



British
Thoracic
Society

Ms Samantha Goward
Area Coroner for Norfolk
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich NR1 2DH

22 August 2024

Dear Ms Goward,

**Regulation 28: Report to prevent futures deaths
Mr Derryck Crocker**

We have been asked to respond to the Regulation 28 form which has been passed to us by the Royal College of Physicians, London.

We are deeply sorry to hear of the sad death of Mr Crocker and we send our condolences to Mr Crocker's family.

As the report notes, the occurrence of an air embolism is a rare but recognised complication that can occur following an invasive procedure.

In the case of CT guided lung biopsy, radiology colleagues will be aware of the importance of timely and appropriate treatment, as will respiratory colleagues.

We suggest that this would be suitable for a patient safety alert such as those issued by NHS England to ensure that there is a timely and appropriate response to such cases, with the intention of preventing future deaths. The British Thoracic Society will make a proposal to the NHSE Patient Safety Committee and will provide any advice and support requested of us.

We have copied this letter to the Royal College of Physicians, London, the Royal College of Radiologists and the British Society of Interventional Radiology.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Chair of the Board of Trustees
British Thoracic Society

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Royal College of Physicians, London,
Royal College of Radiologists
British Society of Interventional Radiology