



Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group

Building A  
The APEX  
St. Cross Business Park  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 5XW

25 July 2014

Ms C Sumeray  
HM Senior Coroner, Isle of Wight  
Coroner's Office  
3 – 9 Quay Street  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 5BB

Dear Ms Sumeray

**Re: Regulation 28: Report to Prevent Future Deaths (2)**

**Investigation in to the death of Mr John William Day**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 June 2014 in which you raised concerns about access to medical records for GPs working out of hours. I understand that you will also be receiving a reply from [REDACTED] who is the medical director for the GP out of hours service. His reply deals in some detail to explain the limitations of accessing information from patient records.

As chair of the organisation responsible for commissioning out of hours GP services and as a practicing GP I am familiar with the severe limitations of the current information systems available to out of hours doctors. There have been various attempts to improve clinical information sharing through IT developments, nationally, regionally and locally. Results have been variable and often of limited functionality. In particular difficulties relating to consent and information governance have resulted in incomplete access. The technical problems mean that even the system on the Island [Vision 360] is not easy to access and not always reliable.

As such when consulting with a patient who is deemed to have adequate capacity it would be normal practice to ask that patient whether they were aware of any allergies and act solely on that information. Current working practices and systems would not allow routine checking with the patient record.

The Island CCG, along with all other CCGs, is developing a system-wide IT strategy. The aim is to move towards a universal, integrated and readily accessible health care record. This would have considerable benefits to delivery of care in a range of ways of which out of hours access is only one. Frustratingly the practical problems to progress this are considerable and wide ranging. As [REDACTED] explains – the Island is making significant advances with the introduction of an overarching system [ISIS] but we have a long way to go before there is a fully operational shared information system.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Chair & Clinical Lead**

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