

DRAFT STATEMENT

In the light of the rare circumstances encountered in the Adam Strain Case, and having regard to the information contained in the Arieff Paper (BMJ 1992), and additionally having regard to information which has recently come to light that perhaps there may have been nine other cases in the United Kingdom involving Hyponatraemia which led to death in Renal Transplants, the Royal Group of Hospitals wishes to make it known that the future management of patients undergoing paediatric surgery will be carefully monitored and re-appraised having regard to this information which is now available.

In particular all patients undergoing major surgery who have a potential for electrolyte imbalance will be carefully monitored according to their clinical needs and where necessary intensive monitoring of the electrolyte values will be undertaken. Furthermore the now known complications of Hyponatraemia in some of these cases will continue to be assessed in each patient and all Anaesthetic Staff will be made aware of these particular phenomenon and advised to act accordingly. The Trust will continue to use its best endeavours to ensure that Operating Theatres are afforded access to full laboratory facilities to ensure timely receipt of reports on full blood pictures and electrolyte values thereby assisting rapid anaesthetic intervention when indicated.

GB/JM