 **Code A**
19/06/2001 13:52

Sent by: **Code A**


To: **Code A**

Subject: SUSPICIOUS DEATHS AT gOSPORT WAR mEMORIAL HOSPITAL

I understand that you contacted **Code A** yesterday to discuss the above. I have checked with RO colleagues and there is nothing further to add at this stage to **Code A** e-mail of 6 June. The matter is currently being investigated by the police and we await the outcome. We will of course brief the minute we know anything more.

Please ring me if you wish to discuss further.

Forwarded by: **Code A** on 19/06/2001 13:47


 **Code A**
19/06/2001 12:36

Sent by: **Code A**

To:
cc:

Subject: SUSPICIOUS DEATHS AT gOSPORT WAR mEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Forwarded by: **Code A** on 19/06/2001 12:35

 **Code A**
07/06/2001 14:16


Sent by: **Code A**

To:
cc:

Subject: SUSPICIOUS DEATHS AT gOSPORT WAR mEMORIAL HOSPITAL

See below. It looks like the police are looking at the possibility of more than one death. Do we need to do anything other than wait?

Forwarded by: **Code A** on 07/06/2001 14:09

 **Code A**
06/06/2001 16:36

Sent by: **Code A**

To:
cc:

Code A

Subject: SUSPICIOUS DEATHS AT gOSPORT WAR mEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Code A

SERO briefing unit sent a note to Code A on 5 April about stories in The Portsmouth News highlighting a police investigation into the death of a patient at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in 1998.

Since then GMC officials have alerted us that the police have been in touch with both the GMC about the patient's GP (Dr Jane Barton) and the UKCC (because of the possible implication of other members of the clinical team. The police have sent the papers to the DPP. Dr Barton has NOT been charged with any offence. Code A advises that Dr Barton is chair of the Gosport PCG. She is not working at the hospital any longer.

The UKCC have shared with us that the police are also investigating allegations by a health care assistant about a culture of euthenasia at the hospital over long period; claims that "troublesome" patients were given overdoses of diamorphine: and that the practice was used to free up beds. An expert (medical professor) brought in by the police to scrutinise records did not find any proof positive, but apparently commented that all the strands add up to the possibility of serious wrongdoing. We understand that two police officers are the subject of disciplinary action for failing to act properly when the allegations were first made.

It is clear from discussions with GMC and UKCC officials who are in touch with the police investigation team (I understand that a DCI and a Det Sergeant are working full time on the case) that they have found what the police have been able to share with them very worrying.

The police are concerned that the regulatory bodies do nothing which could impede or imperil the investigation, or indeed alarm Dr Barton and other staff who may be implicated. The allegations may be proved false or unsubstantiated. The GMC and UKCC are in close contact with the police who have also made contact with SERO. We shall know quickly if the case begins to take on a harder edge.

This may turn out to be something or nothing, and for the time being we should wait for the emerging findings of the police investigation. But there is an uncomfortable resonance about the investigation, and I would rather that Ministers are aware of the case than find out only if it turns out that there has been serious wrongdoing.

Code A

Mike Gill
22/05/2001 11:23 AM

Sent by: Mike Gill/ Code A

To: Code A

cc:

Subject: Re:Suspicious deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Dr Jane Barton.

I'm not sure how COMMS can claim to have been out of the loop in the first place

----- Forwarded by: Code A on 22/05/2001 11:21 -----

Code A 22/05/2001 10:06

Sent by: Code A /COMMS

To: Mike Gill/ Code A

cc:

Subject: Re:Suspicious deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Dr Jane Barton.

Mike

Grateful if Code A and I could be put on the copy list for future updates on this.

Many thanks

Code A
----- Forwarded by: Code A on 22/05/2001 10:01 -----

Code A 22/05/2001 08:43

Sent by: Code A PR-OFF

To: Code A

cc:

Subject: Suspicious deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Dr Jane Barton.

Code A

As discussed yesterday.

thanks

Code A
----- Forwarded by: Code A on 22/05/2001 08:40 -----

Mike Gill
22/05/2001 08:34

Sent by: Mike Gill, Code A

To: Code A
cc:

Subject: Suspicious deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Dr Jane Barton.

The attached is a good summary of the present position. Please let me know if CMO requires anything else on this.

Forwarded by: Code A on 22/05/2001 08:33



Code A
21/05/2001 17:21

Sent by:
To:
cc: Code A

Subject: Suspicious deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Dr Jane Barton.



RESTRICTED - Medical

Attached, for information is a briefing on this incident which was sent to Code A

APS,PS(H) on April 5th. The situation has not changed since then.

It should be noted that Hampshire Police are investigating one death only. We understand that the papers are with the CPS, but no charges have been made at this point. It is not clear when the DPP will make a decision on this.

The GMC are co-operating with the police, but are awaiting information from the police before being in a position to decide whether immediate action in relation to Dr Barton is needed or not.

It is not known how the suggestion in newspapers that the police were investigating a large number of cases arose, but it is not correct.

If I become aware of any further developments I will ensure you are informed.



SUI suspicious deaths 5 Apr 20