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HOSPITAL

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Mrs A Pember

HM Coroner for the County of Northampton

110 Whitworth Road

Northampton

NN1 4HJ

8th August 2017

Dear Madam

In response to your Regulation 28 letter to prevent future deaths following the Inquest touching the life of Dianne Jane Macrae, notwithstanding your previous indication that Woodland were not required to respond. For completeness, I can confirm the hospital has considered and taken action for each point of cause for concern you have raised, this includes but is not exclusive to the following action.

- The hospital has reflected on the case at Clinical Governance Committee, and will reiterate the findings and conclusion of the inquest at the next Medical Advisory Committee, 20th September 2017.
- The case and the learning points were also discussed at the theatre team meeting, and will be included at a reflective learning session in the next three months, which is led by Matron.
- As standard practice now since this tragic outcome, if an anaesthetist or surgeon is re-called to the hospital, both Consultant Surgeon and Consultant Anaesthetist are asked to attend. The Senior Management Team (SMT) who provide on call support 24/7 are all very clear on this and ensure this happens as part of the escalation process for any deteriorating patient, or when a Consultant is asked to return to the hospital.
- The new Matron is in the process of establishing a multi-disciplinary deteriorating patient committee where cases are discussed, to establish learning from incidents and near misses, the findings will also be published in the new "Clinical Matters" staff and Consultant Newsletter.

- The spinal neuro surgeons and Consultant anaesthetists working at the hospital are very aware of this case and now have a high suspicion to exclude post-operative internal bleeding. The holistic learning from this case will be shared with all Consultants following the Medical Advisory Committee meeting on the 20th September 2017 via our Consultant Newsletter.
- A bed side Haemocue machine has been installed in recovery, to allow patient bedside testing of haemoglobin by recovery staff. This enables recovery staff to initiate this test as part of their observations to inform attending clinicians of the haemoglobin level in the instance of a deteriorating patient.
- An emergency skills drill was undertaken in recovery in May 2017, and a programme of such drills is being rolled out through the clinical areas involving Consultant Anaesthetists.

The hospital would like to reiterate their condolences to the family of Dianne Jane Macrae, and confirm that the action in relation to the matters of concern that you have raised have been addressed as outlined above. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely



General Manager