

**FORM 37**

Rule 60(1)

**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court Reference: 4723/2005**

**Inquest into the Death of Jennifer GIBBINS**

Delivered On:	20th January, 2010
Delivered At:	Shepparton
Hearing Dates:	24 November 2009
Findings of:	Mr John Martin Murphy
Representation:	
Place of death/Suspected death:	Parkville

FORM 37

Rule 60(1)

**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court Reference: 4723/2005**

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Shepparton

I Mr John Martin Murphy, Coroner having investigated the death of:

**Details of deceased:**

Surname: GIBBINS  
First name: Jennifer  
\*Address: 8 Winterson Crt Shepparton Vic 3630

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 24 November 2009

at Shepparton Law Courts

find that the identity of the deceased was Jennifer GIBBINS

and death occurred on 27 December 2005 at Parkville

from

- 1a Sepsis
- 1b Bronchopneumonia complicating malignant spindle cell tumour of right lung lower lobe

1c

1d

2

in the following circumstances:

The deceased, Jennifer GIBBINS, resided at a Shared Accommodation Unit situated at 8 Winterson Court Shepparton. Care was provided to Jennifer on a twenty-four hour basis. Jennifer was unable to communicate with staff verbally and staff had to rely on observations for almost all of her care needs. Jennifer's health was also assessed in this manner.

Due to the lack of verbal communication staff had to wait until Jennifer showed signs of being unwell. Usually this meant that she would become aggressive or uncooperative. Staff would then have to rely on asking simple questions to determine what the condition would be.

On 7 April 2005 it became apparent that Jennifer was suffering a cough and treatment was sought. The doctor prescribed a course of antibiotics which was taken. This

action did nothing to abate Jennifer's condition and another course of antibiotics was undertaken. No other treatment was sought.

Approximately three months later a medical review of Jennifer's condition was conducted. It was found that she had another cough which was described as being moist and chesty. Panadol was prescribed for this and no further treatment was ordered.

On 29 November 2005 Jennifer had a mild temperature and was again coughing. The doctor was again contacted and again prescribed Panadol be administered. He also asked that an appointment be made if symptoms did not abate. On 13 December 2005 such appointment was carried out, an X-Ray was performed and another course of antibiotics was prescribed.

Staff at the unit were contacted on 15 December 2005 by the doctor who informed them that Jennifer was required to undergo a CT scan. As a result of this scan it was found that Jennifer had a mass on her right lung and blood clot in her heart. She was then admitted to hospital where she underwent some investigative procedures before being transferred to Royal Melbourne Hospital.

On 23 December 2005 Jennifer arrived at Royal Melbourne Hospital and underwent scans and a biopsy of the right lung was performed. After this procedure it appears that Jennifer's health has deteriorated sharply and has developed severe Pneumonia and Sepsis. Jennifer was declared deceased at 12:30pm on 27 December 2005.

Signature:



Date:

11/2/2010

