

Ms Nadia Persaud
Senior Coroner for the Eastern District
of Greater London,
Walthamstow Coroners Court,
Queens Road,
Walthamstow,
London E178QP

Executive Offices
Queen's Hospital

Rom Valley Way, Romford, Essex RM7 0AG

Tel: 01708 435 444
www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk
 @BHR_hospitals

18th January 2016



Dear Nadia,


Thank you for your letter dated 8th December 2015 with regards to some outstanding concerns that you have raised in relation to the inquest of Mary Catherine Bloom that resulted in a Regulation 28 being served to the Trust in November 2015.

In your letter you acknowledge receipt of three new policies that have been put in place by the Trust following the inquest and the new chart that has been introduced for the administration of unfractionated heparin. You have however raised further concerns with regards to the new Trust guidelines that have removed the requirement for a haematologist to be consulted where a patient is at the extremes of weight. The reasoning for this decision is as follows.

The Trust's new policy is for a weight based bolus and then a weight based infusion the latter within weight ranges. Even with a patient of 25kg the infusion would be at 20iu/kg/hr which is a very reasonable infusion rate and in line with recognised dosage rates even at this weight. The APPTTR must be checked at 6hours and this allows the dose to be adjusted within recognised time intervals. We therefore feel that the safeguards are in place as we have moved to an entirely weight based formulation. As an extra safeguard the guideline, following the concerns you raised, now also states that if the APPTTR at 6hrs is outside the expected range then the Consultant Haematologist should be contacted for further advice in those patients at the extreme ends of the weight ranges i.e. <41kg and >90kg.

I hope that this provides you with the assurance that you require and that I can look forward to hearing from you to confirm that this regulation 28 has now been closed.

Yours sincerely,


Matthew Hopkins
Chief Executive

