

Witness Statement Ref. No. 048 /1

NAME OF CHILD: Raychel Ferguson**Name: Daphne Patterson****Title: Staff Nurse Grade D Paediatrics****Training**

Short course in diabetic nursing (November 1990)

Return to Professional Practice (October 1998)

Keeping Pace with Paediatrics again (October 1999)

Care of the child with diabetes (November 2000)

IV Additives (November 2001)

Paediatric CPR (May 2003)

Moving and Handling (January 2002)

Child Protection (October 2004)

Diploma Module in: Health Promotion (Sept 2002)

Research (Jan – May)

Quality and Development Practice (September 2003 – May 2004)

Basic Principles of Diabetics Care (Jan 2004-May 2004)

Complications of Diabetes (September – December 2004)

Childhood Diabetes – Hospital to Home (Jan – May 2005)

Present position and institution:**Staff Nurse (Grade D)****Previous position and institution:***[As at the time of the child's death]*

Student Nurse – Jan 1985-1988 (RBHSC)

Staff Nurse (Grade D) April 1988 – Jan 1991 (RBHSC)

Child care Worker – September 1997 – February 1999

Staff Nurse (Grade D) – March 1999 – to present (Altnagelvin Paediatrics)

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 statements, depositions and reports attached:

Ref:	Date:	

Particular areas of interest

[Please attach additional sheets if more space is required]

Describe in detail your role in the care and treatment of Raychel Ferguson from 7th to 9th June 2001, to include:

- (i) the steps you took as the named nurse on the episodic plan for Raychel; and**
- (ii) your observations and concerns in relation to Raychel over that period.**

I commenced duty in Ward 6 in Altnagelvin at 7.45pm on the night of the 7 June 2001. I admitted Raychel Ferguson to the ward at 9.50pm, thus becoming Raychel's named nurse. A care plan based on the problem of abdominal pain was given according to the Roper, Logan and Tierney model of nursing (see pages 020-027-056 to 020-027-065 and 020-028-066 to 020-028-069). The purpose of compiling a care plan is to allow nursing staff caring for a patient to assess, plan, implement and evaluate the nursing care given. This is to ensure that all care is carried out to an optimum level and that it is based on the individual patient and family needs. The care is evaluated and update during each shift by the nursing staff caring for a particular patient.

On admitting Raychel I introduced myself to Raychel and her parents. I obtained information on Raychel's past history, reason for admission and assessing her individual needs. I also gave information to Raychel and her parents explaining her care and giving necessary information regarding the ward such as security system, visiting times and public phone.

Raychel was alert and talkative on admission and complaining only of slight abdominal pain. The surgical SHO on call had seen Raychel in A&E (see pages 020-007-011 and 020-007-012) and spoke to her parents and the consent form was signed (see pages 020-008-015). She was fasting to go to theatre for an appendicectomy. Intravenous fluids – No 18 solution was prescribed by the doctor on her fluid balance sheet (see pages 020-021-040). I checked the intravenous fluids with Staff Nurse Fiona Bryce and the intravenous fluids were commenced at 10.15pm running as prescribed at 80mls per hr (see pages 020-021-040). An intravenous canula had been inserted in A&E in her left arm. I filled in the details of the name, hospital number and cows milk/normal diet on page 020-015-027 at time of admission but I did not fill in any other details on this page.

The procedure and all nursing care was explained to Raychel and her parents. Raychel's parents had to go home for a short time. The anaesthetist came to see Raychel during their absence (see page 020-009-017). I telephoned her parents at home to inform them that Raychel was going to theatre after 11pm. Raychel's parents returned to the ward and her mum accompanied Raychel to theatre along with Staff Nurse Bryce.

I brought Raychel back from theatre at 1.55am following the removal of a mildly congested appendix (see page 020-010-018). Her Intravenous fluids were recommenced on return from theatre and again running at 80mls per hr as prescribed by the doctor on the fluid balance sheet (page 020-021-040). On bringing Raychel back from theatre and carrying out observations I informed her parents of her condition and briefly explained the findings of the operation. Post operative observations were carried out by myself on return to ward (020-015-029). Raychel's observations were continued overnight. Raychel had a comfortable post operative night. At 7.05am on the 8 June Raychel was complaining of abdominal pain. I administered PR Diclofenac and PR Flagyl as prescribed by doctor (see page 020-017-033, 020-017-036). I checked the medication with Staff Nurse Joanne Hewitt (see page 020-017-

I returned on duty at 7.45pm on the 8 June. I was allocated to work in the Infant Unit caring for infants up to 6mths of age so I was not caring for Raychel that night.

However when walking through the main ward her dad gave me a vomit bowel with a small coffee ground vomit (see page 020-018-037) I reported this to the nursing staff caring for Raychel that night. At 12mn I reset the IV pump and checked her IV site. If I had seen anything to concern me at that stage I would have mentioned it to the nursing staff caring for Raychel.

I did not have any further contact with Raychel but I saw her parents when they returned to the ward after 3am.

2. Explain the purpose and practice of compiling an episodic plan in relation to a patient and how, in your experience such a plan is completed, by whom and when.

The purpose of compiling a care plan is to allow nursing staff caring for a patient to assess, plan, implement and evaluate the nursing care given. This is to ensure that all care is carried out to an optimum level and that it is based on the individual patient and family needs. The care is evaluated and update during each shift by the nursing staff caring for a particular patient. (see pages 020-027-056 to 020-027-065 and 020-028-066 to 020-028-069).

Particular areas of interest (Cont'd)

Give details of all communications you had with the parents of Raychel Ferguson both before and after her death, to include:

- (i) the nature of such communications;**
 - (ii) when and at whose request such communications took place; and**
- the information imparted on both sides.**

I first met Raychel and her parents on admission to Ward 6 on 7 June 2001 at 9.50pm. On admitting Raychel I introduced myself to Raychel and her parents. I obtained information on Raychel's past history, reason for admission and assessing her individual needs (see care plan 020-027-056 to 020-027-065 and 020-028-066 to 020-028-069). I also was giving information to Raychel and her parents explaining her care which would include: advising that Raychel would be fasting prior to going to Theatre, that intravenous fluids would be erected and prescribed, if she required analgesia she would get it and reassuring and comforting Raychel and reassuring the parents. I also gave necessary information regarding the ward such as the security system, visiting times and public phone.

On bringing Raychel back from theatre and carrying out her observations (see page 020-015-029) I informed her parents of her condition and briefly explained the findings of the operation.

On the morning of the 8 June I gave Raychel the Diclofenac and Flagyl suppositories and the procedure was explained to Raychel.

When assisting Raychel to sit up in bed I told Raychel and her dad that she was doing well and would soon be up and about.

At 11pm on the 8 June I accepted the vomit bowel from Raychel's dad and explained that although I was not caring for Raychel that night I would inform the nursing staff involved in her care.

4. Describe in detail any contact you had with colleagues at RBHSC, if any, after Raychel's transfer to RBHSC.

None

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]

Hyponatraemia

I had no previous experience of hyponatraemia in post operative surgical patients. Prior to this incident I had no concerns or worries about the use of No 18 solution in children. I was not aware of any incidents in other hospitals involving No 18 solution.

Signed: Daphne Patterson.

Dated: 15/6/05.

**THE
NATIONAL
BOARD**

The National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Northern Ireland

RAC House 79 Chichester Street Belfast BT1 4JE Telephone (0232) 238152

Date: 06/04/88

PIN: 65A0064N

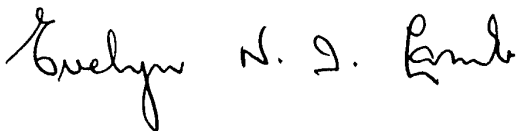
This is to certify that

RUBY AGNES DAPHNE PATTERSON

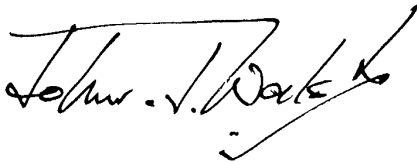
has successfully completed a course in

SICK CHILDREN'S NURSING (LEVEL 1)

at an Institution approved by this Board under the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979 and is therefore eligible to have this qualification registered/recorded on the single professional register maintained by the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.



Chairman



Chief Executive Officer

The Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children
Belfast

Nurse Education Centre

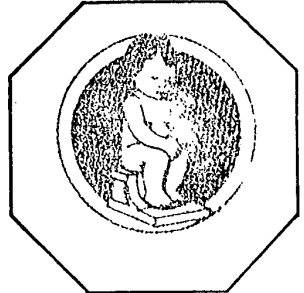
This is to certify that

Buby A. D. Patterson.

having satisfactorily completed

*a course of 3 years in practical and theoretical nursing
from 21st January 1985 till 16th March 1988
in this Hospital, is hereby granted a*

Certificate of Efficiency



S. R. Kelly
Chairman, Paediatric Division

W. H. Chan
Senior Nursing Officer

M. L. Taylor
Senior Nurse/Tutor

Date *18th April 1988*

THE NATIONAL BOARD for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Northern Ireland

PIN ... 85A0064N

This is to Certify that

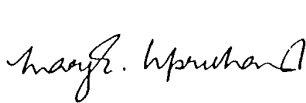
..... DAPHNE PATTERSON

*has attended a course approved by
The National Board*

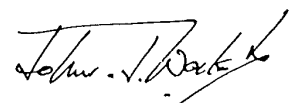
Course title SHORT COURSE IN DIABETIC NURSING ..

.....
at EASTERN AREA COLLEGE OF NURSING NORTHSIDE

from .. 5/11/90 to 30/11/90



Chairman



Chief Executive Officer

Course Number P928 Date issued 6/12/90



PROVIDER SUPPORT UNIT

PROVIDER SUPPORT UNIT
Nursing & Midwifery Education

This is to certify that

Daphne Patterson

Attended a Short Course on

Return to Professional Practice

Date **22, 23, 26, 27, 28 October 1998**
& 22 March 1999

Signed Margaret O'Hare.

MARGARET O'HARE & ANNE QUAIL
NURSE EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

North & West In-Service Education Consortium

Certificate of Attendance

is awarded to

Daphne Patterson

who attended the undermentioned In-Service programme

IV ADDITIVES.

Duration *3 DAYS.*

Date(s) *22nd November '01*
24th November '01
25th May '02

Rose Macnamara
In-Service Nurse Teacher



Certificate of Attendance

To certify that Daphne Patterson

has attended a Study Day on
Care of the Child with Diabetes

Duration of Lecture 8 hrs.

Signature [Signature]

Date 20 / 11 / 2000

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PAEDIATRIC NURSES

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

AT A

STUDY DAY ENTITLED ;
'KEEPING PACE WITH PAEDIATRICS AGAIN'

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT.....

HAS ATTENDED THIS STUDY DAY ON FRIDAY
15TH OCTOBER 1999

PROGRAMME CONTENT

- ❖ **TRACHEOSTOMY CARE (A PARENT PERSPECTIVE)**
- ❖ **DIABETES**
- ❖ **UKCC EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT**
- ❖ **ACE PROCEDURE**
- ❖ **NSPCC (FULL STEP)**
- ❖ **COCHLEAR IMPLANT**
- ❖ **RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS**
- ❖ **BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION/CHILD PSYCHIATRY**

SIGNED:..... *Tileen Addis* **.....**

STUDY DAY ORGANISER

North & West In-Service Education Consortium

Certificate of Attendance

is awarded to

Daphne Patterson

who attended the undermentioned In-Service programme

Moving and Handling

Duration *One Day*

Date(s) *24 January 2002*

[Signature]
In-Service Nurse Teacher