

Medical history

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Our Ref: 558203/000001/JCW/RICHARD/HP

Your Ref:

Dear Professor Ford

Re: Gladys Richards (deceased)

We represent Mrs Gillian Mackenzie concerning her late mother, Mrs Gladys Richards (deceased). She is one of the patients treated under the care of Dr Jane Barton at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Events at the hospital have been subject to various enquiries, including by the Commission for Health Care Improvement in 2002, an Inquest by HM Deputy Coroner for East Hampshire in March 2009, General Medical Council proceedings against Dr Barton in 2010 and there has been a Police investigation, Operation Rochester.

Our reason for writing is that HM Coroner for Portsmouth is due to hear an Inquest into the circumstances of the death of the late Mrs Richards. It is likely that this hearing will take place before the summer break.

So far the Coroner proposes to call his own expert, Professor Black. Unfortunately we disagree with Professor Black's conclusions in his report for the Coroner. Therefore we are considering whether we need to obtain our own independent expert medical evidence for the hearing.

Please can you write to or contact Mr John White at our offices. We would be interested to know if in principle you would be prepared to accept our instructions to give evidence in respect of causation in the case. This may necessitate attending for one day at the Inquest hearing due to take place in Portsmouth.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

John White

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