

**CORONERS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959**

*Deposition of Witness* taken on TUESDAY the 17TH day of FEBRUARY 2004, at inquest touching the death of LUCY CRAWFORD, before me MR J L LECKEY Coroner for the District of GREATER BELFAST as follows to wit:-

*The Deposition of* DR PETER CREAN of ROYAL BELFAST HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, GROSVENOR ROAD, BELFAST, BT12 6BA who being sworn upon his oath, saith

I am a registered medical practitioner and was appointed to the Royal Victoria Hospital for Sick Children as a consultant in paediatric anaesthesia and intensive care in 1984. I qualified from Queen's University, Belfast and my qualifications are MB, BCH, BAO, FFARCSI.

This is a report of my involvement in the care of Lucy Crawford. I looked after her in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2000.

Lucy Crawford was a 17 month old girl who was transferred from the Erne Hospital in the early hours of Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2000 to the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit in the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children. She had a history of being unwell since Tuesday, and was admitted to the Erne Hospital on the Wednesday evening with a history of poor oral intake, vomiting and an increased temperature. Her Sodium level on admission was 137mmol L. She was given intravenous fluids in the ward, however at 03.00 hours on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2000 she developed a seizure and was give rectal diazepam. Also her breathing became erratic and she stopped breathing. Her sodium level at this time was 127mmol L. It was necessary for Lucy to be intubated and ventilated. It was noted that before leaving the Erne Hospital her pupils were dilated and unreactive.

On arrival at the Children's Hospital she was mechanically ventilated and soon required drugs to maintain her blood pressure. Her sodium level after arrival was 145mmol/L. She remained completely unresponsive and I was able to change her breathing tube without the aid of any medications. I arranged for her to be seen by Dr Hanrahan, Consultant Paediatric Neurologist in the Children's Hospital. Sadly Lucy died the following day, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2000. At the time she was under the care of my consultant colleague, Dr Chisakuta.

TAKEN before me this 17TH day of FEBRUARY 2004

Coroner for the District of Greater Belfast

047-125-271

LC-SLT