

Inquest touching the death of Michael Chadwick

Response of Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths

This is the organisational response from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (SFH) to the Regulation 28: Report to Prevent Future Deaths issued by HM Assistant Coroner, following the conclusion of the inquest touching the death of Mr Michael Chadwick.

We offer our condolences to Mr Chadwick's family, and we hope our actions as a Trust provides reassurance of our commitment to ensuring that we learn from this and prevent future deaths.

During the course of the inquest there was one matter of concern raised, as follows;

- 1. On multiple occasions that Mr Chadwick was assessed, and his cough syncope brought to the attention of the medical professionals, there was no advice given to him to stop driving and to notify the DVLA of his cough syncope, either orally or in writing.**

The HM Assistant Coroner is concerned that clinicians may fail to provide similar guidance to other patients, which may lead to episodes of syncope whilst driving, with potentially fatal consequences.

An action plan has been formulated, and the Trust will continue to monitor the completion of these actions by attaching evidence of their completion that will be securely stored on the Trust's datix incident system alongside the relevant action ID number to provide assurance of their completion.

Patient Safety Alert – Fitness to Drive: Ask, Advise, Document

A Trust wide patient safety alert has been developed, regarding Fitness to Drive: Ask, Advise, Document, this alert identifies that despite clinical contact, there was no documented evidence that the patient was advised not to drive, or to notify the DVLA of a relevant change in health status. The patient safety alert was signed off at Patient Safety Incident Response Group on 14/05/2026.

Communication to all Heads of Service and Clinical Governance Leads

Disseminate the DVLA guidance to colleagues via Clinical Governance meetings, reminding clinicians that considering fitness to drive is part of routine clinical assessment where conditions, symptoms or treatments may affect safe driving. As part of this communication clinicians are required to familiarise themselves with the DVLA Assessing fitness to drive guidance (2025). Added to all governance reports by 30th June 2026 and email sent to all Heads of Service and Clinical Governance Leads in Medicine Division.

Add DVLA guidance to the Trust intranet.

The guidance will be added to the intranet, this can be searched with keywords such as driving, drive, DVLA, or the full file name. This action is complete.

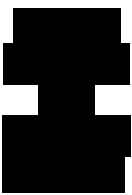
Add the DVLA guidance to be added to the learning area on EOLAS, as part of the extended learning and resources.

The guidance will be added to the learning area.

The DVLA link regarding medical conditions to be added to Cardiology intranet page.

The DVLA link to be added to the Cardiology intranet page regarding medical conditions.

Actions added to Datix

Action ID	Description	Planned action	Due date	Action allocated ('To')
7154	Patient Safety Alert for Fitness to Drive	A Trust wide patient safety alert has been developed, regarding Fitness to Drive: Ask, Advise, Document, this alert identifies that despite clinical contact, there was no documented evidence that the patient was advised not to drive, or to notify the DVLA of a relevant change in health status. This will be added to all governance reports.	18/05/2026 Completed	
7155	DVLA guidance to be shared to all Heads of Service and Clinical Governance Leads	Disseminate the DVLA guidance to colleagues via Clinical Governance meetings, reminding clinicians that considering fitness to drive is part of routine clinical assessment where conditions, symptoms or treatments may affect safe driving. As part of this communication clinicians are required to familiarise themselves with the DVLA Assessing fitness to drive guidance (2025).	30/06/2026	
7156	DVLA guidance to be added to the Trust intranet	The guidance will be added to the intranet, this can be searched with keywords such as driving, drive, DVLA, or the full file name.	18/05/2026 Completed	
7157	Add the DVLA guidance to the learning area on EOLAS, as part of the extended learning and resources	The guidance will be added to the learning area.	30/06/2026	
7175	Available DVLA link on the Cardiology Specialist Intranet Page	The DVLA link to medical conditions including syncope to be added to the Cardiology intranet page.	31/05/2026	

Signed off at Patient Safety Incident Review Group (PSIRG) 21/05/2026.