

30 September 2022

Neurology Inquiry and Belfast Trust Staff

Enquiry:

Dear BHSC trust can you please tell me since the public enquiry report was released on 21.06.22 how many people from neurology service either working during the time of recall and after recall and since report has come out have been referred to their regulators GMC ,RCN ect .

Response:

It is a matter of public record that the Belfast Trust reported Michael Watt to the GMC. The Belfast Trust has not, to date, formally referred any other individuals to their professional body in connection to matters relating to Michael Watt. The Belfast Trust is currently reviewing the INI Report and the Belfast Trust will thereafter determine whether it is necessary to formally report any further individuals to regulatory bodies. In addition to this, the Medical Director has already encouraged any medical staff criticised in the INI Report to make a self-referral to their professional body.

It is also the case that the GMC itself was involved with the INI Inquiry, has the report of the INI Inquiry, and will be considering whether anything contained in the report of the INI Inquiry merits further action by it. The Belfast Trust has had sight of a letter from the Independent Neurology Inquiry (INI) to advise that “had the inquiry panel any reason to consider that it had evidence demonstrating that an individual doctor’s fitness to practise was impaired and likely to be impacting on patient safety then this would have immediately been brought to the attention of the GMC and any employer of the relevant doctor. There was no such scenario during the lifetime of the Inquiry.”