



PRESS RELEASE

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**REACTION TO WISBECH INQUEST VERDICT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OUT OF HOURS GP SERVICES**

The patient safety charity, Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA), has welcomed the finding of the coroner in the inquest of Mr David Gray – the gentleman killed by an overdose administered by a German out of hours doctor. A verdict of unlawful killing has been made, together with a number of recommendations for the NHS. AvMA has been providing advice and support to the family since the tragic death. The charity is working with the family in calling for an urgent ‘root and branch’ review of out of hours care and action to be taken to tighten regulations of out of hours providers and doctors coming to work in the UK from abroad.

AvMA Chief Executive, Peter Walsh, said:

“There have been even more startling revelations as a result of this inquest. We thank the coroner, and most of all the family of Mr Gray, for drawing attention to systematic failings which could affect anyone using out of hours services in some parts of the country. We want to see an urgent review of out of hours services. We were disappointed not to be consulted about the narrow review which the Department of Health commissioned from Professor Colin Thomé. The review needs to be much wider than that. No-one in their right mind would design out of hours services the way they currently exist across England if they started with a blank piece of paper”.

ENDS