Exercise

What possible verdicts and recommendations could be made in the following scenarios?

Scenario 1

An expectant mother suffers from extreme back pain and attends the hospital. Her back symptoms are not taken into consideration by the medical team when she attends. Mother not thought to be in labour. She advises a midwife that she is experiencing bleeding, but this was not followed up on.

The mother requests to be induced, but the hospital refuses as all slots for inducement are booked up for the next 6 days. Despite her requests for a scan to be conducted in light of her symptoms, no scan was conducted. When the mother gives birth, the baby dies of acute hypoxia.

Scenario 2

Unattended infant is killed by the family dog. The dog had previously snapped at the child when she arrived home from the hospital whilst in attendance with the mother.

At the time of the incident, the mother was downstairs with her sister, and the infant was upstairs asleep.

Death caused by brain injury with haemorrhage and shock from scalp lacerations consistent with an animal attack.

Scenario 3

57-year-old man found dead at home (no evidence of a break in or foul play). Post-mortem could not provide any medical reason why the man dies. Nothing in his medical history to suggest any risks. Had received the Covid 19 Vaccine 2 weeks prior to death.

Scenario 4

A prisoner is found unresponsive in his cell, and ultimately dies in hospital a number of days subsequently. The prison service's medical team reviewed him for 5 minutes on the day he was found unresponsive, due to his making delusional statements. He had previously advised prison staff of suicide attempts during a previous sentence, but was not placed under special supervision.

Family GP gives evidence of previous suicide attempts. However, during the course of the inquest, evidence is given that a "technical glitch" in the prison's IT system meant that old information on the prisoner's time in prison was not available