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Opening minds to a brighter future

12/07/2016

Coroner Audrey Jamieson Coroners Court of Victoria 65 Kavanagh St Southbannk, 3006

Dear Coroner Jamieson,

Re:

COR 2011 / 000260

Investigation into the death of DANIEL J WOODBURN

I write in reply to the above referenced Finding into Death without Inquest dated 1/06/2016. I am writing in my role as the Medical Director of Orygen Youth Health (OYH). I have worked in this capacity since January 2015 and thus I have had no direct involvement in Mr Woodburn's care nor direct knowledge of the circumstances of Mr Woodburn's death. I have undertaken a review of the medical file and consulted with the NorthWestern Mental Health (NWMH) Clinical Review Committee to deliver this response.

Your Honour makes one specific recommendation to OYH as follows... "I therefore recommend that Orygen Youth Health provide specific periodic training on the use of the Clinical Risk Assessment and Management (CRAAM) guidelines, including but not limited to the expectations of night staff to engage with patients in circumstances such as Daniel's, where there is likely to be a significant delay between admission and assessment by a Consultant Psychiatrist"

I can report that the current CRAAM in use across NWMH, including OYH, was updated in 2013. The updated CRAAM includes a wide range of factors to take into account when assessing overall risk. It also specifically emphasises the importance of engagement with the consumer as an essential component of risk management. The updated Clinical Risk Assessment and Management-Adult and Youth Acute Inpatient (CRAAM) Guideline is attached for your reference. Clinical staff are required to undertake annual training in risk assessment and the Inpatient Unit (IPU) Clinical Nurse Educator is responsible for the monitoring of completion rates.

Since 2011, the implementation of CRAAM has included the active involvement of medical staff. More specifically, medical staff are required to complete the CRAAM at first assessment and at any subsequent changes in presentation. The CRAAM stipulated

observation and engagement levels cannot be altered until a review is undertaken by the consultant psychiatrist and this is strictly adhered to. The emphasis in the CRAAM is on meaningful engagement rather than static risk factors or tick box attendance records.

Yours sincerely

Dr Sophie Adams, MBBS, MA(Bioethic), FRANZCP

Medical Director Orygen Youth Health

Attachment: CRAAM Guidelines