



24 October 2019

Coroner Paresa Antoniadis Spanos
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh St
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

By email: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Spanos,

Re: Finding into the Death of Caleb Harley Pearson, Court Reference COR 2015 002601

I am writing in response to your recommendation made following your investigation into the death of Caleb Harley Pearson, and detailed in your Finding delivered on 1 August 2019, received by Ambulance Victoria on 14 August 2019.

AV has reviewed your recommendation, at paragraph 75 of your Finding:

75. I recommend that Ambulance Victoria considers a change to their Clinical Practice Guidelines to require paramedics to measure the blood glucose level of any patient they are treating who presents as acutely unwell and, in particular, in the setting of an undifferentiated illness.

Clinical practice guidelines review

In addition to the introduction of the Clinical Flags Clinical Practice Guideline, as detailed in your Finding, the AV Clinical Practice Guideline Committee has discussed, and supports, your recommendation to add specific guidance for the patient presenting with undifferentiated illness who is being considered for non-transport.

AV paramedic practice is guided by CPG A0101 Clinical Approach. This guideline presents an assessment framework for all cases including broad assessment and management principles. The Clinical Practice Guideline Committee have identified this CPG as the most relevant. It will be amended to include this recommended guidance.

This guideline has gone through an extensive overview and was endorsed by the AV Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) in October 2019.

The following CPG content was approved at MAC: *'BGL must be measured in patients with undifferentiated acute illness'*.



Implementation of your recommendation

AV is implementing your recommendation by:

1. Updating CPG A0101 Clinical Approach with '*BGL must be measured in patients with undifferentiated acute illness*'.
2. Introducing the updated Clinical Approach to staff via a detailed face-to-face training program for all paramedics in early 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns in relation to the details provided, please contact me on 9840 3500, and I would be happy to assist further.

Yours sincerely



Professor Stephen Bernard
Medical Director

