

Protecting patients from adverse outcomes

Heather Gunter

Mother of Matt Gunter

The HDC decision on the case discussed by Heather can be found here:

<https://www.hdc.org.nz/decisions/search-decisions/2015/13hdc00482/>.

The video shown by Heather can be viewed on the HQSC website at:

<https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-programmes/patient-deterioration/patient-stories/>

along with a description of their Patient Deterioration Programme.

There is some disagreement with some of the details in the video between different staff members involved in the case. This involves the timing of desaturation related to the operation, the instructions given to ward staff and monitoring being discontinued post-operatively. This further reinforces the need, as set out in the HQSC programme for critical thinking, team communication and a robust system to identify and treat the deteriorating patient.

Kerry Gunn