



Department of Health

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2025/01586

Ms Janet Lee
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Support Service
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Lee

Re: COR 2020 002609
Investigation into the death of YPM

Thank you for your letter of 16 October 2025 concerning Coroner Giles's recommendation to the Chief Psychiatrist and Alfred Health in relation to the death of YPM.

The Coroner recommended that:

The Chief Psychiatrist and Alfred Health consider the feasibility of routinely providing private psychologists who are involved in a patient's care as part of a long-standing community-based treating team, and who are nominated in the emergency department/ short stay discharge plan to provide community follow-up, with a timely copy of the discharge summary.

I accept this recommendation.

The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (OCP) will implement the Coroner's recommendation through updates to [The Chief Psychiatrist's Transfer of care and Shared care guideline](#) and by communicating these changes in our quarterly Quality and Safety Bulletin.

The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist is committed to supporting an integrated mental health and wellbeing system, ensuring people can access the right services according to their needs and preferences, and that services are co-ordinated and provide continuity of care. The *Transfer of Care and Shared Care Guideline* provides a framework to support safe and effective transfers of care and share care arrangements. It is relevant to all mental health and wellbeing services, including private providers, and all disciplines across the mental health and wellbeing sector.

The guideline, published in September 2023 (after YPMs death) includes a section on *transfer of care plans (discharge summaries)* which describes what must be provided and to whom. While it states that discharge summaries should be provided to **relevant service providers**, consumers, family, carers and supporters when an episode of care with a

designated mental health and wellbeing service ends, it does not explicitly mention private psychologists or assessments in the emergency department.

The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist is currently undertaking a broad review of the *Transfer of Care and Shared Care guideline* and will explicitly include that discharge summaries should be provided:

- to service providers, both public and private, who are nominated in the emergency department/ short stay discharge plan to provide community follow-up; and
- when there is a significant change in the person's presentation (i.e. mental health crisis)

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact my office by phone on [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



A/Prof Sophie Adams
Victorian Chief Psychiatrist
Mental Health and Wellbeing Division

17 / 12 / 2025