

September 28, 2018

COPY

Teresa Foley  
Legal & Privacy  
Alberta Health Services  
10101 Southport Road SW  
Calgary AB T2W 3N2

Dear Teresa Foley:

**Subject: Robert Earl Wright – Public Fatality Inquiry  
Response to Recommendation**

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Please find enclosed a copy of the Honourable Judge D’Arcy DePoe’s report to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. This report will be publicly released on October 18, 2017.

The following recommendation made by His Honour may impact Alberta Health Services:

1. It is apparent that there will be situations in the future where NA Constant orders will have to be utilized, particularly in non-secure facilities. In my view it is imperative in situations where a secure bed is not available, that decisions to issue NA Constant orders should be made at minimum in consultation with a patient’s physician, and should not be changed or discontinued without similar consultation. Rules to this effect ought to be implemented. This is the major recommendation I make arising out of this inquiry. Dr. Lechelt was of the view that her order should not have been changed without her knowledge. This death may not have occurred if there had been a clear line of authority to make this important decision, starting with the patient’s physician, and proper communication to and among staff. All such orders should be in writing, recorded on the patient chart, and reviewed with staff every shift change.

I ask that you please advise the following:

1. Whether Alberta Health Services accepts, accepts in principle, does not accept, or has a different response to the recommendation;
2. A brief explanation of why that decision was made; and
3. If Alberta Health Services intends to accept the recommendation, or to implement different measures, what steps will be taken in that regard.

A response to this enquiry is not mandatory. However, be advised that any response received will be publicly released and posted on the Open Government Portal:

<https://open.alberta.ca/opendata/responses-to-public-fatality-inquiry-recommendations>.

If a response has not been received by February 19, 2019, that information will also be made publicly available.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours truly,

Jennifer Fuchinsky  
Fatality Inquiry Coordinator  
Enclosure