



Secretary

Department of Health and Human Services

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Ms Hayley Philpot
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Dear Ms Philpot

Thank you for your letter of 15 June 2017 in relation to the investigation and finding without inquest into the death of Mr Peter G Chaucer (your reference COR 2015 005061).

I refer to Coroner McNamara's recommendation pursuant to section 72(2) of the *Coroners Act 2008* that:

“the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist and The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists develop a shared protocol or guidelines to provide guidance for clinicians who share the responsibility for the care of patients across the public and private sectors. Matters that should be addressed include communication, transparency of arrangements with patients and carers, clinical responsibility in periods of crisis and negotiated care planning”.


I am pleased to confirm that the Coroner's recommendation will be implemented. The Office of Chief Psychiatrist will develop a guideline in collaboration with The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists to provide guidance to clinicians who share the responsibility for the care of patients across public and private sectors. This will be completed in the next 12 months.

The Chief Psychiatrist issues a safety and quality bulletin to health services, which includes themes from Coronial recommendations. The recommendation above will be included in the the next safety and quality bulletin. In addition to this, the recommendation was tabled on 30 August 2017 at the Authorised Psychiatrist meeting convened by the Chief Psychiatrist, with a request that public mental health services review and develop their own procedures in this area.

The manner of circulation and the procedures for ongoing review of the guidelines will be finalised during development. It is anticipated the completed guidelines will be widely circulated and reviewed on an appropriate frequency.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Chief Psychiatrist on 9096 7571 if you need any further clarification.

Yours sincerely



Kym Peake
Secretary

12/9/2017