

REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>(1) [REDACTED] Chair HPV Subcommittee, Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, % Department of Health, Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London.</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am R Brittain, Assistant Coroner for Inner North London</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>Curt Falk died on 6 July 2015, aged 65 years old, from acute myeloid leukaemia. An inquest into his death was part-heard on 22 January 2016 and concluded on 26 February 2016, at which I recorded a narrative conclusion (see attached).</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>Mr Falk was diagnosed in early 2015 with squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) of the tongue (resulting from Human Papilloma Virus strain 16) and a blood disorder which was categorised variably as 'high risk myelodysplasia' (MDS) and 'acute myeloid leukaemia' (AML).</p> <p>He underwent curative radiotherapy for the SCC; however, this treatment plan meant that the MDS/AML was not treatable prior to his death.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <p>(1) The SCC from which Mr Falk suffered resulted from a viral infection, which is now potentially preventable through vaccination. This issue did not form part of the evidence heard at the inquest because it was not directly relevant to Mr Falk's death. However, I am concerned that current vaccination policy does not include the vaccination of males against this virus. As such, there is a risk that future deaths could occur in men from the consequences of this infection.</p>

6	<p>ACTION COULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action could be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe that the addressee, has the power potentially to take such action. I am aware of the complexities involved in the institution of mass vaccination campaigns and would be grateful if information could be provided regarding the current and potential future scope for vaccinating the population as a whole against this virus.</p>
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 27 April 2016. I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>
8	<p>COPIES and PUBLICATION</p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner; Mr Falk's family; ██████████ Consultant Haematologist; ██████████ Consultant Oncologist and Harley Street at University Hospital.</p> <p>I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.</p> <p>The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response by the Chief Coroner.</p>
9	<p>2 March 2016 Assistant Coroner R Brittain</p>