

Medical Report
on
Adam Strain

To the Court

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I have been asked to provide this report by Brian Cullen, Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths.

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I understand that my primary duty is to assist the court on the matters within my expertise. This duty overrides any obligation to those by whom I have been instructed or by whom I may be paid. The opinion expressed in this report is not partial to either claimant or defence.

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Personal Information

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I started medical training in 1970 at Clare College, Cambridge and finished in King's College Hospital, London. After my house jobs I started radiology training in 1979 and continued specialist training in Neuroradiology at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford in 1982.

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I was appointed consultant neuroradiologist based at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford in 1985. My qualifications are: M.A., M.B., B.Chir., F.R.C.R.

My daily activity lies in the interpretation of images of the brain and spinal cord. I have very close clinical links with the specialists based in my hospital and my time is unequally divided between a number of different clinical groups including:

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- Neurology and neurosurgery
- Paediatric neurology, neurosurgery and neuroncology
- Head and Neck radiology including ENT and ophthalmology.

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My major non-clinical interest is in education. In the recent past I have been an elected member of the Education Board of the Royal College of Radiologists, Regional Adviser in radiology and a senior visitor of the Training and Accreditation Committee of the Royal College of Radiologists. I am co-founder and past Chairman of the British Society of Head and Neck Radiology. I was recently awarded the President's medal for services to Radiology and I am a member of the Health Service Ombudsman's panel of experts.

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My GMC Reference Number is 2312701.

My medicolegal practice is mainly devoted to issues of birth injury and head injury including non-accidental injury. I prepare reports for both claimant and defence in approximately equal proportions.

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Preamble:

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I have been asked to review the radiology in this case. In order to reach an opinion, I have to have an understanding of the clinical issues. I have therefore been provided with the following data:

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- Witness statements:
 - None

- Expert Reports:
 - None

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- Pleadings:
 - None

- Photocopies of some of the medical notes

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I understand it is my duty to assist the court in matters of causation. I examine MRI scans to determine the nature of the injurious event, and having identified that event, examine the clinical record to try and help in the timing of that event. The radiology frequently gives a general indication as to the duration and severity of the injurious event. It cannot ever offer any detailed knowledge of timing – this has to come from expert interpretation of the clinical record. It is proper for me to express an opinion regarding the timing of an injury since my reports detail the clinical narrative and present the contemporary and delayed radiological findings in a cohesive document.

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It is important for me to stress that whilst I have a general understanding of clinical matters, I do not consider myself an expert in anything other than my own specialty (neuroradiology), and would always defer to the relevant clinical experts in these matters. I would certainly not expect the court to prefer my opinion against expert specialist opinion in the relevant field in a case.

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It is proper for me to set out the pertinent features of the case upon which I base my opinion.

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(Where there are direct quotations from the medical notes, they are enclosed in parentheses “ ”)

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Clinical History

I have not been provided with any clinical history for this child.

90 I was asked to review this child's scan by Doctor Squier. She has provided a full report and wanted my opinion on the radiology.

The Radiology

There are two scans.

95 The first scan was performed on the 7th July 1995. It was performed with a scan of the abdomen. Contrast was given. The scan was normal. CSF was seen on the surface of the brain and in the ventricles.

100 The second scan was performed on the 27th November 1995. There has been a dramatic change. The brain has become very swollen. The CSF spaces have become obliterated and the ventricles are much smaller. These changes are severe in the posterior fossa. The cerebellar tonsils have descended through the foramen magnum.

105 The second scan indicates that the brain has developed oedema.

Declaration:

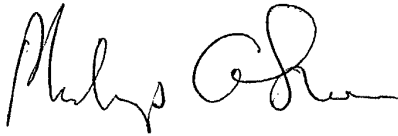
- 110 1. I understand that my duty is to the court and I have complied and will continue to comply with that duty.
2. I have endeavoured in my report and in my opinions to be accurate and to have covered all relevant issues concerning the matters stated which I have been asked to address.
- 115 3. I have endeavoured to include in my report those matters, which I have knowledge of all of which I have been made aware that might adversely affect the validity of my opinion.
4. I have indicated the sources of information I have used.
5. I have not, without informing an independent view, included or excluded any thing which has been suggested to me by others, in particular the instructing
- 120 6. I will notify those instructing me immediately and confirm in writing if for any reason my report requires correction or qualification.

I understand that:

- 125 1. My report subject to any corrections before swearing as to its correctness, will form the evidence to be given under oath or affirmation.
2. I may be cross-examined on my report by a cross examiner assisted by an expert.
- 130 3. I am likely to be the subject of adverse public criticism by the judge if the court concludes that I have not taken reasonable care in trying to meet the standards set out above.

135 **I confirm that:**

1. I have not entered into any arrangement whereby the amount of payment of fees is in any way related to the outcome of the case.
- 140 2. Insofar as the facts stated in my report are within my own knowledge, I have made clear which they are and I believe them to be true, and that the opinions I have expressed represent my true and complete professional opinion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Anslow', written in a cursive style.

145 Dr Philip Anslow
6th February 2012