



30th December 2025

Private and Confidential

Grant Davies
Area Coroner for Wiltshire and Swindon



Dear Mr Davies

Re: Coroner's Regulation 28 Report – Anna Marie Burns, 

We write in response to the Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Deaths Report received by the Trust on the 19th November 2025. The report raised concerns about the circumstances which led to the tragic death of Anna Marie Burns. I would like to express my deepest condolences to Anna's family and acknowledge the distress caused.

Thank you for the clarity and detail of your report. We recognise the seriousness of the concerns you have raised and are committed to addressing them with care and careful consideration.

The report asked the Trust to respond to the consideration that notification to relevant parties other than the GP be undertaken in cases where an admission due to an overdose had occurred. The report noted that the Trust had no duty of care to provide a copy of the discharge summary to the community prescriber (CGL – Swindon) and that this omission was neither causative nor contributory to the death of the patient.

Nevertheless, the report asked that the Trust '*consider that notification to relevant parties (especially methadone prescribing authorities) regarding hospital admissions for drug overdoses takes place in the same manner as GPs highlighting the nature of the admission (i.e. overdose).*'

Actions taken

An assessment of all options available to the Trust to improve communication with community prescribing agencies by the Deputy Chief Medical Officer. Considerations included sharing of confidential patient information in a secure manner.

The Trust wide guideline on 'Opioid Substitution Therapy' was ratified on the 4th September 2025. This guidance governs practice around in-patients admitted on or commenced on Opioid Substitution Therapy. Key points are:

1. Mandating referral to CGL (if in area) or relevant out of area provider and community pharmacy on commencing OST as an in-patient.
2. Mandating contact with CGL or appropriate provider on prescription of OST for patients admitted who are on an existing program.

An automated pop-up message directing prescribers of OST/antidotes (e.g. naloxone, flumazenil) has been generated on EPMA (electronic prescribing platform). This will prompt the prescriber to be aware of the Opioid Substitution Therapy policy and allow referral/information sharing with community prescribers and community pharmacy.

The learning has been shared anonymously across the Trust in governance and professional forums. The Trust is committed to ensuring that the lessons from this case contribute to meaningful and lasting improvements in our services.

Once again, I wish to extend my sincerest condolences to Anna's family and provide some assurance that we are committed to learning from this sad experience.

Yours sincerely,



Managing Director

Copy to: Chief Coroner, Care Quality Commission