

18 March 2025

Ms Elizabeth Gray
Area Coroner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Our reference: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Gray,

Re: Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Deaths Report in respect of Amelia Alexandra Anuszkia Ridout

I write in response to your regulation 28 report, dated 11 February 2025, regarding the very sad death of Amelia Ridout. I would like to express my sincere condolences to Amelia's family.

We would like to thank you for including NICE in this important report. We have reflected on the circumstances surrounding Amelia's death and the concerns raised. We note your request to consider the development and publication of a national guideline and standard operating procedure for carrying out Bone Marrow Aspirate (BMA) and trephine biopsy to include recommended methodology.

This is a truly tragic outcome from a widely used intervention that is essential in haematological practice. Bleeding due to vascular injuries is recognised as a rare, but possible adverse outcome of the procedure. NICE have not published any specific procedural guidance on bone marrow aspirate and trephine biopsy however, [NICE guidance](#) refers to the need to carry out the procedure for diagnosis¹. NICE are not asked to develop guidance on all conditions and our recommendations do not cover all clinical circumstances. Our guidance focuses on the management and treatment of conditions and although we may outline recommendations on when an investigation or diagnostic test is necessary, it is not within our remit to produce detailed guidance on how clinicians should carry out a standard diagnostic procedure.

NICE is not the only organisation that produces guidance and standard operating procedures; we would expect that hospital trusts or individual clinicians also follow guidance from professional bodies, Royal Colleges and local care pathways developed by commissioners such as integrated care boards and NHS England.

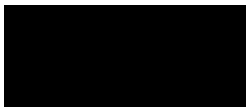
¹ [Haematological cancers: improving outcomes](#)

We note that you have also written to the British Society for Haematology (BSH) and NHS England and as part of our process, our consultant clinical advisors have been in communication with these two organisations and will contribute as needed in the production of a good practice paper for bone marrow aspirate and trephine biopsy, which is being led by the BSH.

NICE has offered to work with the BSH on the development of this paper, ensuring that any references to NICE guidance are included where applicable. Through our organisation-wide approach to prioritisation and topic selection, NICE's prioritisation board could then consider any new recommendations made by the BSH guidance and whether they require updates to existing guidance or development of new NICE guidance on this topic if this is considered appropriate.

I hope this response has helped outline our role and the placement of our guidance within the wider healthcare system. We will continue to liaise with colleagues at the BSH and NHS England on the development of an appropriately placed guidance document if appropriate. I would like to reiterate my sincere condolences to Amelia's family.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the Chief Executive.A black rectangular box redacting the name of the Chief Executive.

Chief Executive