

Strathcarron Hospice

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Registered Charity No SC006704
www.strathcarronhospice.org

Visitor to the Hospice - H.R.H. The Princess Royal

Dr.Hood,
Health Centre,
Marshall,
Alloa.

SLW file

7/11

4th November, 2003

Dear Dr.Hood,

David Black, 14, Coalpots Way, Fishcross D.O.B. 01.05.37

28.10.03 Transferred from Stirling Royal Infirmary to Strathcarron for
symptom control and terminal care.
31.10.03 Died in hospice – Procurator Fiscal contacted

As you know Mr.Black was transferred to Strathcarron Hospice for terminal care. He had been admitted to Stirling Royal Infirmary on the 24th October with ascites and renal failure but remained uraemic and hyperkalaemic despite Insulin and Dextrose intravenously and oral Calcium Resonium.

On admission he complained of abdominal pain, intermittent nausea and anorexia. He had become forgetful and a little confused.

Routine bloods showed a worsening of his potassium and urea and liver function tests. The situation was discussed with Mr.Black's family and they were clear that comfort care and death with dignity were paramount. Mr.Black required sub-cutaneous Diamorphine and a syringe driver was commenced with Diamorphine and Haloperidol. He remained well controlled on the sub-cutaneous regime and he died peacefully with his family present on the evening of the 31st October.

As Mr.Black had Hepatitis C, which is a notifiable disease, the Procurator Fiscal was contacted. In view of the likelihood of Mr.Black having contracted Hepatitis C from contaminated blood products the Procurator Fiscal wished to arrange a post mortem examination. This was therefore performed on the afternoon of the 3rd November and the death certificate will be issued by the Pathology Department. As there had been some discussion with the Transplant Team regarding the use of liver samples for research

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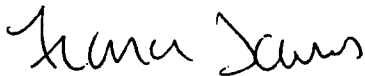
David Black

and teaching purposes, a consent form to this end was completed in triplicate by Mrs.Black.

Mrs.Black and her family have been extremely supportive of each other and have coped remarkably well with Mr.Black's death. Our home care sister, Sheena Muirhead will arrange a bereavement visit but if you feel further support to be necessary at any time please let us know.

Thank you for referring Mr.Black. I am glad we were able to arrange admission.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,



Fiona Downs
Medical Consultant

c.c.Dr.MacGilchrist,
Dr.Bathgate,

ERI ✓
ERI

Ref. 11656 FD/fg
