KA 1486-2019

Sheffield Children's NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

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05 JUL 2019
H.M. CORONER'S OFFICE

Your ref: REG 28 LOMAX
Our ref: MW/R28NLOMAX

Ms A Davies
Assistant Coroner
Medico-Legal Centre
Watery Street
Sheffield
S3 7ES

27 June 2019

Western Bank
Sheffield
S10 2TH

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[redacted]
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Dear Ms Davies

Noah Lomax (deceased)
Regulation 28

I write in response to your Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths dated 24 May 2019. Under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013 you requested the Trust to consider your matter for concern and take action to prevent future deaths.

The Trust sets out below its response to your matter of concern below:

During the inquest into the death of Noah Lomax you expressed concerns about the adequacy of the CAMHS referral form that is used by General Practitioners. You identified that our investigation report stated that the evidence 'suggests that the current referral form does not capture the information required to process referrals without delay' and that during the inquest you heard evidence that there had not been any other problems with GP's not completing them sufficiently and that redesigning the form had been considered by the Trust but was told this was not the answer. You were informed further training had been provided to General Practitioners and guidance had been attached to the referral forms to assist General Practitioners with this process.

The actions described above did not assure you that satisfactory steps have been put in place to ameliorate the risk identified. You have therefore invited our Trust to reconsider whether the form could be improved to reduce the risk of inadequate or insufficient information being provided, which may result in a delay in care.

During the inquest it was confirmed that the referral guidelines were being updated with input from a General Practitioner. This has now been completed and the guidance is now in place and being used. The current form will continue to be used alongside the new guidance in mitigation until the actions outlined below have been completed.

The CAMHS team have commenced a review of the referral form, and a draft form was sent to the Clinical Director for Mental Health commissioning the Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG), for comments. This draft was reviewed by SCCG's Clinical Reference Group, which

consists of a number of General Practitioners and 2 service users. Comments from this group have been collated and are to inform necessary amendments to the referral form. Subsequently the current guidance will be updated to support the new referral form and this will then be distributed to all General Practitioners.

The form and guidance are currently being reviewed and updated and will be distributed to all General Practitioners by 12 July 2019.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

John Somers
Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust