

NHS trust fined £1m following 53-year-old man's death in Lincolnshire

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust has been fined following the death of 53-year-old John Biggadike at Pilgrim Hospital in Boston.

Lincoln Crown Court heard that Mr Biggadike, who was a patient at the hospital, died on 10 April 2012 from internal injuries after falling onto an exposed metal post on the standing aid hoist that staff were using to support him.

The kneepad on the standing aid hoist had been incorrectly removed leaving the exposed metal post that caused the fatal injuries when he collapsed after standing up.

A Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigation found the Trust did not have systems for training and monitoring how staff used the standing aid hoist and unsafe practices had developed.

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, of Trust Headquarters, Lincoln County Hospital, Greetwell Road, Lincoln, was found guilty of breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. It was fined £1 million and ordered to repay £160,000 in costs.

The trust has also been ordered to pay £3800 to Mr Biggadike's family to cover the costs of the funeral.

In his statement John Biggadike's brother Keith said: "John didn't deserve to die the way that he did. One day I had a brother and the next I didn't. "

Harvey Wild, Operations Manager for the HSE said: "First of all, our thoughts remain with John Biggadike's family. This was a tragic and preventable death.

"If staff had received effective training and monitoring in the use of the standing aid hoist Mr Biggadike's death could have been avoided."

Guidance on how to safely handle patients can be found at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/healthservices/moving-handling-do.htm>

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. It aims to reduce work-related death, injury and ill health. It does so through research, information and advice, promoting training; new or revised regulations and codes of practice, and working with local authority partners by inspection, investigation and enforcement. www.hse.gov.uk
2. The HSE has a legal duty to make inquiries about all allegations or complaints made to it, initially to determine whether there are grounds to formally investigate possible breaches of health and safety

regulations.

3. Until 1 April 2015, allegations of unsafe working practices at medical establishments, unrelated to clinical matters, could be referred to HSE. After this date, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) became the lead regulator, including investigating potential breaches of health and safety regulations.
4. Since 1 April 2015, this HSE investigation was conducted as a historic inquiry, as the HSE was the responsible regulator at the time these offences were committed.
5. Further information about how the HSE decides on whether to launch a formal investigation can be found at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/enforce/incidselcrits.pdf> and <http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/og/ogprocedures/investigation>.
6. Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 states: "It shall be the duty of every employer to conduct his undertaking in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that persons not in his employment who may be affected thereby are not thereby exposed to risks to their health or safety." Further information about the legislation applied in this case can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk/

Journalists should approach HSE press office with any queries on regional press releases.

IOSH National Safety and Health Conference – 14 Sept 2017, Nottingham

Date and location

Thursday 20 October 2016 from 09:15 to 16:00, The Netherwood Hotel, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, LA11 6ET

Event overview

This one-day seminar builds on the HSE's campaign to raise awareness of work-related ill health. It will demonstrate the need for employers to have effective management and training strategies to ensure that employees are protected from occupational health risks.

It will be of interest to managers and supervisors, union representatives, small business owners and trainees, safety professionals, occupational health nurses and safety trainers.

Further Information and booking

To view further information and to book your place please visit the [IOSH website](#).

NASHiCS – National Health & Safety Conference for Social Care -“The Fair Way to a Safer Way” – 12-13 Sept 2017, Northamptonshire

National Association for Safety and Health in Care Services (NASHiCS), Social Care Safety Forum.

Date and location

Tuesday 13th September 2016

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Brayford Wharf North, Lincoln LN1 1YW

Forum overview

A forum for those responsible for Health and Safety.

Interact with colleagues, hear about key developments including: Operation Jasmine & Winterbourne (post reports review), Legal updates, Fire Safety, Moving & handling, Emergency Access & Egress.

Presenters include the Health and Safety Executive, Lincolnshire Fire service, lawyers and a Forensic Client provider. Come along and keep up to date – Don't miss out!

Further information and booking

For more Information, programme and booking online visit the [NASHiCS event website](#). Alternatively, email administrator@nashics.org or telephone: 07840160030.

60th NWRA Safety Conference and Exhibition – Accident Investigation – 19 Sept 2017, Preston

Date and location

Tuesday 13 September 2016

NEW VENUE: Garstang Country Hotel and Golf Club, off Preston Lancaster New Road, PR3 1YE

Event overview

Conference targeting Occupational Health Issues with the aim of reminding delegates not to lose sight of the basic fundamentals of Health & Safety

Subjects covered will be Accident Investigation, Competency & Training, Stress, Slips, Trips & Falls, Work Equipment, Risk Assessments, Electrical Testing, Face Fit Testing of RPE and Security

A mini exhibition will be run in conjunction with the Conference attended by leading suppliers to the industry.

Who should attend?

Anyone involved in Occupational Health and Safety that is keen to learn/be reminded about the basics and for small companies to learn about the essentials of good practice

Further information and booking

Full programme and booking details and are available to download on the [NWRA website](#) or by email to [Cathy Nixon](#) or tel: 0161 485 8102.

RR1113 – Review of Vapour Cloud Explosion Incidents

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