

Summary of Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future death: **Esma Guzel** (died 10.5.19)

This is a brief summary of the regulation 28 coroners report into the death of *Esma Guzel* from which you can review the coroner recommendations to health care and consider whether there are changes you could implement in your local NHS trust to address them

Clinical summary

5-year-old female

Events surrounding death

- Saw GP with vomiting, given oral hydration advise & safety netting
- Subsequently deteriorated & advised by 111 to attend out of hours GP . But on arrival (40 mins later) was in cardiac arrest and could not be resuscitated.
- Died due to complications from incarceration of small bowel through her chest due to an undiagnosed congenital diaphragmatic hernia

Coroner's Concerns

- Esma would likely have survived this illness if she had been referred to hospital after GP assessment as a thorough history of the vomiting would have prompted urgent hospitalisation.
- Review of 111 algorithms in order for more appropriate referrals to be made with consideration of parental concern & the timing of the advice request
- 111 should have endorsement by the relevant health professional bodies if it is to function as the default safety net for the public.

Key Themes

- Challenges in recognising a deteriorating/sick child
- Need for greater awareness of rare conditions which can present with common symptoms.
- Failure to consider the parental voice
- Referral to the incorrect service for the presenting condition

Local Improvement suggestions from this report

- Review care pathways from community to hospital service to ensure that children have access to the care required at the right place and the right time, with consideration of potential rare causes of a presentation.
- GPs assessing or treating children with unscheduled care needs to have access to immediate telephone advice from a consultant paediatrician.: Improve the robustness of your telephone referral service
- Ensure that the PEWS system is embedded in your paediatric healthcare organisation

For full information visit:

<https://www.judiciary.uk/prevention-of-future-death-reports/esma-guzel-prevention-of-future-deaths-report/>

or follow the QR code

