

FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

of the Royal College of Physicians of London



E-mail

Website www.fflm.ac.uk

Registered Charity No 1119599

05 March 2024

Strictly Private and Confidential

For the attention of
Mr Peter Nieto,
HM Senior Coroner for Derby and Derbyshire
The Coroner's Court,
Town Hall, Rose Hill,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire, S40 1LP

Dear Mr Nieto

Re: Copy of Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Death Report following the conclusion of the Inquest into the death of Mr Mark Pryor.

On behalf of the Faculty, I wanted to thank you very much, for sending a copy of this report to me. We particularly noted your comprehensive and insightful comments on the 2 days' training which the HCPs' employing organisation had provided.

The FFLM is a charity set up to develop and maintain the highest possible standards of competence and professional integrity in forensic and legal medicine. The specialty covers professionals working in the following disciplines: forensic medical practitioners (forensic physicians, forensic pathologists, forensic psychiatrists, forensic odontologists); medico-legal and dento-legal advisers; clinicians working in secure and detained settings and medically qualified coroners. Our membership includes a number of different healthcare professionals in forensic roles: doctors, nurses, midwives and paramedics.

Although we describe a specialty above, at present, forensic and legal medicine is not recognised as a specialty in the UK, as, for example, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Surgery are. We are working hard to achieve specialist recognition.

The FFLM has been recognised by the Home Office as being responsible for the standards to be expected from all healthcare professionals involved in custody healthcare and forensic examination; (see *Hansard*, March 18th 2009, Column 1164W [Forensic Science - Hansard - UK Parliament](#)).

Our aims are: *Raising standards in forensic and legal medicine; protecting vulnerable people.*

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As a result, we have developed and published recommendations and guidance to support education and supervised training in Forensic Medicine, including for the police custodial setting, which can be found on our website, and I highlight, below:

- [FFLM Quality Standards in Forensic Medicine - FFLM](#)
- [FFLM Quality Standards for Nurses and Paramedics - General Forensic Medicine \(GFM\) - FFLM](#)
- [Recommendations - Introductory Training Courses in General Forensic Medicine \(GFM\) - FFLM](#)

We have contacted our membership via the bulletin, highlighting your report, which is now available on the Chief Coroner's website. We have re-confirmed the importance of initial and continuing education and supervised training and all forensic clinicians have access to senior advice, at all times; this is a responsibility of the clinician and the employer. In addition, we are looking at offering additional training, particularly, in the management and care of detainees who are dependent on drugs or alcohol, or both.

Thank you again for ensuring we were aware of your report.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
President
[Redacted]
[Redacted]