

Witness Statement Ref. No. 060/3

**NAME OF CHILD: Adam Strain**

**Name: Patricia Conway**

**Title: Mrs**

**Present position and institution: Health Visitor, Southern Trust**

**Previous position and institution:**

*[Since your Witness Statement of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011]*

**Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:**

*[Identify by date and title all of those since your Witness Statement of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011]*

**Previous Statements, Depositions and Reports:**

*[Identify by date and title all those since your Witness Statement of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011]*

**OFFICIAL USE:**

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

Ref:	Date:	
060/1	29.06.2005	PSNI Witness Statement
093-009	16.02.2006	Inquiry Witness Statement
060/2	21.05.2011	Second Inquiry Witness Statement

**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING:**

Please identify clearly any document to which you refer or rely upon for your answer. If the document has an Inquiry reference number, e.g. Ref: 049-001-001 which is 'Chart No.1 Old Notes', then please provide that number. If the document does not have such a number then please provide a copy of the document.

**I QUERIES ARISING OUT OF YOUR SUPPLEMENTAL WITNESS STATEMENT**

With reference to your witness statement dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011, please provide clarification and/or further information in respect of the following:

(1) Answer to Question 1(b) at p.2:

*"My responsibility along with my theatre colleagues was to provide a safe environment for Adam. This included the preparation of Theatre prior to his surgery ensuring all equipment was available and functioning and that Adam was safely admitted to theatre. From admission to PICU until his death I had no responsibility or role."*

(a) State who was present when anaesthesia was induced.

I do not know as I was not present; I was in the set up room helping the scrub nurse set up her instrument trolleys.

(2) Answer to Question 1(d) at p.3:

*"See response to question 1C."*

(a) You have not adequately answered the question. Please state the time for which you were asked to prepare the *"theatre for Adam's renal transplant and ... the instrument sets."*

" I cannot recall the time for which I was asked to prepare the theatre and the instrument sets for Adam's renal transplant."

(3) Answer to Question 1(e) at p.3:

*"It was standard practice to prepare theatre by the following:*

- *Theatre damp dusted*
- *Ensure all fluids and equipment fully stocked in set up area*
- *Ensure all instrument sets required for renal transplant surgery were available and sterile"*

(a) You have not adequately answered the question. Please identify any protocol or guidelines.

I cannot recall any written protocol but I am aware that it was the standard practice taught to me when I started working in theatres.

(4) Answer to Question 2(c) at p.4:

*"I was not present during the transplant procedure so cannot answer this question [as to*

*whether there was a designated anaesthetic nurse in theatre during Adam's transplant procedure]."*

- (a) State whether there was a designated anaesthetic nurse present when anaesthesia was induced at around 07.00 or at any time prior to you leaving theatre on 27<sup>th</sup> November 1995.

I cannot recall any nurses at that time as being qualified 'anaesthetic nurses'. The medical technicians usually assisted the anaesthetist at major operations. I was not in theatre at 7am so cannot add to this answer (I was in the set up room helping the scrub nurse set up her instrument trolleys).

- (5) Answer to Question 2(d) at p.4:

*"I did not know how to use a blood gas machine. It was not within the remit of a staff nurse. Any blood gas tests were carried out by the MTO's or medical staff."*

- (a) Provide the basis for your statement that the use of a blood gas machine *"was not within the remit of a staff nurse"*.

When I worked in theatres the only staff who knew how to work the blood gas machine were the medical technicians and the medical staff.

- (6) Answer to Question 4(c) at p.4:

*"The preoperative check list was the instrument check list which returned to the central sterile supplies department (C.S.S.D.) with the instrument set following surgery when all instruments are accounted for."*

- (a) State whether all nursing checks were completed prior to surgery commencing, and if not, state why.

I was not present when surgery commenced as I was off duty. Up to the time of going off duty I am positive that the nursing checks for which I was responsible (swab count and instrument count) were both completed.

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

Signed:

*PM Conway*

Dated:

*29.07.11.*