



# Blackpool Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

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29 January 2018

Mr Alan Wilson  
Senior Coroner for Blackpool & the Fylde  
Municipal Buildings  
Corporation Street  
Blackpool  
FY1 1GB

Dear Mr Wilson

**Re: Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths – Mr Keith James Harwood**

I write in response to your Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths in respect of Mr Keith Harwood. The events surrounding Mr Harwood's care date from July 2014 and relate to the management of his Parkinson's disease. At that time Neurological advice for patients in the Trust suffering from Parkinson's disease was provided by a visiting Consultant Neurologist from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. In August 2016 the Trust appointed a Consultant Physician in Care of the Elderly who has specific expertise and interest in the management of Parkinson's disease. In December 2016 he co-authored a procedure for the acute management of in-patients with Parkinson's disease and you have had sight of this. Notwithstanding the uncertainty expressed to you by the co-author of the SUI review about what assistance would be available to patients, section 2 on page 3 of the procedure explicitly states the importance of early involvement of the Parkinson's Specialist Team and contact details are provided in section 3.8 on page 14. These details include contact numbers for the Parkinson's Disease Nurse Specialist, the Consultant Physician and helplines, one of which is specific to the management of patients with Apomorphine infusion. That advice and training from the pharmaceutical company is readily available at immediate notice if required.

I shall as a consequence of your communication be issuing an internal alert within the Trust reminding all staff of the importance of timely management of patients with Parkinson's disease, timely referral to the Parkinson's Specialist Team and the availability of the procedure document on the Trust intranet.

Yours sincerely

**PROFESSOR MARK O'DONNELL  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

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Blackpool Teaching Hospitals is a Centre of Clinical and Research Excellence providing quality up to date care. We are actively involved in undertaking research to improve treatment of our patients. A member of the healthcare team may discuss current clinical trials with you.



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