

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

STATEMENT OF: PETER CREAN, REGISTERED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER  
Name Rank

AGE OF WITNESS (if over 21 enter "over 21"): OVER 21

NOT SIGNED IN POLICE OFFICER'S PRESENCE

TO BE COMPLETED  
WHEN THE  
STATEMENT HAS  
BEEN WRITTEN

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 14 day of MARCH

Walter Cross  
2005

P. Crean

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom  
statement was recorded or received

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

**Re: Lucy Crawford (deceased) DOB: 05/11/98**

I am a Registered Medical Practitioner and was appointed to the Royal Belfast 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 April 2000. Lucy Crawford was a 17 month old girl who was transferred from the Erne Hospital in the early hours of Thursday 13 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 137 mmol L. She was given intravenous fluids in the ward, however, on 0300 hours on 13 April 2000 she developed a seizure and was given rectal diazepam. Also her breathing became erratic and she stopped breathing. Her sodium level at this time was 127 mmol 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 145 mmol 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 Doctor Hanrahan, Consultant Paediatric Neurologist in the Children's Hospital. Sadly Lucy died the following day, 14 April 2000. At the time she was under the care of my Consultant colleague, Doctor Chisakuta. From the time of her arrival in the Children's Hospital there was no chance that she would survive. I cannot remember what notes accompanied Lucy from the Erne. On admission to the Erne her sodium level was within normal limits. It then dropped 10 to 127 within a short period. The rate of fall is the crucial factor. The dilated and unreactive pupils indicated some catastrophic event to the brain. I believe that at the time Lucy left the Erne Hospital the situation was not retrievable. Children can deteriorate very quickly - more so than adults. 145 is at the upper range for normal sodium levels. That may have been due to the fluids she had been infused with at the Erne or possibly diabetes insipidus. On admission the working diagnosis was gastroenteritis. My formulation of the cause of death would be - 1(a) Cerebral Oedema due to 1(b) Hyponatraemia.

P. Crean

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS.....

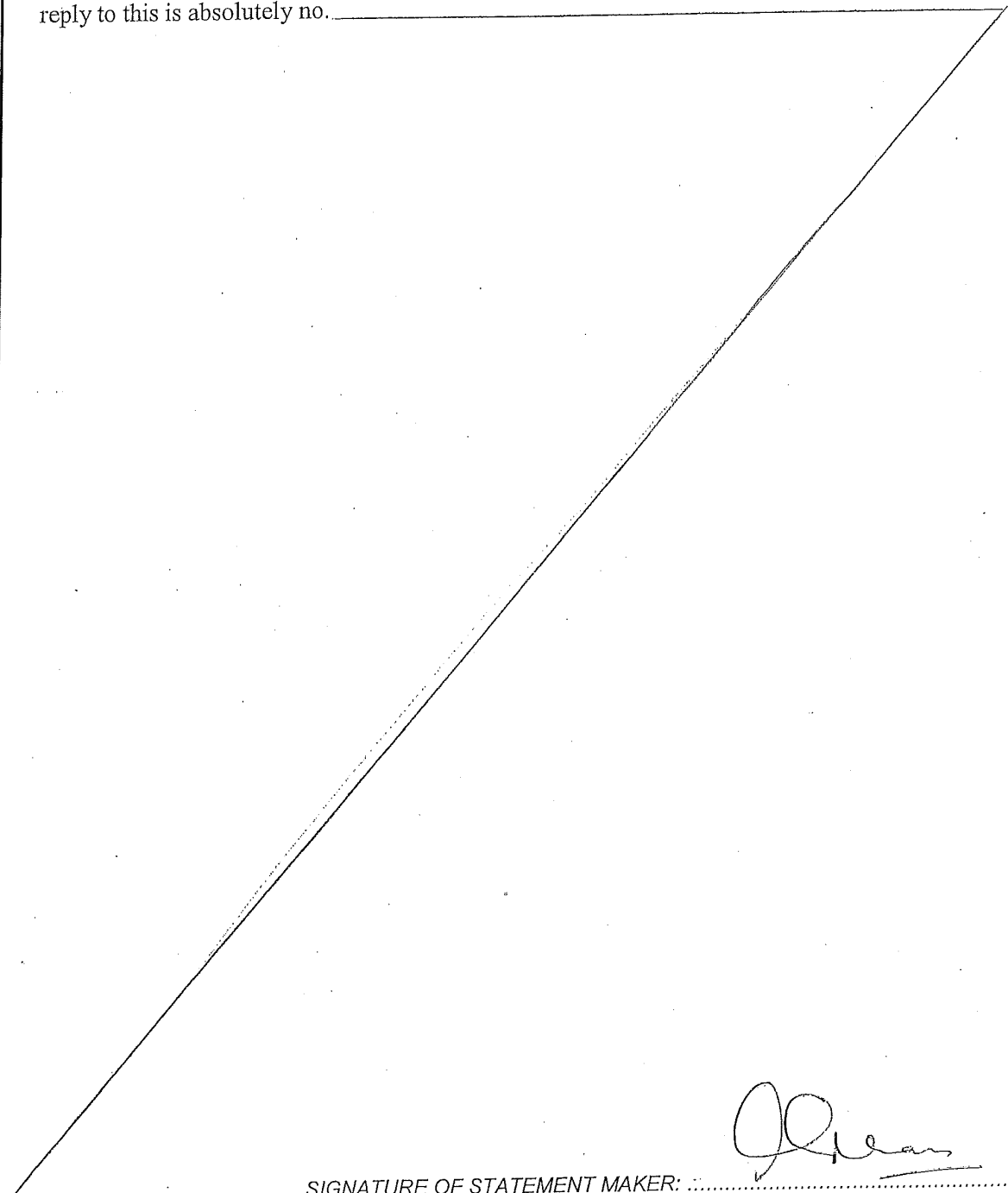
Form 38/36  
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STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

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I would like to explain the role of Consultants in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit. The Consultant may change on a daily basis, however the Junior Staff during the day are permanently attached. At the time in question, I believe that Doctor McKaigue, was in charge of the Unit overnight from Wednesday night, 12 April 2000 until Thursday morning, 13 April 2000. I took over responsibility on Thursday morning at approximately 0830 hours. I can state that Doctor McKaigue retained supervision of Lucy until 0900 hours. Normally, Doctor Chisakuta is the Consultant in charge on Fridays.

Detective Inspector Cross has asked me if any person at any time contacted me in relation to the death of Lucy and attempted to influence me in regard to the cause of Lucy's death. My reply to this is absolutely no.



SIGNATURE OF STATEMENT MAKER: .....

Form 38/36 [a]

(Plain)

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