

Received pursuant to Rule 17

The **ROYAL**
HOSPITALS

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
Dr Michael McBride, FRCP

17 December 2004

Mr & Mrs Roberts
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr and Mrs Roberts

As you will have been advised by Dr Nichola Rooney, I, in my role as Medical Director of the Royal Hospitals Trust, have been closely involved with your recent contact with the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children regarding the death of your beloved daughter Claire in 1996. May I take this opportunity to express my deep regret that the circumstances of Claire's tragic and untimely death have required to be further investigated at this time of year. I can only imagine how difficult this situation has been for you and your family and I am sorry for the added anguish which has undoubtedly been caused.

As you have been informed by Professor Ian Young of the Queen's University Belfast, our medical case note review has suggested that there may have been a care management problem in relation to hyponatraemia and that this may have significantly contributed to Claire's deterioration and death. In such circumstances it is necessary for the Trust to report the death to the Coroner for further investigation. I can now confirm that HM Coroner, Mr John Leckey, has been duly informed. With your permission, we have communicated to the Coroner that you are content with this and he has invited you to contact his office directly. The contact details are as follows.

Mr J Leckey
HM Coroner
Coroner's Office
Courthouse
Old Town Hall Building
80 Victoria Street
Belfast BT1 3FA
Tel: [REDACTED]

OR

Mr J Leckey
HM Coroner
Northern Ireland Court Service
9-15 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7LT
Tel: [REDACTED]

I have enclosed, for your interest, some information pertaining to the role of the Coroner which you may find of some use. I understand you are remaining in contact with the hospital and that Dr Rooney is continuing to co-ordinate responses to a number of questions that you would wish to be answered, with a view to a further meeting in January 2005. I will be kept informed of your ongoing contact and wish to offer any help or support which you might find of use.

CR - CORONER

/Finally

PATRON: HRH The Duchess of Kent

The Royal Victoria Hospital
The Royal Maternity Hospital
The Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children
The Dental Hospital

THE ROYAL GROUP OF HOSPITALS AND DENTAL HOSPITALS
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST

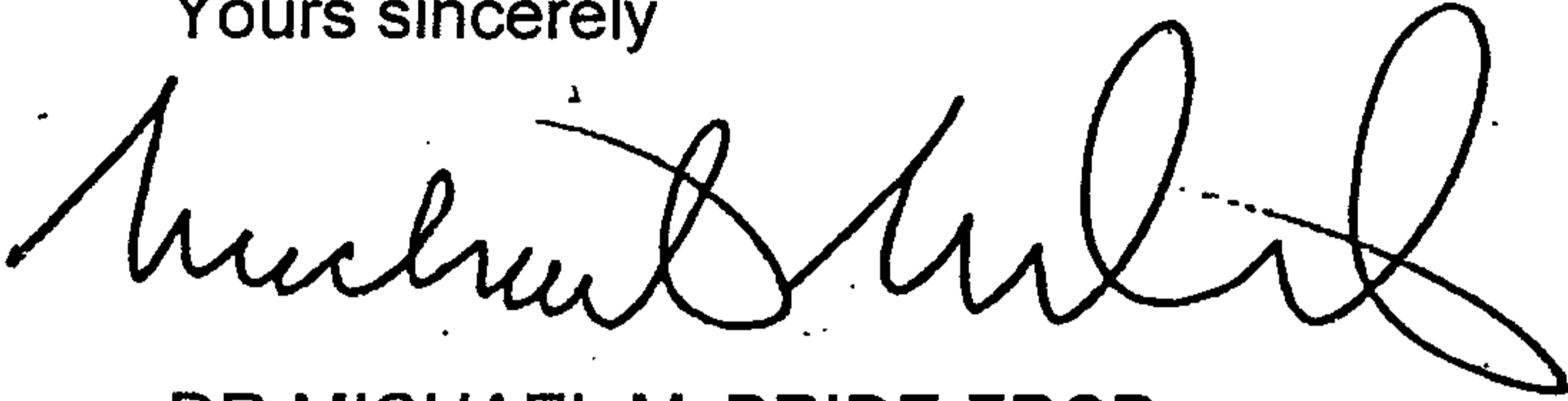
Grosvenor Road, Belfast BT12 6BA Northern Ireland
Tel: [REDACTED]
Email: michael.mcbride@royalhospitals.n-i.nhs.uk

091-012-075

Accredited by the
Health Quality Service

Finally, may I once again offer my sincerest sympathy to you and your family and hope that you can manage to enjoy a peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McBride". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

DR MICHAEL McBRIDE FRCP
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Enc

Received pursuant to rule 11

The Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976, Article 38

CERTIFIED



COPY

DEATH registered in the district of CASTLEREAGH

D1996/C1/0628

1 Name and Surname : Claire Margaret Roberts
2 Sex : Female
3 Date of death : Twentythird October 1996
4 Place of death : Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children
5 Usual address : 45 Rochester Road, Belfast BT6 9PA
(if different from place of death)
6 Marital Status : Single
7 Date and place of birth : 10 January 1987 Belfast
8 Occupation : Daughter of Alan John Roberts a [REDACTED]

9 Maiden name : -----
(of woman who had married)

10 Cause of Death : I (a) Cerebral oedema
(b) Status epilepticus

Certified

11 Qualification of informant: Uncle
12 Address of informant : [REDACTED]

13 Signature of informant : T. Roberts

14 Date of Registration : 24 October 1996
15 Signature of Registrar : Margaret McVeigh

Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in a register
in my custody

Registrar

Date Twentyfourth October 1996



CR - CORONER

CAUTION Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) is not true, knowing it to be false, or (3) passes as genuine any reproduction of this certificate, known not the Certified Copy, is liable to prosecution.

091-012-077