

SPSO decision report

Case: 201800345, Lanarkshire NHS Board
Sector: Health
Subject: clinical treatment / diagnosis
Decision: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mrs C complained to us on behalf of her late son (Mr A). Mr A was admitted to University Hospital Monklands for surgery to treat perianal abscesses (a collection of pus or infected fluid near the anus). Mr A was discharged home and received visits from district nurses to check his surgical wounds. Mr A began to feel unwell and he died a few days after his discharge home.

Mrs C complained that Mr A did not receive reasonable care and treatment in the hospital and that district nurses failed to recognise Mr A was seriously unwell.

We took independent advice from a colorectal surgeon (a surgeon who specialises in conditions in the colon, rectum or anus) and a nurse. We found that the care and treatment Mr A received in the hospital was reasonable and there was no indication Mr A should not be discharged home. We found no evidence that district nurses were aware that Mr A was feeling unwell. Therefore, we did not uphold the complaint.