

23rd January 2018

Addressee Only: Private

Dr Emma Carlyon

Sent via email
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South, South West
Medical Directorate
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Dear Dr Carlyon,

Reference Regulation 28 Report following the inquest of Pauline Pryor

1. Patients with serious mental health issues are usually cared for by a number of agencies and they may lack capacity or it may be intermittent, it is vital communication is effective.

Statutory agencies such as the mental health services and GP surgeries have long standing means of communications when formally referred and treated. However, this case has raised the need to ensure the occasional interval communication is treated as formally. In addition when patients are cared for in a residential or nursing home setting then it is equally important that any verbal message is followed up by written instructions if possible.

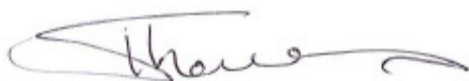
NHSE will raise this concern in our GP bulletin and also provide information to the LMC for distribution.

2. Lithium monitoring. Thank you for pointing out that the QOF framework which is designed to reward GPs for quality, is not the mirror of lithium monitoring guidelines. We will ensure that this is highlighted to GPs and practices and a reminder that up to date guidance is available from the latest BNF, and also local CCG prescribing guidelines.

I have attached for your information the proposed communications.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely



Dr E Thomas
Deputy Medical Director
NHS England South, South West