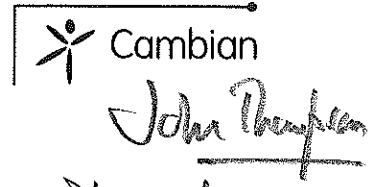


MM



Please track  
and cc to NOK  
ATJ  
1-11-15

Dr Andrew Harris  
Senior Coroner  
Inner South London Coroner's Court  
1 Tennis Street  
London AE1 1YD

RECEIVED  
26 NOV 2015

20<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Dear Dr. Harris,

**Inquest into the death of Lee Bates**  
**Response to a Regulation 28 Report**

I write in response to your Regulation 28 Report dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015. I am grateful to you for bringing these matters to my attention as the Cambian Group takes all patient safety issues very seriously, particularly where there may be lessons to be learnt more widely.

The death of Lee Bates was obviously an extremely sad event and my sympathy goes to everyone who knew him, especially his family. From the perspective of the Cambian Group, there are lessons to be learnt, and we will ensure that these are appropriately addressed.

Your Report raises an issue in relation to communication between our hospital and the sleep apnoea clinic at St Thomas'. As you will appreciate, the clinic is operated by Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust which is separate from our hospital. We therefore clearly have no control over them, and vice versa.

It is clearly important that information is passed appropriately between healthcare professionals to ensure that a patient's care is dealt with as holistically and appropriately as possible. Our focus is on the treatment of mental illness. However, we do understand the need to work collaboratively and proactively to the benefit of our shared patients.

When our patients are referred to this clinic, or indeed any other physical health clinic at St Thomas', our medical staff provide a handover to St Thomas' and the care in relation to those aspects is then transferred to those physical care specialists.

With that in mind, and following the inquest into the death of Mr Bates when you indicated your proposal to make this report, my hospital manager at Cambian Churchill Hospital has met with [redacted] at St Thomas' and agreed a protocol going forward to cover the matter set out in the attached document, in order to reduce the possibility of inadequate communication or care in the future.

R.

I hope that this letter provides you with the information that you were seeking and I am grateful to you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Should you have any further concerns on this or any other matters, please feel free to contact our Group Director of Risk & Quality, Philip King.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saleem Asaria", written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn circular scribble.

**Saleem Asaria**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Cambian Group**