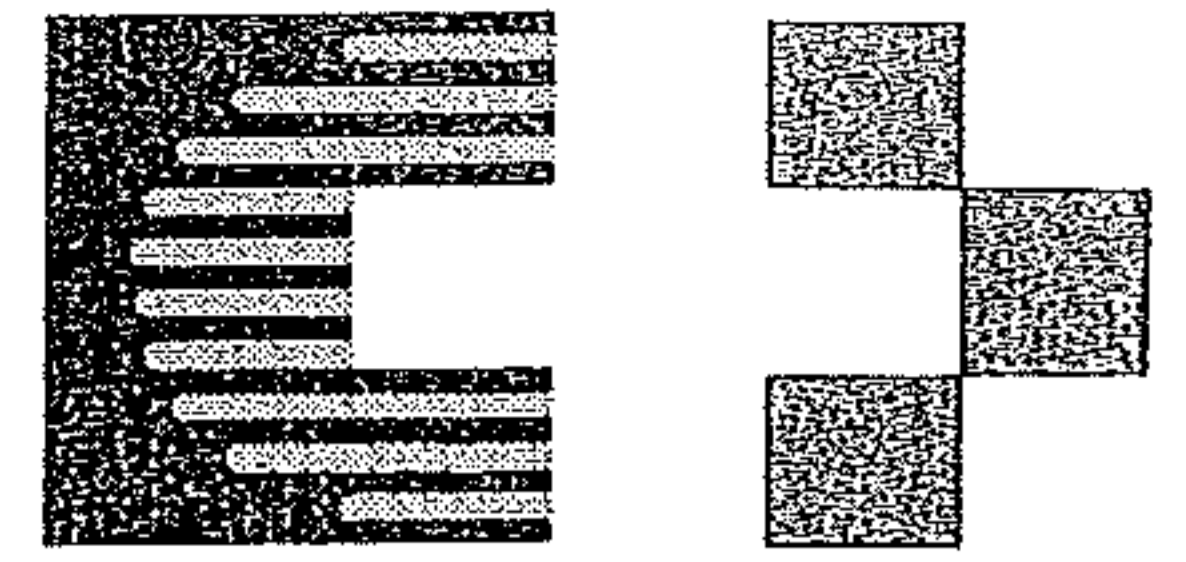


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**CRAIGAVON  
AREA HOSPITAL  
GROUP TRUST**

*Caring Through Commitment*

7 April 2004

Dr H Campbell  
Chief Medical Officer  
Department of Health & Social Services  
Castle Buildings  
Upper Newtownards Road  
BELFAST  
BT4 3PP

Dear Dr ~~Campbell~~ *Edna*

## **PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF HYPONATRAEMIA**

The guidance on the prevention and management of hyponatraemia in children was taken forward in Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust by a group of senior clinicians including our Consultant Clinical Biochemist, a consultant representative from Accident & Emergency, two senior paediatricians and a consultant anaesthetist. The guidelines for the prevention and management of hyponatraemia in children have been adopted throughout the Trust including where children are treated by surgical teams. The guidance is included in the induction for junior doctors and detailed fluid protocols are available to medical staff. Junior medical staff are also guided to seek consultant input into the management of hyponatraemia in both adults and children. The Trust has participated in a regional audit of the guidance on the prevention and management of hyponatraemia in children which has been co-ordinated through the SAC Paediatrics Committee.

The Trust has similarly adopted the CREST guidance on The Management of Hyponatraemia in Adults. This is also incorporated into junior doctor induction programmes and the guidance is available on the hospital intranet site. As you know this guidance has been in place for a shorter period than the guidance on the prevention and management of hyponatraemia in children. I have discussed the possibility of auditing practice with

Headquarters:

Craigavon Area Hospital Group HSS Trust  
Craigavon, BT63 5QQ

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DHSSPS

*007-077-150*

Dr Peter Sharpe, Consultant clinical Biochemist in Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust. Peter has agreed to raise the issue of an audit of the implementation and impact of the guidance on The Management of Hyponatraemia in Adults at the Regional Clinical Biochemistry Audit Group.

I trust this is the information you require. Please do not hesitate to contact me if any further detail is necessary.

Yours sincerely



Dr C Humphrey  
Medical Director

Cc Mr J Mone  
Mr C Donaghy  
Dr A Telford