

16 November 2018

Court ref: COR 2015 004647

Sanchia Nigli
Coroner's Registrar
Coroner's Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank 3006

Dear Sanchia

Investigation into the death of Andrew O'Dwyer

Thank you for your letter dated 6 September 2018 accompanied by the findings of Coroner Caitlin English into the death without inquest of Andrew J O'Dwyer.

Safer Care Victoria (SCV) is writing to respond to the Coroner's recommendation to SCV, as a result of the investigation into the exsanguination of Andrew O'Dwyer during home haemodialysis.

I note that the Coroner's findings include the following recommendations relevant to SCV:

- *That Safer Care Victoria review the safety of haemodialysis machines used by home haemodialysis patients supported by Victorian public health services, with a particular focus on failsafe mechanisms and ways to avoid potentially dangerous short cuts when used in the home setting. (p19-20).*

In response to this recommendation, SCV is undertaking a risk analysis workshop on 21 November 2018 to identify risks and opportunities for improvement with haemodialysis machines used in the home setting. In order to provide diverse perspectives in the discussions, the workshop will include consumers, nephrologists, nurses, industry representatives and technicians familiar with this equipment and patient experiences in a home setting. Following the workshop, a brief report addressing the safety of use of haemodialysis machines at home will be generated and forwarded to the Coroner's office.

SCV, through the work of our Clinical Networks and our broader health service support functions, will continue to advocate for the safe care of all Victorian patients.

Thank you for bringing this case to our attention.

Yours sincerely



Professor Euan Wallace

Chief Executive Officer

Safer Care Victoria