


Dr Richard Jennings
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Private and Confidential

HM Coroner Mary Hassell
HM Coroner's Office
Sent via email only c/o 

5th May 2017

Our References: StEIS SI 2016.25397, Datix A40286, Whittington Hospital Number 893821



Dear Ms Hassell

Re: Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Deaths (PFD)

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Deaths (PFD) report in relation of Doreen Elma Stapleton sent to Mr Simon Pleydell, our CEO, on 24th February 2017. I am replying on his behalf.

You originally asked us to reply by 24th April but your office kindly agreed to an extension until today.

The actions we have taken in relation to your letter are as follows:

- 1)  and I, as Director of Nursing and Patient Experience and Executive Medical Director respectively, will write to our doctors and senior nurses and pharmacists to highlight what we think are the key learning points that arise out of your concerns, so that they can consider how to embed these in their clinical practice from now on.
- 2) I have raised the issues that you highlight in your letter at our Medical Committee on 16th March 2017 – this is a monthly meeting of the trust's consultants and management in which there are regular discussion around safety and learning, and there was good discussion in this meeting about how consultants might take this learning back to their teams.
- 3) On the specific issue of helping patients to understand the significance of pulmonary emboli, we have reintroduced patient leaflets about pulmonary emboli on all of our inpatient wards, and a spot audit to ensure that these are in place will take place next week and again in one month's time
- 4) I have asked our Associate Medical Director for Patient Safety, , to raise this issue on the Patient Safety Forum - this is a forum that is explicitly focussed on safety and learning and is multidisciplinary, including pharmacists and professions allied to medicine, as well as doctors and nurses.



- 5) I have asked our Chief Pharmacist to share this learning with all pharmacists on our inpatient wards so that they can make an important contribution to ensuring that patients understand the significance of their medication on discharge.

I have attached a copy of the letter that we are sending to our doctors and nurses and pharmacists, and I have also attached a copy of the letter that [REDACTED] wrote to [REDACTED] at the CQC on 17th March. We are copying this letter to [REDACTED] also. Please let me know if you feel that there is anything else that we should do to make changes to embed the very important learning from this sad case.

Yours Sincerely



Dr Richard Jennings
Executive Medical Director

Enc.

1. Letter from [REDACTED] and Richard Jennings to be sent to trust doctors, nurses and pharmacists
2. Letter from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED], Hospital Inspection Manager London, CQC dated and sent 17th March 2017

Cc:

- [REDACTED], Associate Medical Director for Patient Safety, Whittington Health
- [REDACTED], Director of Nursing and Patient Experience, Whittington Health
- [REDACTED] Chief Operating Officer, Whittington Health
- [REDACTED] Hospital Inspection Manager London, CQC
- [REDACTED] Legal Services Manager, Whittington Health
- Simon Pleydell, Chief Executive Officer, Whittington Health
- [REDACTED] Deputy Director of Strategy and Clinical Director for Clinical Support Services, Whittington Health



Established as The Whittington Hospital NHS Trust

Chairman: Mr Steve Hitchins

Chief Executive: Mr Simon Pleydell