CORONERS ACT (Northern Ireland), 1959

Deposition of Witness taken on the day of (month), (year), at inquest touching the death of **CONOR EDWARD JOHN MITCHELL** , before me MR J LECKEY LL.B Coroner for the District of GREATER BELFAST as follows to wit: -

The Deposition of DR SUZIE BUDD

of C/O CRAIGAVON AREA HOSPITAL, PORTADOWN *(Address)*

who being sworn upon her oath, saith

I am a Staff Grade Doctor working in the Accident and Emergency Department of Craigavon Area Hospital where I have worked for over five years. I was on duty on Thursday 8th May 2003 when Conor was brought to A & E by his mother, registration time 10 51 am. I examined him immediately as he was brought directly into the treatment area. Conor had been referred by his General Practitioner to the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children but his mother had decided to bring him to Craigavon Area Hospital. Conor had a history of cerebral palsy and had apparently been unwell for approximately 10 days with vomiting and poor oral intake. He had become more listless that day. On examination, Conor was pale with signs of dehydration. His mother reported that he was less responsive than normal. There was no sign of meningitis. He was apyrexic but haemodynamically stable and breathing spontaneously with normal oxygen saturation on room air. On examination of his abdomen, there was no local tenderness. Bowel sounds were present. IV access was obtained and routine blood tests were sent, including blood cultures and a venous blood gas. This demonstrated there was no acidosis and that Conor was not hypoglycaemic. IV fluids were administered. Paracetamol was given and I recommended intravenous antibiotics but Conor's mother did not consent to these being administered. I explained the need for giving broad spectrum antibiotics and the potential risks of not receiving them at this stage. I then referred Conor for further management to the Paediatric Team in view of the fact that he had a child-like appearance. I was advised that

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because Conor was aged 15 years, he was not suitable for admission to the Paediatric Ward. I explained this to Conor's mother and admission was arranged via the Medical Team. Conor was transferred to the Medical Admissions Unit and managed by the Medical Team. He left the A & E Department at 12 10 pm. I had no further contact with him after he left for the ward. I was with Conor for about 1 hour 20 minutes and was dealing with him almost exclusively. I myself saw signs of dehydration. I specifically asked Conor's mother if there had been any fitting and she replied that there had not been. I agreed that because of Conor's history of cerebral palsy. I was unable to diagnose what was wrong with Conor. I felt his condition gave cause for concern and his mother was very distressed. I paid particular attention to her concerns.

TAKEN before me this 7th day of June (month), 2004 (year).

[illegible signature] Coroner for the District of Greater Belfast

CORONERS ACT (Northern Ireland), 1959

Deposition of Witness taken on the day

of 20 , at inquest touching the death of

, before me

Coroner for the District of

as follows to wit:—

The Deposition of DR SUZIE JUDD

of (Address)

who being sworn upon h is oath, saith

Mr. McKillop: I know Mr. Kerr had some contact with Conor. I assessed Conor as being about 5% dehydrated. That is mild dehydration. I was aware he had been given antibiotics previously and that Conor's mother wanted the results of blood tests before any further antibiotics were given. I had discussions about a paediatric admission due to his weight and size but admission was refused because of his age.

Mr. Millar: I told Conor's family about the paediatric admission decision. His mother did not want Conor to go to a paediatric ward as she felt the paediatricians were in some way responsible for his condition. I was responsible for the fluid management in A&E. Fluid was given by burette - specifically designed for children. All he got was 110 mls Hartmann x 2. I remain happy with the fluid management I prescribed. [signature]

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TAKEN before me this 7th day of June 2004

[signature] Coroner for the District of Greater Belfast