



Maryborough District  
Health Service

Our Ref: EK/tc

18 February 2016

Ms Jaclyn Chetcuti  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
100 Grenville Street South  
BALLARAT 3350

Dear Ms Chetcuti,

**RE: Coroner's Recommendations Following Investigation into the death of Kathleen Raven  
(COR 2012 000 324)**

I have received your letter dated 14 December 2015, with recommendations by the coroner and offer the following response:-

VTE prophylaxis is treated as a high priority at Maryborough District Health Service (MDHS)

A number of measures have been taken to ensure that VTE prophylaxis recommendations are adhered to within the health service.

1. NHMRC VTE prophylaxis summary guidelines have been circulated to all VMO's at MDHS.
2. There has been active discussion of VTE prophylaxis at several of our regular VMO meetings over the last 18 months.
3. VTE prophylaxis guidelines will be made easily available in ward areas and urgent care centre at MDHS.
4. An improved hospital drug chart with a clearly defined area for documentation of VTE prophylaxis.
5. Audits of VTE prophylaxis uptake rates have been conducted in June and December 2015. It is proposed continue such audits regularly, on a 3 monthly basis to assess compliance with recommendations. Results will be presented and discussed regularly at both VMO and nursing meetings.
6. Nursing staff will be encouraged to complete VTE risk assessments on all admitted patients, to document these assessments and to refer all at- risk patients for early review by treating doctor.
7. VTE prophylaxis will be regularly discussed at meeting of ward nursing staff.
8. The decision to initiate VTE prophylaxis will remain the responsibility of the treating doctor.

Please note that points 1,2,4 and 5 have been completed prior to receipt of the coroner's recommendations and the remaining points are in the process of been addressed currently.

Yours Sincerely

Eric Kennelly  
Director of Medical Services *"growing a healthy community"*