



ASSOCIATION OF
AMBULANCE
CHIEF EXECUTIVES

NASMeD
National Ambulance Service Medical Directors

10 July 2019

BY EMAIL: Leicester.coroner@leicester.gov.uk

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Dear Mrs Brown

REGULATION 28 REPORT – ACTION TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS: GRAHAM GEORGE SMITH

I am writing further to your Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths which you issued to the Chair of JRCALC [REDACTED] following the inquest into the death of Graham Smith.

You requested that JRCALC consider matters of concern and suggested that action is taken to prevent future deaths. Your matters of concern were:

'No guidance in relation to alcohol withdrawal symptoms and its potential complications, in relation to fluctuating capacity, awareness of symptoms, a patient's ability to make decisions and understand information.'

JRCALC is a group of specialty experts and its role is to provide robust clinical specialty advice on the instruction of the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AACE) and its advisors, the National Ambulance Service Medical Directors (NASMeD). It is AACE and its advisors NASMeD that are providing this response to you.

AACE is a formally constituted private company wholly owned by the English Ambulance NHS Trusts who are all full voting members. It exists to provide ambulance services with a central organisation that supports, coordinates and implements nationally agreed policy. Its primary focus is the ongoing development of the English ambulance services and the improvement of patient care. It is a company owned by NHS organisations and it wholly owns the intellectual property rights of the JRCALC UK ambulance service clinical practice guidelines.

We will be taking action to request that JRCALC, acting as our expert clinical advisors, review the UK ambulance service clinical practice guidelines relating to the management of patients that have misused alcohol, including alcohol withdrawal, its presentation and management. We will ensure that any recommendations are published and issued to our ambulance clinicians as part of our ongoing clinical practice guideline development plan.

I hope that you will agree that we have responded to the concerns that you have raised and explained our reasoning. I can assure you that we are absolutely committed to learning from all such adverse events and doing everything within our power to prevent them happening again in the future.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Chair, NASMeD

— Martin Flaherty
Managing Director, AACE