

1868/15

# Neasham Road Surgery

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13<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Your Ref: CAO/AB/1868/15

Crispin A Oliver M.A  
H M Assistant Coroner for Co Durham & Darlington  
HM Coroners Office  
PO Box 282  
BISHOP AUCKLAND  
DL14 4FY

20 APR 2016

Dear Sir

**Re: Elsie Raper Deceased**

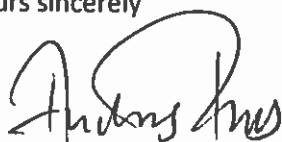
Following the recent conclusion of the inquest into the death of Mrs Elsie Raper, we have received the regulation report to prevent further deaths.

The inquest highlighted the delay of the diagnosis of fractures sustained. The review in our clinical meetings of 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016, discussed this fact and outlined the following action points:

1. A fall in an elderly frail person should prompt investigations. A minor trauma may result in a fracture. A prompt referral via an ambulance for assessment (specifically an x-ray) should be initiated without delay.
2. The care plan needs to include any factors to prompt and support this action like history of dementia or osteoporosis.
3. Regular review of contributing risks of falls needs to be assessed and reviewed regularly to implement the right staffing/supervision level and safety equipment (eg Zimmer frames, walking aids, supporting staff, wheelchairs etc) as well as medication reviews which may affect the level of alertness and mobility.

We have discussed the issues with the staff at Grosvenor Park Care Home and trust that we can reduce the risk through the measures taken above.

Yours sincerely



DR ANDREAS RUSS

GP

On behalf of the Partners of Neasham Road Surgery