

Witness Statement Ref. No.

101/3

NAME OF CHILD: Adam Strain

Name: Margaret Mathewson

Title:

Present position and institution: Housewife

Previous position and institution:

[Since your Witness Statement of 17th August 2011]

Housewife

Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:

[Identify by date and title all of those since your Witness Statement of 17th August 2011]

None

Other Statements, Depositions and Reports:

[Identify by date and title all those since your Witness Statement of 17th August 2011]

OFFICIAL USE:

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

Ref:	Date:	
093-013	06.04.06	PSNI Witness Statement
101/1	10.04.11	Witness Statement to the Inquiry on Hyponatraemia
101/2	17.08.11	Second Witness Statement to the Inquiry on Hyponatraemia

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING:

Please attach additional sheets if more space is required. 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 PSNI WITNESS STATEMENT

With reference to your PSNI Witness Statement dated 6th April 2006 (Ref: 093-013-042), please provide clarification and/or further information in respect of the following:

(1) *"I cannot recall any discussion afterwards relating to a death of a child named Adam Strain and cannot say with any certainty that the child I recall as failing to revive was in fact Adam Strain, but I do recall that the failure to revive occurred at lunchtime and the child was moved to Intensive Care Unit."*

(a) State whether you were involved in transferring Adam from theatre to PICU on 27th November 1995 and identify the other theatre staff and clinicians who were also involved in that transfer. If you do not recall specifically whether you were involved in this transfer to PICU, state whether this was normally/likely part of your role as theatre staff and whether you were normally/likely accompanied in this transfer, and if so, by whom.

I cannot say if I was involved, but this would have been a theatre nursing staff role. Nursing, medical staff and theatre technicians would have accompanied a transfer to PICU.

(b) Describe in detail the process of how Adam was transferred from theatre to PICU. If you cannot recall specifically, describe how a paediatric renal transplant patient would likely/normally have been transferred from theatre to PICU in November 1995.

I do not recall if I was involved in Adam's transfer however I would expect extubated, receiving O2 via mask, on a trolley accompanied by medical and nursing staff.

(c) Describe in so far as you can recall Adam's appearance after surgery and on his transfer to PICU.

At the time of the police statement I was not sure of the child's identity. Now I realise he was called Adam Strain. I cannot recall other than he failed to revive.

(d) State whether you remained in PICU to assist with the transfer of the lines to the PICU monitors. If you do not recall this specifically, state whether you would normally/likely have done this as part of your role as part of the theatre staff.

I do not recall. This would not have been a role of theatre nursing staff.

(e) Identify the consultant and nurse/s in PICU to whom the care of Adam was transferred on arrival on 27th November 1995.

I do not know.

(f) Identify who carried out, or if you do not recall, who would normally/likely carry out, the handover to the PICU clinician and PICU nurses on arrival on 27th November 1995, and state what information was given, or if you do not recall specifically, what information was likely/normally given, during that handover to :

(i) The PICU consultant/clinician

Anaesthetic medical staff

(ii) The PICU nurses

Theatre nursing staff would have handed over to PICU staff.

About:

- Adam
- his renal transplant surgery
- the reasons for his failure to breathe spontaneously and his fixed dilated pupils post operatively
- Adam's serum sodium concentration
- Adam's fluids regime during the transplant procedure
- the position of the CVP line both during and on completion of the transplant procedure, the CVP readings during the transplant procedure and the explanation for those CVP readings, any concerns relating to the CVP line, whether the CVP line was functioning effectively and reliably

Medical Staff would have handed over this information.

(g) Identify any guidance or protocols in November 1995 relating to the transfer from theatre to PICU of paediatric patients and the handover to PICU staff.

I do not recall any guidelines or protocols.

(h) State whether the position of the CVP line had been adjusted between approximately 11.30 on 27th November 1995 and the transfer of the CVP line to the PICU monitors, and if so, when, how, by whom and identify where this is recorded. If you do not recall specifically, state whether it was likely/normal that the CVP line was adjusted during that period and if so, by whom.

I do not know, this would not have been a nursing duty.

(i) State what would have been your normal practice for managing a CVP line when admitting a child to PICU from theatre and how would you ensure that readings were accurate and reliable.

This would not have been theatre nurses duty.

(j) We refer you to Adam's CVP records in PICU (Ref: 058-008-022, 057-009-010). State whether you regarded the CVP readings as accurately measuring Adam's CVP levels, and if so, state the reasons why. If not, state why not and what was done, if anything, to remedy any inaccuracy.

Not theatre nursing staffs duty.

(k) State at the time of Adam's death and now, were/are there any guidelines available to staff on the management of CVP lines.

I do not know if there were guidelines then or if there are now.

II QUERIES ARISING OUT OF YOUR INQUIRY WITNESS STATEMENT DATED 17th AUGUST 2011

With reference to your Inquiry Witness Statement dated 17th August 2011, please provide clarification and/or further information in respect of the following:

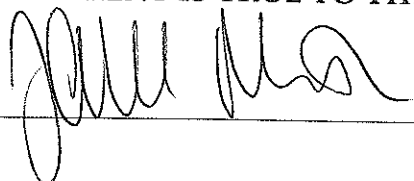
(2) Answer to Question 1(a) at p. 2:

"...I never officially qualified as an anaesthetic nurse, as 'anaesthetic nurse' I mean as one of my duties as a staff nurse in Children's Theatres."

(a) Explain how you came to acquire acting "as 'anaesthetic nurse'... as one of my duties" and state what education and training you had to undertake in order to work as an anaesthetic nurse without an 'official qualification'.

Assisting in the anaesthetic room was one of the roles of a theatre nurse. We were more like assistants in the anaesthetic room. We helped set up requirements for each case, i.e. laryngoscopes/endotracheal tubes etc. We did not administer anaesthesia or any drugs or medication.

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

Signed: 

Dated: 10/10/11