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Ref: 7842/CH

HM Coroner South Coroner's Court 1 Mount Tabor Street Stockport SK1 3AG

Dear Ms Mutch,

19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

## Re Peter Stojiljkovic

Thank you for your letter of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018. I would firstly like to pass on my condolences to the family. We very much regret any suicide and welcome a review of such situations. You have set out a range of recommendations, and I have commented specifically on those that relate directly to the CCG.

- We accept that from the information in the letter that there has been a breakdown in communication with the patient. You have written to the practice and we assume they will respond to that issue. However, our Medical Director will review the case with the practice to identify any further learning.
- 2. Melatonin is on both the CCG and the GM restricted lists currently, and CCGs across Greater Manchester aim to have consistent lists as far as possible. Although worded differently the interpretation would be the same in this case. We have not tracked the position of the GM list at the time of the incident, and accept that they may not have been consistent at that time. I acknowledge your point about the difficulties that practices face in navigating through the various different lists, for this reason, as long as a practice works with one of the lists, we would support them in their decision.
- 3. The practice followed what we would expect to be the usual process:
  - They identified that it was not a drug the practice would usually be expected to prescribe
  - They were prepared to prescribe the first prescription
  - They applied to the CCG for a review of the case via the CCG's process. The case is on file at the CCG.

A decision would then have been made as to the clinical reason for the prescription, and if it was appropriate for a GP or secondary care consultant to take the responsibility for

- its prescription. The panel however never reviewed this case as the request was withdrawn. From the dates it would appear that this was following his suicide.
- 4. We would not expect anybody to be told that they should access medication via the internet and we will discuss this with Pennine Care, and identify any further action that needs to be taken in respect of this finding. However, as you have written to Pennine Care I assume that they will respond to you directly on this issue. In addition, we will raise the issue of how the provision of medication at discharge was handled by Pennine Care, and again identify any improvements that they need to make.

I hope that this confirms the CCGs actions in relation to this tragic case. However, if you have any queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

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Dr R Gill

Chief Clinical Officer