

6 March 2023

Samantha Marsh
Senior Coroner
Coroner's Office
Old Municipal Building
Corporation Street
Taunton
TA1 4AQ

Dear Ms Marsh,

I write in response to your regulation 28 report of 30 August 2022 regarding the very sad death of Mr Glenn Barton. I would like to express my sincere condolences to Mr Barton's family.

We have reflected on the circumstances surrounding Mr Barton's death, and the concerns raised in your report.

We are currently finalising an [update](#) of our guideline on head injury [CG176]. As part of this, we did update our review of the risks of serious outcomes in people with head injuries and a history of coagulopathies. The guideline committee did not find convincing evidence that this should be an indication for a head CT in the absence of other signs and symptoms, with the exception of someone taking oral anticoagulants or antiplatelets, so have not added this to recommendation 1.4.12.

A history of bleeding or clotting disorders remains in recommendation 1.4.8 as a risk marker in people who have some loss of consciousness or amnesia.

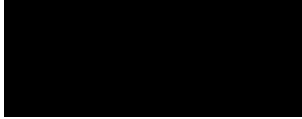
Recommendations 1.3.1 to 1.3.12 describe assessment in the emergency department. 1.3.3 and 1.3.6 explain what factors should be checked for, and points to all the factors described elsewhere, including in 1.4.8. It is therefore clear in the guideline that checking for "any history of bleeding or clotting disorders" is part of the assessment of people with a head injury.

As we develop guidance, we identify gaps and uncertainties in the evidence base which could benefit from further research. The most important unanswered questions are developed into research recommendations. The committee has made a research

recommendation on the risks associated with a history of bleeding or clotting disorders, and NICE will keep this area under review to check for the need for further updates.

Please do let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

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Chief executive