

Recommendation Response from Department of Health Biannual Report – February 2018

Marjorie Joy JARICK

Marjorie Joy Jarick, aged 54 years, died on 10 July 2013 as a result of opioid toxicity (predominantly fentanyl). Marjorie was admitted to hospital for management of a recurrent groin infection, which included surgery. As a result of reported drug allergies and patient preferences based on previous experiences, a fentanyl patch was applied as part of the pain management regimen. Marjorie was found unresponsive overnight and resuscitation was unsuccessful.

The Department of Health's Coronial Review Committee has reviewed these findings and made enquiries with relevant stakeholders. The Chief Pharmacist has indicated that the coroner's recommended changes to the Schedule 8 Prescription Code would not be effective in preventing deaths in similar circumstances as it does not apply to in hospital treatment of inpatients.

The recommendation made by the coroner has been duly considered and deemed closed.