

Witness Statement Ref. No. 005/1

**NAME OF CHILD:** Adam Strain

**Name:** Catherine Murphy

**Title:** Mrs (Staff Nurse in 1995)

**Present position and institution:**

No longer nursing

**Previous position and institution:** Staff Nurse, Musgrave Ward, Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children  
*[As at the time of the child's death]*

**Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:**  
*[Identify by date and title all of those between January 1995-December 2004]*

NONE

**Previous Statements, Depositions and Reports:**  
*[Identify by date and title all those made in relation to the child's death]*

NONE

**OFFICIAL USE:**  
**List of previous statement, depositions and reports attached:**

| Ref: | Date: |  |
|------|-------|--|
|      |       |  |



**Particular areas of interest**

*[Please attach additional sheets if more space is required]*

**1. Describe in detail your role in the care of Adam prior to his transplant surgery, including preparing him for that surgery.**

I was the Staff Nurse who admitted Adam Strain to Musgrave Ward, RBHSC on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1995 at 9pm as a possible donor kidney had been found for him. As the admitting nurse I recorded his temperature, pulse, blood pressure and weight. I took a patient history and noted his current medication (057-011-015, 057-012-016 and 057-013-017,018).

Adam was given 180mls of clear fluid per hour through his gastrostomy tube and 20mls of IV fluids (intravenous fluids) per hour (057-010-013,014).

At 1.30am Adam's IV Cannula tissued. Dr O'Neill was informed and his clear fluids via gastostomy were increased to 200mls per hour (057-014-019).

At 2am I gave Adam 240mg of paracetamol via his gastrostomy tube (057-021-033,034 and 057-022-035).

Adam had his normal peritoneal dialysis overnight which was stopped at 6am as per doctors order. Adam was transferred to theatre at 7am. Although his patient notes say that he had his cannula reinserted at 5am I have a vague memory of the doctor having difficulty in inserting this and Adam going to theatre without IV access being obtained (057-014-019).

**Other points you wish to make including additions to any previous Statements, Depositions and or Reports**

*[Please attach additional sheets if more space is required]*

This witness statement provided is based upon reference to the hospital notes made available to me at Bostock House, Royal Hospitals.

Without referring to the documents I am sorry to say that I have very little memory of what occurred prior to or after Adam's death.

The only vivid memory I have is of telling Debbie (Adam's mum) that he would 'be fine' on being transferred to theatre on the morning of the transplant – an assurance which I feel regret and guilt at making.

**THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF**

Signed:

*Cathene Murphy*

Dated:

*18/7/05*