the medication they received, a panel heard.
Friday, July 24	No coverage		
Thursday, July 23	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 22	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 21	No coverage		
Monday, July 20	No coverage		
Sunday, July 19	Independent	Doctor defends drugs policy at deaths hospital	GMC Gosport hearing told: 'I was aiming to ensure the maximum comfort and dignity for my patients'
Saturday, July 18	Portsmouth News	GP: I wouldn't change the way I treated dead patient	A DOCTOR said she wouldn't change the treatment of an elderly patient whose death sparked a police investigation, a panel heard.
Thursday, July 16	BBC South	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a disciplinary hearing.
Wednesday, July 15	BBC Berkshire	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a ...
Tuesday, July 14	No coverage		
Monday, July 13	No coverage		
Sunday, July 12	Independent	Doctor prescribed sedatives 'for no reason'	Professor Ford was called as an expert witness by the GMC as part of its inquiry into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton related .
Saturday, July 11	No coverage		
Friday, July	No coverage		

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Thursday, July 9	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 8	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 7	Mail on Sunday	Female doctor 'overmedicated elderly patients with cocktails of ...	Dr Jane Barton allegedly overmedicated patients with 'cocktails' of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Portsmouth in the 1990s. ...
	Telegraph	Hospital doctor 'hastened the death of elderly patient' with ...	Dr Jane Barton faces being struck off over allegations that she over-medicated a total of 12 patients with cocktails of drugs at the ...
Monday, July 6	BBC South Today	GMC panel shown painkiller device	A doctor's panel at a hearing looking into the actions of a doctor accused of serious professional misconduct at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been shown a device used to give the painkiller diamorphine to patients who died there.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing - The GP at the centre of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquests is to appear before the General ...
Sunday, July 5	No coverage		
Saturday, July 4	No coverage		
Friday, July 3	Portsmouth News	GP's care for elderly 'generally sensible'	The doctor accused of misconduct over the deaths of 12 elderly hospital patients has been praised for her standard of care
Thursday, July 2	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 1	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 30	No coverage		
Monday, June 29	Independent	Nurses who blew whistle on drugs 'driven out of jobs'	The panel is inquiring into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton in relation to the treatment and death of 12 elderly patients in ...
Sunday, June 28	No coverage		
Saturday, June 27	No coverage		
Friday, June 26	Portsmouth News	I quit over prescription of drugs, says nurse	Mrs Holman told a hearing in London that she had launched the hospital's official grievance procedure against Dr Jane

			Barton and Sister Gill Hamblin.
Thursday, June 25	No coverage		
Wednesday, June 24	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 23	No coverage		
Monday, June 22	BBC South Today		
Sunday, June 21	No coverage		
Saturday, June 20	No coverage		
Friday, June 19	No coverage		
Thursday, June 18	Portsmouth News	Unroutable patients 'the norm' after painkillers	Dr Barton's fitness to practise is being assessed by a five-strong panel from the GMC after the death of 12 patients at the hospital in the late 1990s. ...
Wednesday, June 17	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 16	Portsmouth News	Man's relative told doctor she was murderer	Charles Stewart-Farthing said he had asked Dr Jane Barton to remove a syringe driver – an automatic pump for giving drugs – from 69-year-old Arthur ...
Monday, June 15	BBC South Today	DOCTORS PANEL HEARS FAMILY OF PATIENT AT GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	The family had asked for drugs to be stopped so that they could hear his final wishes. The GMC heard that Brian Cunningham had been given diamorphine and was unconscious. Dr. Jane Barton faces a charge of serious medical misconduct in her treatment of twelve patients.
Sunday, June 14	No coverage		
Saturday, June 13	Portsmouth News	GP 'didn't tell me mum was dying'	The doctor at the centre of deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been accused of telling a woman what would be written on her mother's death certificate before even breaking the news that she was dying.
	Independent	Doctor to face hearing over patient deaths	If found guilty, Jane Barton, who was the senior doctor in charge at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, may be struck off the medical register. ...
Friday, June 11	Portsmouth News	'Nurses can confirm death' – Doctor's note on woman. 84	An elderly woman, described as 'well and comfortable' the day before she was sent to a Gosport hospital, had a note written on her records on arrival saying a doctor was happy for nurses to confirm her death.
Thursday,	Southern	Daughter weeps as court hears	THE daughter of an elderly

June 11	Daily Echo	of mother's hospital treatment	patient wept today as she described her mother's treatment by a Hampshire doctor accused of over prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients.
	Portsmouth News	'Doctor told my mum: It won't be long now...'	A daughter claims her mother died hours after being given a cocktail of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial.
	BBC News	Drug case told of woman's decline	Dr Jane Barton is accused of serious professional misconduct in treating 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) in the 1990s. ...
	Daily Mail	'It won't be long now': Chilling words of doctor who 'killed 12 ...	Dr Jane Barton's patient Alice Wilkie, 81, was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire for rehabilitation but within two weeks she was dead. ...
Wednesday, June 10, 2009	Portsmouth News	Doctor Jane Barton admits drug mistakes	The doctor at the centre of a probe into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has admitted she made mistakes.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - Portsmouth Today	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - An elderly patient of a doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives was dosed up with opiates to 'keep quiet', a disciplinary panel heard today.
	Daily Mail	Doctor accused over death of 12 elderly patients who were 'over-sedated and left in comas'	Twelve elderly patients died after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by the same doctor, a disciplinary hearing was told yesterday.
	Press Association	Doctor admits over-prescribing	A doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients has made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing. Dr Jane Barton ...
Tuesday, June 9, 2009	Nursing Times	Hearing to look at fatal over-prescribing of painkillers	Dr Jane Barton faces a General Medical Council hearing over the alleged over-prescription of painkillers after five patients died at the Gosport War ...
	BBC News	Patients in 'drug-induced comas'	Dr Jane Barton is accused of a series of failings in her treatment of 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital in the late 1990s. ...
	Daily Telegraph	Patients died after doctor prescribed 'potentially hazardous' doses	A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers

			to elderly patients who later died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
	TeleText Scotland	Doctor faces dosage probe	Dr Jane Barton was in charge of care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital when the patients died in the early 1990s. A General Medical Council panel will look ...
	BBC Radio Solent		
Monday, June 8, 2009	Channel 4 News	Doctor faces hearing on NHS deaths	Now Dr Jane Barton, who was in charge of care at the Hampshire hospital at the time of the deaths in the late 1990s, is to face a General Medical Council ...
	The Guardian	Pressure grows for inquiry into deaths of elderly patients at ...	Jane Barton, who worked with elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial hospital, ... order on Barton, the main doctor in charge of two wards at the hospital, ...
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing ...	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing - The doctor in charge of care at a Hampshire hospital where medication contributed to the death of five patients is to face a fitness to practise hearing today for alleged ...
	Southern Daily Echo	Hampshire doctor admits mistakes over drugs	A HAMPSHIRE doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton admits over-prescribing drugs	Elderly patients were left in 'drug-induced comas' after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by a Gosport doctor, a disciplinary panel heard.
	BBC South Today		
BBC Radio 2			
Wave 105			

Media coverage from Dr Jane Barton's GMC hearing

Date	Media	Link	Opening line
Friday, January 29	West Sussex County Times	Anger as doctor escapes being struck off	Dr Barton will be allowed to continue working as a doctor despite being found guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	The Independent	Anger as drug errors doctor free to practise	Families reacted with disgust today after a doctor who put their elderly relatives at risk of death by prescribing "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs escaped being struck off.
	The Coast	Hampshire doctor's "serious misconduct"	A Hampshire doctor's been found guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	This Is Hampshire	Dr Jane Barton allowed to continue practising after Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquiry	A Hampshire doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died escaped being struck off today.
	Wiltshire Times	Dr Jane Barton allowed to continue practising after Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquiry	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died has escaped being struck off.
	Times Online	Gosport 'Death Ward' doctor Jane Barton escapes being struck off	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of painkillers to elderly patients who died has escaped being struck off the medical register.
	Daily Mail	Fury as doctor who gave lethal drugs to 12 elderly patients is allowed to carry on prescribing	Families erupted in fury today as a doctor who gave lethal drugs to 12 elderly patients was given the green light to carry on prescribing.
	Sky News	Fury As Drug Errors Doc Left Free To Practise	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died has escaped being struck off, to the disgust of their relatives.
	The Guardian	Doctor who prescribed 'potentially hazardous' levels of drugs can still work	Families have called for a public inquiry after a doctor who put their elderly relatives at risk of death by prescribing "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs escaped being struck off.
	The Press Association	Fury as GP escapes being struck off	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died has escaped being struck off.
BBC	Misconduct doctor Jane Barton escapes being struck off	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died has escaped being struck off.	

	Portsmouth News	War Memorial doctor guilty of misconduct - but not struck off	A doctor who prescribed lethal doses of drugs to elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital can continue to practise.
	Southern Daily Echo	Dr Jane Barton allowed to continue practising after Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquiry	A Hampshire doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients who later died escaped being struck off today.
	Management in Practice	Doctor may be struck off over death of patients	A doctor faces being struck off after an inquest found drug overdoses to be a factor in the deaths of five out of 10 patients.
	ITN News footage from Youtube	Doctor faces being struck off	A doctor faces being struck off for prescribing "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients.
	The Press Association	Doctor faces being struck off	Dr Jane Barton's failings were so serious that she should be erased from the medical register, a General Medical Council Fitness to Practise Panel has heard
Tuesday, January 26	The Portsmouth News	MP supports calls for inquiry into Gosport hospital deaths	Families have welcomed a call by an MP for a public inquiry into elderly patients deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
Sunday, January 24	The Independent	Gosport doctor's fate in the balance at medical hearing	Lib Dems call for Shipman-style inquiry after 'abject failure' of the system to address suspicious deaths.
Friday, January 22	Portsmouth News	Accused Gosport GP waits to hear if she will be struck off	The doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital will have to wait to learn her fate.
Thursday, January 21	The Press Association	GP faces panel of over drug doses	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Portsmouth News	Panel urged to strike off Jane Barton in deaths probe	A doctor accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital should be banned from practising, a panel heard.
	The Daily Telegraph	Dr Jane Barton: hospital painkiller prescriptions doctor 'should be struck off'	A hospital doctor, Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed overdoses of powerful painkillers to a dozen elderly patients who later died should be struck off to prevent further public danger, the General Medical Council heard.

	BBC News	Gosport doctor Jane Barton 'should be struck off'	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients should be struck off, a General Medical Council panel heard.
Wednesday , January 20	Yahoo News	GP faces panel of over drug doses - Yahoo! News UK	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions about whether a doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
	Southern Daily Echo	Hearing resumes over Gosport hospital doctor	A disciplinary panel is expected to hear submissions today about whether a Hampshire doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients was guilty of serious professional misconduct.
Tuesday , January 19	The Portsmouth News	GP's hearing back in public	A hearing into the fitness to practice of the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is to resume in public.
Sunday, January 17	Daily Telegraph	Doctor faces action over morphine deaths of elderly patients	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the centre of a police investigation into the deaths of nearly 100 elderly patients, faces being struck off the medical register for prescribing excessive doses of painkillers.
Tuesday, November 3	Portsmouth News	MP joins fight to secure inquiry into Gosport War Memorial Hospital deaths	Families calling for a public inquiry into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital have secured the backing of a high-profile MP.
Saturday, October 17	Portsmouth News	Families calling for new probe into War Memorial deaths	RELATIVES of elderly patients who died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital have called for a change in the law as they demanded a fresh criminal investigation into a GP.
Sunday, August 23	Independent	Calls for inquiry as GMC 'runs out of time' in GP probe	Relatives of 12 elderly patients who died in a Hampshire hospital are left waiting for answers.
Saturday, August 22	Portsmouth News	War Memorial doctor to hear her fate early in new year	The doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at a hospital could face harsh consequences for her actions – even if she is not struck off.
Friday, August 21	Daily Mail	Doctor who gave lethal doses of painkillers to 12 elderly patients faces being struck off	A doctor who gave lethal cocktails of painkillers to 12 elderly hospital patients could be struck off after she was

			found guilty yesterday by the General Medical Council.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton's conduct was 'inappropriate'	A doctor who prescribed 'potentially hazardous' levels of drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton could be struck off as panel slams her drug doses	Relatives have welcomed damning proof which could lead to the doctor at the centre of elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital being struck off.
	Telegraph	Doctor facing disciplinary action over drug prescriptions	Dr Jane Barton, who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, could be struck off after she was found guilty of recklessly prescribing the powerful painkillers.
	Metro	'Dangerous' doctor still fine to work	The families of 12 patients who died in the 1990s face another delay to find out if the doctor who recklessly prescribed them powerful painkillers will be struck off.
Thursday, August 20	Daily Echo	Dr Jane Barton closer to being struck off after Gosport War Memorial allegations	A doctor who prescribed "potentially hazardous" levels of drugs to elderly patients moved a step closer to being struck off today.
	Telegraph	Doctor faces being struck off over painkiller prescriptions	A doctor faces being struck off after prescribing overdoses of powerful painkillers to 12 elderly patients who died in her care.
	BBC News	Doctor's conduct 'inappropriate'	The conduct of a doctor in the treatment of 12 elderly patients was inappropriate and possibly potentially hazardous, a panel has ruled.
Wednesday, August 19	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 18	No coverage		
Monday, August 17	No coverage		
Sunday, August 16	No coverage		
Saturday, August 15	No coverage		
Friday, August 14	No coverage		
Thursday, August 13	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 12	No coverage		
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Monday, August 10	No coverage		
Sunday, August 9	No coverage		
Saturday, August 8	No coverage		
Friday, August 7	No coverage		
Thursday, August 6	No coverage		
Wednesday, August 5	No coverage		
Tuesday, August 4	No coverage		
Monday, August 3	No coverage		
Sunday, August 2	No coverage		
Saturday, August 1	No coverage		
Friday, July 31	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton described as 'excellent GP'	The doctor at the centre of elderly deaths at a hospital was always 'careful and considerate to patients', a hearing was told.
Thursday, July 30	Portsmouth News	Expert says drug doses 'reasonable'	Powerful drug doses prescribed to elderly patients by a doctor have been defended by a world leading cancer expert.
Wednesday, July 29	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 28	No coverage		
Monday, July 27	No coverage		
Sunday, July 26	Independent	Gosport doctor denies putting patients on 'terminal pathway'	Dr Jane Barton, who is at the centre of nearly 100 suspicious deaths at the hospital between 1995 and 1999, denied she put patients on a "terminal pathway". ...
Saturday, July 25	Portsmouth News	Doctor: No regrets about medication	The doctor at the centre of the deaths of 12 elderly patients at a hospital has 'no regrets' about the medication they received, a panel heard.
Friday, July 24	No coverage		
Thursday, July 23	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 22	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 21	No coverage		
Monday, July 20	No coverage		
Sunday, July 19	Independent	Doctor defends drugs policy at deaths hospital	GMC Gosport hearing told: 'I was aiming to ensure the maximum comfort and dignity

			for my patients'
Saturday, July 18	Portsmouth News	GP: I wouldn't change the way I treated dead patient	A DOCTOR said she wouldn't change the treatment of an elderly patient whose death sparked a police investigation, a panel heard.
Thursday, July 16	BBC South	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a disciplinary hearing.
Wednesday, July 15	BBC Berkshire	Accused doctor gives GMC evidence	Dr Jane Barton, who is accused of prescribing excessive amounts of drugs to patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, has been giving evidence at a ...
Tuesday, July 14	No coverage		
Monday, July 13	No coverage		
Sunday, July 12	Independent	Doctor prescribed sedatives 'for no reason'	Professor Ford was called as an expert witness by the GMC as part of its inquiry into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton related .
Saturday, July 11	No coverage		
Friday, July 10	No coverage		
Thursday, July 9	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 8	No coverage		
Tuesday, July 7	Mail on Sunday	Female doctor 'overmedicated elderly patients with cocktails of ...	Dr Jane Barton allegedly overmedicated patients with 'cocktails' of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Portsmouth in the 1990s. ...
	Telegraph	Hospital doctor 'hastened the death of elderly patient' with ...	Dr Jane Barton faces being struck off over allegations that she over-medicated a total of 12 patients with cocktails of drugs at the ...
Monday, July 6	BBC South Today	GMC panel shown painkiller device	A doctor's panel at a hearing looking into the actions of a doctor accused of serious professional misconduct at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been shown a device used to give the painkiller diamorphine to patients who died there.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing	Dr Jane Barton to face GMC hearing - The GP at the centre of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital inquests is to appear before the General ...
Sunday,	No coverage		

July 5			
Saturday, July 4	No coverage		
Friday, July 3	Portsmouth News	GP's care for elderly 'generally sensible'	The doctor accused of misconduct over the deaths of 12 elderly hospital patients has been praised for her standard of care
Thursday, July 2	No coverage		
Wednesday, July 1	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 30	No coverage		
Monday, June 29	Independent	Nurses who blew whistle on drugs 'driven out of jobs'	The panel is inquiring into allegations of professional misconduct against Dr Jane Barton in relation to the treatment and death of 12 elderly patients in ...
Sunday, June 28	No coverage		
Saturday, June 27	No coverage		
Friday, June 26	Portsmouth News	I quit over prescription of drugs, says nurse	Mrs Holman told a hearing in London that she had launched the hospital's official grievance procedure against Dr Jane Barton and Sister Gill Hamblin.
Thursday, June 25	No coverage		
Wednesday, June 24	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 23	No coverage		
Monday, June 22	BBC South Today		
Sunday, June 21	No coverage		
Saturday, June 20	No coverage		
Friday, June 19	No coverage		
Thursday, June 18	Portsmouth News	Unrousable patients 'the norm' after painkillers	Dr Barton's fitness to practise is being assessed by a five-strong panel from the GMC after the death of 12 patients at the hospital in the late 1990s. ...
Wednesday, June 17	No coverage		
Tuesday, June 16	Portsmouth News	Man's relative told doctor she was murderer	Charles Stewart-Farthing said he had asked Dr Jane Barton to remove a syringe driver – an automatic pump for giving drugs – from 69-year-old Arthur ...
Monday, June 15	BBC South Today	DOCTORS PANEL HEARS FAMILY OF PATIENT AT GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL	The family had asked for drugs to be stopped so that they could hear his final wishes. The GMC

		HOSPITAL	heard that Brian Cunningham had been given diamorphine and was unconscious. Dr. Jane Barton faces a charge of serious medical misconduct in her treatment of twelve patients.
Sunday, June 14	No coverage		
Saturday, June 13	Portsmouth News	GP 'didn't tell me mum was dying'	The doctor at the centre of deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has been accused of telling a woman what would be written on her mother's death certificate before even breaking the news that she was dying.
	Independent	Doctor to face hearing over patient deaths	If found guilty, Jane Barton, who was the senior doctor in charge at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, may be struck off the medical register. ...
Friday, June 11	Portsmouth News	'Nurses can confirm death' – Doctor's note on woman, 84	An elderly woman, described as 'well and comfortable' the day before she was sent to a Gosport hospital, had a note written on her records on arrival saying a doctor was happy for nurses to confirm her death.
Thursday, June 11	Southern Daily Echo	Daughter weeps as court hears of mother's hospital treatment	THE daughter of an elderly patient wept today as she described her mother's treatment by a Hampshire doctor accused of over prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients.
	Portsmouth News	'Doctor told my mum: It won't be long now...'	A daughter claims her mother died hours after being given a cocktail of drugs at the Gosport War Memorial.
	BBC News	Drug case told of woman's decline	Dr Jane Barton is accused of serious professional misconduct in treating 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) in the 1990s. ...
	Daily Mail	'It won't be long now': Chilling words of doctor who 'killed 12 ...	Dr Jane Barton's patient Alice Wilkie, 81, was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Hampshire for rehabilitation but within two weeks she was dead. ...
Wednesday, June 10, 2009	Portsmouth News	Doctor Jane Barton admits drug mistakes	The doctor at the centre of a probe into the deaths of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital has admitted she made mistakes.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - Portsmouth Today	Dr Jane Barton gave patients drugs to 'keep quiet' - An elderly patient of a doctor accused of

			over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives was dosed up with opiates to 'keep quiet', a disciplinary panel heard today.
	Daily Mail	Doctor accused over death of 12 elderly patients who were 'over-sedated and left in comas'	Twelve elderly patients died after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by the same doctor, a disciplinary hearing was told yesterday.
	Press Association	Doctor admits over-prescribing	A doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients has made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing. Dr Jane Barton ...
Tuesday, June 9, 2009	Nursing Times	Hearing to look at fatal over-prescribing of painkillers	Dr Jane Barton faces a General Medical Council hearing over the alleged over-prescription of painkillers after five patients died at the Gosport War ...
	BBC News	Patients in 'drug-induced comas'	Dr Jane Barton is accused of a series of failings in her treatment of 12 patients at Hampshire's Gosport War Memorial Hospital in the late 1990s. ...
	Daily Telegraph	Patients died after doctor prescribed 'potentially hazardous' doses	A former hospital doctor has admitted prescribing "potentially hazardous" doses of painkillers to elderly patients who later died at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
	TeleText Scotland	Doctor faces dosage probe	Dr Jane Barton was in charge of care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital when the patients died in the early 1990s. A General Medical Council panel will look ...
	BBC Radio Solent		
Monday, June 8, 2009	Channel 4 News	Doctor faces hearing on NHS deaths	Now Dr Jane Barton, who was in charge of care at the Hampshire hospital at the time of the deaths in the late 1990s, is to face a General Medical Council ...
	The Guardian	Pressure grows for inquiry into deaths of elderly patients at ...	Jane Barton, who worked with elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial hospital, ... order on Barton, the main doctor in charge of two wards at the hospital, ...
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing ...	Dr Jane Barton to face General Medical Council hearing - The doctor in charge of care at a Hampshire hospital where medication contributed to the death of five patients is to face a fitness to practise hearing today for alleged ...

	Southern Daily Echo	Hampshire doctor admits mistakes over drugs	A HAMPSHIRE doctor accused of over-prescribing painkillers and sedatives to elderly patients made a series of admissions to a disciplinary hearing today.
	Portsmouth News	Dr Jane Barton admits over-prescribing drugs	Elderly patients were left in 'drug-induced comas' after being over-prescribed painkillers and sedatives by a Gosport doctor, a disciplinary panel heard.
	BBC South Today		
	BBC Radio 2		
	Wave 105		

Draft verdict responses

What do you say to the families?

I would like to extend my sympathies to the families for the uncertainty they have experienced over the last ten years concerning their loved ones' deaths. I sincerely hope that these inquests have provided an opportunity for the families to hear more about the care their relative received and that these verdicts have provided answers for all the families regarding the circumstances of their loved ones' deaths.

What's your response to the verdicts?

The local NHS welcomes these verdicts and the insight they provide into the deaths of these ten patients.

Previous police investigations found no evidence of criminal wrongdoing and it is important for everyone involved in the care of these patients that X verdicts indicate that the patients were cared for appropriately/and that the medication used to treat and relieve their symptoms was correct.

It is a matter of regret to the NHS that X verdicts suggest that in the mid/late 1990s the organisations responsible for care at the time did not provide the highest quality care for these patients. (We would like to apologise unreservedly to the families concerned and assure local people that all these issues have been addressed and this was confirmed by CHI in 2000).

These verdicts have highlighted some serious problems with the NHS...what's your response to this?

See above.

Who is to blame/has anyone taken responsibility?

An inquest is not a trial and the purpose of an inquest is not to apportion blame – so it is not appropriate to talk about who's responsible. These inquests were to determine how these ten individuals met their deaths.

Internal investigations and the CHI review concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that any individual should be disciplined. Furthermore three police investigations found that there was no evidence of any criminal wrong-doing. We await the outcome of the GMC investigation and reconsider our position when the outcome of this investigation is known.

We've heard a whole catalogue of problems/errors/poor care at GWMH how do you explain/justify this?

We know from the thorough investigation conducted in 2002 by the then health watchdog, the Commission for Health Improvement, that predecessor organisations did not have adequate policies and procedures in place and this has been further demonstrated by the evidence heard in court.

Hampshire

Primary Care Trust

It is a matter of regret that the organisations responsible for care at the time had not done everything possible to ensure high quality care. However we are confident that the quality of care provided at Gosport War Memorial Hospital today is of the highest standard – the Healthcare Commission has rated the care provided by us as excellent and good in the last year.

The way the NHS monitors patient safety and the quality of care has changed considerably since the early 1990s. Staff are now required to report all incidents and 'near misses' and these are immediately logged and reviewed at the local integrated governance group, if appropriate a detailed action plan is developed and monitored.

We've heard about people being discharged too early from QAH because of bed blocking...is this the case/explain why this happened?

(DN: needs clinical input) There are always pressures on large acute hospitals – that was the case in the late 1990s and it remains the case today. Sometimes this does mean that patients are transferred to other hospitals. However patients should always undergo a clinical assessment of their fitness to travel and receiving hospitals must confirm that they can meet the care needs of the patient. Today all transfers are subject to strict assessments to ensure that patients are only transferred if it is in their best interests to do so.....

Dr Barton says that she was overworked and unsupported and this meant she had to cut corners...why did the NHS put her in this position?

(DN: did CHI review make recommendations about clinical cover?)
(?We believe that everyone involved in the care of patients at GWMH has always put patient care foremost, however)...We know from the CHI review and the verdicts today that in the late 1990s the organisations responsible for care at the time did not have adequate resource and policies in place to provide the highest quality care for patients at GWMH. This is a matter of regret and in 2000 the NHS took steps to provide more cover at GWMH. We are confident that there is more than sufficient clinical cover at GWMH today with X doctors providing cover on the five wards at GWMH.

What are you going to do about Dr Barton now?

The GMC will consider Dr Barton's case in June. Until then she continues to practice although the GMC have imposed some restrictions on her prescribing. Once we know the outcome of the GMC hearing we will take appropriate action.

Why were the families told that their relatives would receive rehabilitation at GWMH when this clearly wasn't the case?

Good communication between doctors, nurses, patients and their relatives is at the heart of good quality care and is a major factor in determining a positive patient experience. One of the enduring challenges in healthcare is establishing the right point of contact and ensuring that they get timely and accurate information which they can disseminate to other family members. The evidence heard over the last few weeks suggests that back in the 1990s this process did not always happen. Today this is what we do.....

The consultants at QAH were meant to supervise Dr Barton...why didn't they do this properly?

Supervision was in lines with procedures at the time. Prescriptions were reviewed by the pharmacist weekly and regularly reviewed by consultants.

Why did the NHS allow Dr Barton to write prescriptions for patients before assessing them properly?

?Was this standard practice at the time and does it happen now?

Why was Dr Barton allowed to prescribe such high doses of diamorphine? Why was diamorphine given for minor medical problems like a broken arm or bed sores?

There are now much tighter governance arrangements in place in relation to the prescribing and administration of medicines than there were in the early 1990s. For example reviews of prescribing practices and all medicines related incidents are reported on the national risk learning database and analysed by the Trust. Action plans developed, where appropriate.

How does the NHS check the care provided by clinical assistants like Dr Barton?

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Medical experts in court and also other experts (Ford report, Baker report etc) have said that the levels of diamorphine contributed to the deaths of these patients...how did the NHS allow this to happen?

It is a matter of regret to the NHS that X verdicts suggest that in the late 1990s the organisations responsible for care at the time did not have adequate resource and policies in place to provide the highest quality care for these patients. (We would like to apologise unreservedly to the families concerned and assure local people that all these issues have been addressed and this was confirmed by CHI in 2000).

We would like to apologise to the families concerned that the NHS at the time did not have adequate policies and procedures in place to ensure that their relatives were cared for appropriately. All issues highlighted by CHI were addressed as early as 2002 and we are confident that care at the Hospital today is of the highest standard.