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██████████ – Sessional GP  
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Coroner ME Hassell – Senior Coroner  
Inner North London – St Pancras Corner's Court  
Camley Street  
London N1C 4PP

Date: 26/09/2018

**Subject: Flora Marion BABER (died 22.02.18)**

**Specifically Adelaide Medical Centre's response to the recording of on GP notes a patient's sensitivity to Opioids.**

Dear ME Hassell

The main finding for the practice was that whilst an entry by ██████████ in the patient notes highlighting that the patient could become confused/nauseous when taking opiates, no formal evidence of an allergy was recorded, only sensitivity was noted. In addition we needed to consider how this might have been better recorded in the notes, given that future use of an opioid may be in the patient's best interest, as it was in the case for this patient.

In summary, our findings were that there is a way that sensitivities to opioid drugs could be recorded in the notes, however, this would be on a case by case basis. There would remain a need for clinical judgement and only apply where the sensitivity was significant.

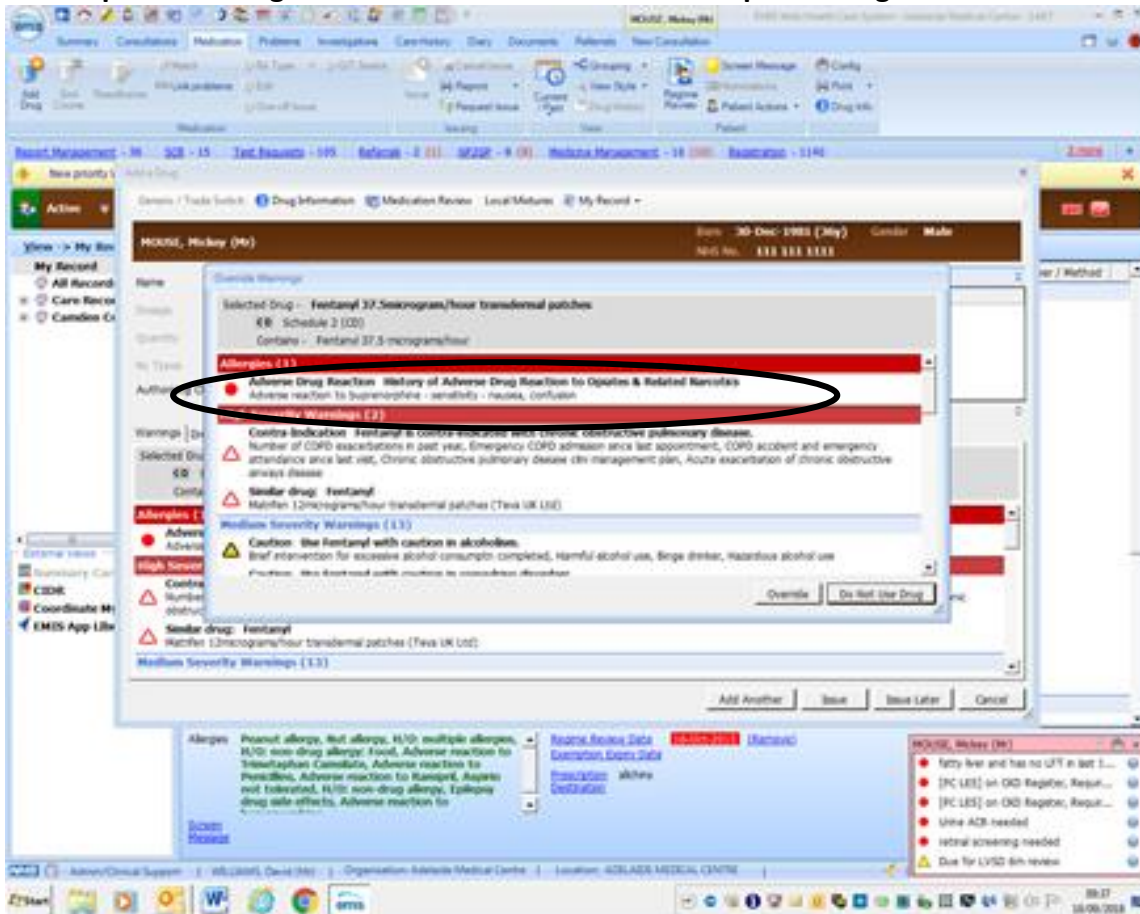
The reminder of the letter outlines the actions and meetings we held.

**Actions:**

- 18/09/2019: Meeting ██████████, ██████████ (Managing partner) and ██████████ (Practice Manager); to discuss how the sensitivity to opioids could have been coded appropriately in the GP notes
- 18/09/2019: Meeting ██████████ (Royal Free Geriatrician), ██████████ Compton Lodge Dept Care Home Manager; To share Adelaide's learning and see how this may support recording at the Royal Free and Compton Lodge.
- 25/09/2019: Internal Significant Event at the Adelaide where details shared with all clinicians at the Adelaide.



Screen print showing alert that would then show when prescribing:



Detail 18/09/2019: Meeting [REDACTED] (Royal Free Geriatrician), [REDACTED] Compton Lodge Dept Care Home


- Royal Free Hospital had already conducted their review of the Coroner’s report.
- [REDACTED] gave an overview the Royal Free meeting.
- There was agreement with the Surgery that care is needed in recording sensitivity vs allergy where there was a potential downside of not using an opioid if needed in the future
- RFH felt it was not possible to consider a more systematic alerting of sensitivities/allergies between RFH to GP practice until the new IT system (planned for ~12mths) is implemented. Therefore, no process change to be considered at this time.

25/09/2019: Internal Significant Event at the Adelaide where details shared with all clinicians at the Adelaide.

- The details of the case were shared with the clinical team at the practice.
- Specifically discussed was the recording sensitivity to opioids as a problem with appropriate explanation that would allow an Alert to be automatically triggered whenever an opioid was prescribed.

If we can support your investigation in any further way, do let the practice know.

Kind regards

  
(Practice Manager)

  
Managing Partner

  
Patient's Doctor