



Statement in relation to Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquest Verdicts

Director of Performance and Standards for NHS Hampshire, Richard Samuel, said; “The local NHS sympathises with the families for the uncertainty they have felt around the circumstances of their relatives’ death. We 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.

“We welcome these verdicts because they give us is the final piece of the jigsaw - whether the prescribing and practices at the time contributed to the deaths of any individual.

“It is important for everyone involved in the care of these patients that all ten verdicts indicate that the patients were cared for appropriately/and that the medication used to treat and relieve their symptoms was correct.

“We are confident that staff were acting in the best interests of their patients at all times. We have fully supported the Coroner’s inquests as an opportunity to review the events of the late 1990s. However, our staff and their families have now been subject to a total of five thorough investigations - none of which found any evidence of intent or criminal wrong-doing. We hope for their sake that these matters can now finally be closed.

“The care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in the mid/late 1990s has been the subject of many investigations in the last ten years. This included a thorough independent investigation in 2002 by the then healthcare watchdog - the Commission for Health Improvement. The inquests have confirmed the findings of this review – and that means we can be confident that challenges highlighted by the Inquests have already been addressed.

“Patient safety and quality of care is at the very heart of everything we do at NHS Hampshire and we are confident that the quality of care provided at Gosport War Memorial Hospital is of the highest standard.”

Ends.... For further information contact: 023 8062 7434



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Director of Performance and Standards for NHS Hampshire, Richard Samuel, said;
“We have fully supported the Coroner’s inquests as a valuable opportunity to review the events of the late 1990s and we sympathise with the families for the uncertainty they have felt around the circumstances of their relatives’ death.

“It is important for everyone involved in the care of these patients that verdicts indicate that the patients were cared for appropriately/and that the medication used to treat and relieve their symptoms was correct.

“However it is a matter of regret to the NHS that verdicts indicate that in the mid/late 1990s the treatment or care of these patients has been found to have contributed to their deaths.

“NHS Hampshire will now be contacting these families but I would also like to take this opportunity to apologise to the families concerned on behalf of the NHS for any treatment or care which has been found to have contributed to the deaths of their loved ones.

“Since the late 1990s the systems and policies in place at Gosport War Memorial Hospital have undergone a complete overhaul. I can assure the families and local people that all the issues highlighted by these inquests have been addressed and the care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital today is of the highest standard.”

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“We have fully supported the Coroner’s inquests as a valuable opportunity to review the events of the late 1990s and we sympathise with the families for the uncertainty they have felt around the circumstances of their relatives’ death.

“It is a matter of regret to the NHS that these ten verdicts indicate that in the mid/late 1990s the treatment or care given to these ten patients has been found to have contributed to their deaths.

“NHS Hampshire will be now be contacting the families of the ten patients, but I would also like to take this opportunity to apologise to the families concerned on behalf of the NHS for any treatment or care which has been found to have contributed to the deaths of their loved ones.

“Since the late 1990s the systems and policies in place at Gosport War Memorial Hospital have undergone a complete overhaul. I can assure the families and local people that all the issues highlighted by these inquests have been addressed and the care at Gosport War Memorial Hospital today is of the highest standard.”

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