

**NAME OF CHILD: Raychel Ferguson**

**Name: Michaela Rice**

**Title: Michaela Mc Auley Staff Nurse**

**Present position and institution:**

**Staff Nurse Grade D**

**Previous position and institution:**

*[As at the time of the child's death]*

Qualified in October 1999 following 3 years training in RBHSC.

Following my training I worked in an Neurological ward in RBHSC for 8 months. Since then I have worked in ward 6 Altnagelvin, except for three months when I participated in the rotation programme to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in July 2002.

My training to date includes:

Diabetic Study Day

Orthopaedic Study Day

IV Additives Course

Paediatric Advanced Life Support

Paediatric Respiratory Diploma as well attending regular Mandatory Training Days for CPR, Moving and Handling, Infection Control and Fire Training.

**Fluid Balance Management**

Training covered as a student emphasized the importance of setting up fluids as prescribed by a doctor, ensuring 2 staff nurses checked the fluids and good record keeping.

**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]*

*As below*

**OFFICIAL USE:**

**List of previous statements, depositions and reports attached:**

<b>Ref:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
012-006-098	26.06.01	Statement
012-040-205	05.02.03	Deposition at the Inquest into the death of Raychel Ferguson

**Particular areas of interest**

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

- 1. Describe in detail your role in the care and treatment of Raychel Ferguson on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2001, to include:
  - (i) your observations and concerns in relation to Raychel that day; and
  - (ii) the discussion you had, if any, with Dr Makar, Dr Butler or Dr Devlin that day in relation to Raychel.
  - (iii)

My name is Michaela Mc Auley during the following statement I'm referred to as Staff Nurse Michaela Rice which is my maiden name.

On Friday 8 June 2001 I was on duty in Ward 6 from 07.45 I was allocated to areas A-I with Staff Nurse Avril Roulston. Raychel Ferguson was in Room I, she was a nine year old girl who had an Appendectomy the previous night. When I first met Raychel her parents were not there, I remember Raychel telling me that her name was spelt wrong so I took the name card away and corrected the spelling. When I returned with the corrected name card her father was with her and it was explained to me the reason her name was spelt that way was because her father's name is Raymond. Raychel was still fasting from the previous night and had Intravenous fluids of Number 18 Solution in progress at 80mls/hr (See page 020-007-013). She was seen by the surgical doctors and was allowed sips of fluids as tolerated and to continue on her Intravenous fluids. At this stage she had changed out of her theatre gown and was sitting out on the chair. I remember telling her father how well she was doing with only being in theatre during the night, saying the quicker they move about the better for their recovery.

At 09.00 recorded Raychel's observations temperature, pulse and respirations and same appeared within normal limits, she had no complaints of pain and colour was good. (See page 020-015-029) At 10.00 I checked her fluids by checking the burette and the amount infused in the last hour and recorded the total. I recorded that she had passed urine and Raychel was up walking about at this stage. I witnessed and recorded a large vomit of undigested food which I found strange as she was still fasting. (See page 020-018-037). At 11.00 and 12.00 I checked the fluids again by checking the burette and the amount infused in the previous hours and recorded the total (See page 020-018-037).

By 12.00 the bag of fluids which was running from the previous night had run out, so I asked one of the paediatric SHO's Dr Butler to prescribe another bag of fluids Number 18 Solution. New infusion was commenced at 12.10 (See page 020-019-038).

At 15.00 and 16.00 I again checked the fluids by checking the burette and the amount infused and recorded the total (See page 020-018-037). In the afternoon Raychel had vomited a couple of times, during which time I spoke to the mother who told me she was still vomiting and I said I would get the doctor. I bleeped the surgical JHO a couple of times but did not get any response. Then sometime after 17.00 Dr Devlin a surgical JHO came onto the ward and it was explained to him that Raychel was a post Appendix's child on Intravenous fluids and was vomiting and could she have an Antienemtic. This was administered as prescribed in the medicine Kardex Row C (See page 020-017-035). From 18.00 – 20.00 when I went off duty I was not aware of any further vomiting. At 19.00 I checked the fluids by checking the Burette and the amount infused and recorded the total (See page 020-018-037). I had no unusual or abnormal concerns about Raychel as her observations remained within normal limits (See page 020-015-029).

Before going off duty at approximately 7.30 I remember seeing Raychel up and about, walking in the corridor with her drip stand outside Room I. She was showing 2 small boys (I took to be her brothers) some pictures on the wall.

**2. Give details of your communications with the family of Raychel Ferguson both during and after her stay at Altnagelvin, to include:**

- (i) the nature of those communications;**
- (ii) the information imparted during those communications; and**
- (iii) when and where those communications took place.**

My first contact with Raychel's family was on 8-6-2001 when I returned with the corrected name card. Raychel's father was with her and it was explained to me the reason her name was spelt that way was because his name is Raymond.

Another conversation I had was with the father, later that day when I remember saying how well she was doing, her only being at theatre during the night and that the quicker they move about the better for their recovery.

The next conversation was between 3.00 and 4.00 in the afternoon when Raychel had vomited a couple of times, during which time I spoke to the mother who told me she was still vomiting and I said I would get the doctor.

I cannot recall having any further conversations with the parents during and after her stay in Altnagelvin.

**Particular areas of interest (Cont'd)**

**3. Explain in detail any contact you had with colleagues at RBHSC after Raychel's transfer from Altnagelvin.**

**None**

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**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**

Mentioned in training in context of sick children with vomiting and diarrhea, not mentioned in context of surgical patients. Was not covered as a topic but mentioned in passing. Prior to this incident I had no concerns or worries about the use of 18 Solution in paediatrics patients. Not aware of any other incidents in Altnagelvin or any other hospital involving Solution 18.

Signed: *Michaela Mc Auley*

Dated: 30/6/05

# North & West In-Service Education Consortium

**Certificate of Appreciation**

15 20072008

*Michelle Anne McCann*

who attended the undramentioned In-Service programme

*Medical Training*

*1 Day*

Duration

*14/11/2008*

Date(s)

*Robert [Signature]*

In-Service Nurse Teacher

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# North & West In-Service Education Consortium

## Certificate of Attendance

is awarded to

*Michaela McAuliffe*

who attended the undermentioned In-Service programme  
*TV Administration of Drugs and IV Complication*

*3 Days*

Duration

*27 Sept. 6 & 11 Oct 2007*

Date(s)

*Kathleen Dunne*

In-Service Nurse Teacher

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# North & West In-Service Education Consortium

## Certificate of Attendance

Presented by  
*Michelle Ann McCallie*

who attended the unaccredited In-Service Programme

*Pediatric Orthopaedic Conditions Update*

Duration

*1 Day*

Date(s)

*23/10/2003*

*Michelle Bryson*  
*Melanie Marshall*  
In-Service Nurse Teacher  
*G Thompson*

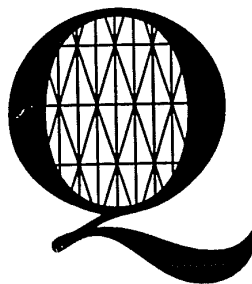
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*Queen's University Belfast*

*School of Nursing and Midwifery*



*This is to certify that*

Michaela McAuley

*attended a full day  
Mentorship Session*

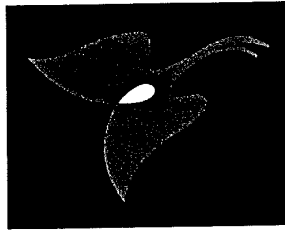
*on*

3 October 2001

Signed: Joan O'Leary

*(Head of School)*

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**Michaela McAuley**

**SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED  
A DIPLOMA LEVEL COURSE IN**

**PAEDIATRIC  
RESPIRATORY**

10 October 2003

**RT NATIONAL RESPIRATORY  
TRAINING CENTRE**

*Monica Fletcher*

Monica Fletcher  
Chief Executive  
NATIONAL RESPIRATORY TRAINING CENTRE

*Martyn Partridge*

Professor Martyn Partridge MD, FRCP  
Chairman of the Trustees  
NATIONAL RESPIRATORY TRAINING CENTRE



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## Certificate of Attendance

To certify that Michaela McAuley

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

Duration of Lecture 8 hrs.

Signature 

Date 17/1/02.



*It is hereby certified that*

*Michaela Anne Rice*

*was awarded the*

*Diploma in Nursing Studies (Children's Nursing)*

*with Commendation*

*by The Queen's University of Belfast*

*on the twenty-third day of May 2000*

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

*Vice-Chancellor*

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- MY PRESENT POSITION IS A PAEDIATRIC STAFF NURSE GRADE D.
- QUALIFIED IN OCTOBER 1999 FOLLOWING 3 YEARS TRAINING IN RBHSC.
- FOLLOWING MY TRAINING I WORKED IN AN NEUROLOGICAL WARD IN RBHSC FOR 8MONTHS.
- SINCE THEN I HAVE WORKED IN PAEDIATRICS IN WARD 6 ALTNAGELVIN, EXCEPT FOR THREE MONTHS WHEN I PARTICIPATED IN THE ROTATION PROGRAMME TO THE NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT IN JULY 2002.
- MY TRAINING TO DATE INCLUDES:  
 DIABETIC STUDY DAY.  
 ORTHOPAEDIC STUDY DAY.  
 IV ADDITIVES COURSE  
 PAEDIATRIC ADVISED LIFE SUPPORT  
 PAEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY DIPLOMIA  
 ASWELL AS ATTENDING REGULAR MANITORY TRAINING DAYS FOR CPR, MOVING AND HANDLING, INFECTION CONTROL AND FIRE TRAINING.
- FLUID BALANCE MANAGEMENT  
 TRAINING COVERED AS A STUDENT EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING UP FLUIDS AS PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR, ENSURING 2 STAFF NURSES CHECKED THE FLUIDS AND GOOD RECORD KEEPING.
- HYPONATRAEMIA  
 MENTIONED IN TRAINING IN CONTEXT OF SICK CHILDREN WITH VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA, NOT MENTIONED IN CONTEXT OF SURGICAL PATIENTS. WAS NOT COVER AS A TOPIC BUT MENTIONED IN PASSING.  
 PRIOR TO THIS INCIDENT I HAD NO CONCERNS OR WORRIES ABOUT THE USE OF NO 18 SOLUTION IN PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS. NOT AWARE OF ANY OTHER INCIDENTS IN ALTNAGELVIN OR ANY OTHER HOSPITAL INVOLVING SOLUTION 18.

MY NAME IS MICHAELA MC AULEY DURING THE FOLLLOWING STATEMENT I'M REFERRED TO AS SN MICHAELA RICE WHICH IS MY MAIDEN NAME.

ON FRIDAY THE 8TH OF JUNE 2001 I WAS ON DUTY IN WARD 6 FROM 07.45.I WAS ALLOCATED TO AREAS A-I WITH SN ROUSLTAN. RAYCHEL FERGUSON WAS IN ROOM I, SHE WAS A 9YEAR OLD GIRL WHO HAD AN APPENDECTOMY THE PREVIOUS NIGHT.  
 WHEN I FIRST MET RAYCHEL HER PARENTS WERE NOT THERE, I REMEMBER RAYCHEL TELLING ME THAT HER NAME WAS SPELT WRONG SO I TOOK THE NAME CARD AWAY AND CORRECTED THE SPELLING. WHEN I RETURNED WITH THE CORRECTED NAME CARD HER FATHER WAS WITH HER AND IT WAS EXPLAINED TO ME THE REASON HER NAME WAS SPELT THAT WAY WAS BECAUSE HER FATHER'S NAME IS RAYMOND.  
 RAYCHEL WAS STILL FASTING FROM THE PREVIOUS NIGHTAND HAD IV FLUIDS OF

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NO.18 SOLUTION IN PROGRESS AT 80MLS/HR (SEE PAGE 020-007-013).SHE WAS

SEEN BY THE SURGICAL DOCTORS AND WAS ALLOW SIPS OF FLUIDS AS TOLERATED AND TO CONTINUE ON HER IV FLUIDS. AT THIS STAGE SHE HAD CHANGED OUT OF HER THEATRE GOWN AND WAS SITTING OUT ON THE CHAIR. I REMEMBER TELLING HER FATHER HOW WELL SHE WAS DOING WITH ONLY BEING IN THEATRE DURING THE NIGHT, SAYING THE QUICKER THEY MOVE ABOUT THE BETTER FOR THEIR RECOVERY.

AT 09.00 RECORDED RAYCHEL'S OBSERVATIONS TEMPERATURE, PULSE AN RESPIRATIONS AND SAME APPEARED WITHIN NORMAL LIMITS, SHE HAD NO COMPLAINTS OF PAIN AND COLOUR WAS GOOD.(SEE PAGE 020-015-029).

AT 10.00 I CHECKED HER FLUIDS BY CHECKING THE BURETTE AND THE AMOUNT INFUSED IN THE LAST HOUR AND RECORDED THE TOTAL. I RECORDED THAT SHE HAD PASSED URINE AND RAYCHEL WAS UP WALKING ABOUT AT THIS STAGE. I

WITNESSED AND RECORDED A LARGE VOMIT OF UNDIGESTED FOOD WHICH I FOUND

STRANGE AS SHE WAS STILL FASTING.(SEE PAGE 020-018-037).

AT 11.00 AND 12.00 I CHECKED THE FLUIDS AGAIN BY CHECKING THE BURETTE

AND THE AMOUNT INFUSED IN THE PREVIOUS HOURS AND RECORDED THE TOTAL(SEE PAGE 020-018-037).

BY 12.00 THE BAG OF FLUIDS WHICH WAS RUNNING FROM THE PREVIOUS NIGHT

HAD RAN OUT, SO I ASKED ONE OF THE PAEDIATRIC SHO'S DR BULTER TO PRESCRIBE ANOTHER BAG OF FLUIDS NO.18 SOLUTION. NEW INFUSION WAS COMMENCED AT 12.10(SEE PAGE 020-019-038).

AT 15.00 AND 16.00 AND ONCE AGAIN CHECKED THE FLUIDS BY CHECKING THE

BURETTE AND THE AMOUNT INFUSED AND RECORDED THE TOTAL(SEE PAGE 020-018-037)

IN THE AFTERNOON RAYCHEL HAD VOMITTED A COUPLE OF TIMES, DURING WHICH

TIME I SPOKE TO THE MOTHER WHO TOLD ME SHE WAS STILL VOMITING AND I SAID

I WOULD GET THE DOCTOR. I BLEEPED THE SURGICAL JHO A COUPLE OF TIMES

BUT DID NOT GET ANY RESONSE. THEN SOMETIME AFTER 17.00 DR DELVIN A

SURGICAL JHO CAME ONTO THE WARD AND IT WAS EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT RAYCHEL

WAS A POST APPENDIX'S CHILD ON IV FLUIDS AND WAS VOMITING AND COULD SHE

HAVE AN ANTIENEMTIC. THIS WAS ADMINISTERED AS PRESCRIBED IN THE MEDICINE

KARDEX ROW C

(SEE PAGE 020-017-035).

FROM 18.00 - 20.00 WHEN I WENT OFF DUTY I WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY FURTHER

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VOMITING. AT 19.00 I CHECKED THE FLUIDS BY CHECKING THE BURETTE AND THE AMOUNT INFUSED AND RECORDED THE TOTAL(SEE PAGE 020-018-037).I HAD NO CONCERNS ABOUT RAYCHEL AS HER OBSERVATIONS REMAINED WITHIN NORMAL LIMITS(SEE PAGE 020-015-029). BEFORE GOING OF DUTY I REMEMBER SEING RAYCHEL UP AND ABOUT, WALKING IN THE CORRIDOR WITH HER DRIP STAND OUTSIDE ROOM I. SHE WAS SHOWING 2 SMALL BOYS ( I TOOK TO BE HER BROTHERS) SOME PICTURES ON THE WALL.