



**CORONER'S OFFICE
AREA OF HERTFORDSHIRE**

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	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO: [REDACTED], Head of Community Safety Directorate, Hertfordshire Trading Standards, Welwyn Garden City [REDACTED], Red Officer, The National Food Crime Unit, Food Standards Agency, London</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Geoffrey Sullivan Senior Coroner for Hertfordshire</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013. http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/25/schedule/5/paragraph/7 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1629/part/7/made</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On the 1st March 2016 I commenced an investigation into the death of Linda Jean BARANOWSKI. On the 13th March 2017 I opened the Inquest. The conclusion of the inquest was on the 21st June 2017.</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>On the 24th January 2016 Linda Baranowski was admitted to Princess Alexandra Hospital with a history of abdominal pain and collapse. She had a mottled discoloration of the skin and was in multi-organ failure. Despite treatment her skin lesions worsened and began to cover most of her body. Linda Baranowski was transferred to Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital on the 29th January 2016 and then to the burns unit at Chelmsford Hospital on the 5th February 2016. She continued to be treated at Chelmsford Hospital until her death on the 25th February 2016.</p> <p>Cause of Death: 1a. Thrombotic Purpura Fulminans with Adult Respiratory Syndrome and Renal Failure 1b. Multifactorial Adverse Reaction to Compounds Ingested or Applied in the Period Leading up to Death</p> <p>Narrative Conclusion: It is likely that Linda Baranowski died as a result of an inflammatory response to the dietary supplements she was using in the period leading up to her death. These supplements were in the form of tablets, tea and body cream. It is not clear if the inflammatory response was to one of these supplements or to a combination of them.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p>

	<p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <p>The medical opinion at the inquest was that Linda Baranowski died as a result of ingesting or applying one, or a combination, of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T5 diet strongest fat burner legal 30 capsules slimming weight loss pills detox • Slimming Chinese Green Tea weight loss detox burn fat herbal 30 bags • Hot Anti-Cellulite Balo slimming cream gel, chill 85ml helps burn fast • Himalayan Premium Green Tea pyramid bags <p>Whilst I acknowledge that the precise effect of these supplements is not known, the role of the hot slimming cream in particular was highlighted by the consultant at the Specialist Burns Centre as being likely to have contributed to the fatal inflammatory response. It is my understanding that these products, and many products of a similar nature, are still on sale and widely available.</p>
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6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you have the power to take such action.</p>
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by the 17th August 2017. I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>
8	<p>COPIES and PUBLICATION</p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the next of kin, [REDACTED]. The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response by the Chief Coroner.</p>
9	<p>Signature _____ Geoffrey Sullivan Senior Coroner Hertfordshire</p> <p>22/06/2017</p>

