



Date: 17 September 2024

Dear Ms Kearsley,

Re: Charlene Roberts (Regulation 28: Report to Prevent Future Deaths) .

Thank you for sending this Regulation 28 Report to the Royal College of Psychiatrists, which we received via the Chair of our Eating Disorder Faculty, [REDACTED].

On behalf of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, I am most grateful for the opportunity to comment upon this report. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Charlene Roberts' family and loved ones.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) is the professional medical body responsible for supporting psychiatrists. The College sets standards and promotes excellence in psychiatry; leads, represents and supports psychiatrists; improves the scientific understanding of mental illness; works with and advocates for patients, carers and their organisations.

The College does not work on the care of individuals, and I am not able to comment on the specific circumstances surrounding the case of the death of Charlene Roberts.

However, I have considered your findings, and have the following comments to make in relation to the issue that you raise.

As you acknowledge in your Report the relevance of cyclizine addiction is not well known and that includes in relation to people with co-existing eating disorders. The study from 2009 that you helpfully reference does point to there being need to explore this possible link, we haven't been able to locate anything which indicates further research has been specifically undertaken in this area.

However small the potential risk, in response to your Report we are always looking at ways that we can improve the quality, standards and the safety of care within mental health services.

Therefore, will be using mechanisms to communicate this potential risk to our members, such as through our College Newsletters, Faculty specific communications and any other opportunity where we can make this issue more widely known.

We will also, where possible, raise it with mental health organisations themselves as well as those who have responsibility and oversight for the mental health system and who will have routes by which this information can be disseminated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance and many thanks again for bringing this issue to our attention.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Senior Policy and Standards Manager
Royal College of Psychiatrists