

Expert Review

Geoffery Packman

No. BJC/34

Date of Birth: Code A

Date of Death: 3 September 1999

Mr Packman was admitted to Gosport War Memorial Hospital in July 1999 following the development on an irritating rash on his side and groin.

It appears from the medical notes that he had an episode of black stools prior to being discharged from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust.

Following admission to Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 23 August 1999 Mr Packman was noted as remaining very poorly with no appetite. It was noted in Mr Packman's nursing records that he was passing fresh blood per rectum on 25 August 1999.

On 26 August 1999 he complained of feeling unwell with indigestion pain in his throat together with nausea and vomiting.

At this point he was commenced on opiate medication. No active measures were taken to resuscitate Mr Packman and, following rapidly increasing doses of Diamorphine, he died on 3 September 1999.

There is a variation in the view taken of this case by the experts reviewing the Notes. Concern is expressed by Dr Lawson that the although the death was natural, the gastrointestinal bleed was potentially treatable. This contrasts with Dr Naysmith's view who notes the multiple pathology existing in Mr Packman and the fact that his morbid obesity would have made him unfit for surgery.