

Portsmouth HealthCare NHS Trust  
**MEMORANDUM**APP.A.14.12.23.  
13/12 E71

From

**Code A**

To

Dr. A. Lord

LH/YJM

17th December, 1998

**Mrs. Richards deceased, Gosport War Memorial Hospital, 21st August, 1998**

Since our telephone conversation earlier this week, both of Mrs. Richards' daughters (Mrs. Lack and Mrs. McKenzie) have confirmed they are happy for us to release details of her care to the police.

I have not seen Mrs. Richards' notes yet; I understand they are on Dryad Ward.

On reflection, I think the best way forward would be for you, as consultant in charge, to prepare a statement explaining the decision made with regard to Mrs. Richards' care following transfer back from Haslar on 17th August, 1998 - in particular: the use of syringe driver analgesia, the decision not to start intravenous fluids, and what was explained/agreed with Mrs. Lack and Mrs. McKenzie. You will probably want to preface this with a summary of what went before.

Once I have received your statement (and the patient records, please) I will ask our solicitors to comment on the content.

Once we are all comfortable with the statement I will arrange for it to be forwarded to the police, with a covering letter from **Code A**

Please let me know if I can be of any help in preparing the statement or offer support in any way. I do appreciate how stressful these situations are - all we can do is give an honest and straightforward explanation of what happened.

Thank you for your help.

**Code A**

Copy to:

**Code A**