

16 March 2020

Alison Mutch
HM Senior Coroner
Coroner's Court
1 Mount Tabor Street
Stockport SK1 3AG

Your ref: 13303/RD
Our ref: EH-305535



Dear Ms Mutch,

I write in response to your correspondence, dated 25 February 2020, regarding the death of Beryl Holland. I was very sorry to read of Ms Holland's death.

We have reflected on the circumstances surrounding Ms Holland's death, and the concerns raised in your report, relating to guidance on the managing and reducing the risks of pressure ulcers developing in an emergency department setting.

The NICE guideline on the prevention and management of pressure sores (CG179) specifically provides advice to clinicians regarding patients receiving care in emergency department settings.

Recommendations 1.1.2 and 1.2.1 contain advice to clinicians on risk assessment for patients receiving care in emergency departments if they have a risk factor, such as:

- significantly limited mobility (for example, people with a spinal cord injury)
- significant loss of sensation
- a previous or current pressure ulcer
- nutritional deficiency
- the inability to reposition themselves
- significant cognitive impairment.

We therefore consider that NICE has produced relevant guidance and that no further action is required from us at this time in response to your report.

We have initiated a multi-year programme of work called NICE Connect to review all elements of the way we produce and present our guidance and advice. The aim of this quality improvement project is to transform the way NICE produces and presents information to users, to ensure it can be found on our website more quickly and easily and is as clear and accessible as possible. We will be working and consulting with stakeholders throughout this long-term project. Further details of this work can be found on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Andrew Dillon
Chief Executive