

## Probe at 13 death hospital

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A SPECIAL inquiry into the deaths of 13 elderly patients at a cottage hospital has been ordered by Britain's chief medical officer .

Sir Liam Donaldson has called in Prof Richard Baker who investigated killer GP Harold Shipman.

He will quiz staff and look at medical reports of the 13 patients who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, Hants, between 1997 and 2000.

Police and health watchdog the Commission for Health Improvement have already looked at the deaths and found nothing of serious concern.

Gillian Mackenzie, of Eastbourne, sparked off the original inquiry after her mother Gladys Richards, 91, died after a hip operation in 1998.

She said: "It is a step forward. It means that the Department of Health is taking it seriously."

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