

Litigation Management Office, 4th Floor, Bostock House, RVH - Tel:

Our Ref: A.49/Gen

24 February 2004

Mr G D H Brangam
Brangam Bagnall & Co
Solicitors
Commercial Mews
69-71 Comber Road
Dundonald
BELFAST BT16 0AE

Dear Mr Brugan.

Re: Investigation of Hospital Deaths

I enclose a letter from H M Coroner to Medical Directors with enclosures X 3 regarding a change in the investigation of deaths reported to the Coroner. I would be grateful for your advice here, but I presume support for staff being interviewed would have to come from their professional insurers rather than you? Although you provide ad-hoc advice to me on the occasional statement where hospital practices to me seem to be at issue, I suppose we would be out of the loop in the new system.

We would not become aware of issues possibly until we are sprung with them at an Inquest. This would seem to me to be a backward step. Would the hospital have any right of access to Statements by its staff?

Yours sincerely

A P Walby FRCS Ed
Associate Medical Director

Enc.

Enclosere Bock Pocket.

-1 MAR 2004

