




Robert Turnbull
Senior Coroner for Western Area of North Yorkshire

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A. J. Way and CO. LTD.2. CEO National Trading Standards3. Yorkshire Care Equipment4. [REDACTED]5. The Chief Coroner
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Robert Turnbull, Senior Coroner for Western Area of North Yorkshire</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 28/12/2016 I commenced an investigation into the death of Joseph Francis De Pellegrino - Farrugia, 92 . The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 14 June 2017. The conclusion of the inquest was Joseph Francis De Pellegrino-Farrugia died as a result of an accident. On 13th November, 2016, Joseph Francis De Pellegrino-Farrugia suffered a crush injury to his left foot which became trapped in his chair. He was taken to hospital and operated on but thereafter suffered ongoing ulceration and necrosis. He was discharged home but died at 06:55 hours, 20th December, 2016. The injury sustained contributed to the death. Acute Bronchopneumonia Dementia Ulcerated and necrotic great left toe; crush injury of left great toe; (operated 14/11/2016) coronary and hypertensive heart disease.</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Joseph Francis De Pellegrino-Farrugia was a 92 year old gentleman with a complex medical history which included dementia. He was very frail and was cared for at home by his wife and professional carers.2. He spent most of his time in an electric reclining chair and on occasions was transferred from that chair to a commode by his carers.3. On 14th November, 2016, he was being transferred onto the commode which was placed opposite his chair. Somehow his foot became caught in the mechanism of the footrest of the chair as it was being reclined.4. It was not possible to free his foot. The Fire Brigade attended and cut him free after two hours. He had sustained crush injuries to his foot which was operated on the same day but he was left with an ulcerated and necrotic great left toe.5. Joseph died at home on 20th December, 2016. The immediate cause of death was acute bronchopneumonia caused by his dementia. However, evidence was heard that the injury to his foot had made a small but not minimal contribution to his death and the conclusion was that had he not been injured then his health might have been maintained for longer.

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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence was heard to the effect that the chair was not fitted with sensors which would have detected the presence of the foot in the mechanism to prevent the crushing injury and to release the foot.
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 28 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 following Interested Persons</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A. J. Way and CO. LTD. 2. CEO National Trading Standards 3. Yorkshire Care Equipment 4. [REDACTED] <p>I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.</p> <p>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>Dated 03 July 2017</p> <p>Signature <u></u> Senior Coroner for Western Area of North Yorkshire</p>