

Witness Statement Ref. No.

230/1

NAME OF CHILD: Adam Strain

Name: David Mitchell

Title: Dr

Present position and institution:

Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist
Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh

Previous position and institution:

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

Paediatric Registrar
Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children

Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:

[Identify by date and title all of those between January 1995- November 2011]

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:	

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 an Inquiry reference number, then please provide a copy of the document attached to your statement.

I PARTICULAR AREAS OF INTEREST

(1) Please find the following attached:

- (a) Biochemistry Report #23022, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
- (b) Haematology Report #25467, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
- (c) Bacteriology Report #BS15129, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
- (d) Bacteriology Report #BR19656, date of specimen 27th November 1995, date of report 28th November 1995

In relation to each of the above report forms, state whether your signature is present on the report

My signature does not appear on any of the reports listed above.



II ADDITIONAL QUERIES (If you have answered 'Yes' to Question (1) above)

- (2) State the date when you were first appointed as a Paediatric Registrar by the Royal Group of Hospitals (Royal) and describe your experience as a Paediatric Registrar in the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC) and any other hospital in which you worked prior to 26th November 1995.
- (3) Describe your work commitments to the RBHSC from the date of your appointment as a Paediatric Registrar, including the department/s and locations in which you worked and the periods of time in each department/location, and particularly over the period 26th November 1995 to 28th November 1995.

- (4) State the times at which you were on duty between 26th November 1995 and 28th November 1995 and in particular:
 - (a) Whether you were present in the hospital at all times or
 - (b) Whether you were on call during that period
 - (c) What contact you had with Adam and his family during that period including where and when that contact occurred
- (5) Describe what you considered to be your role in relation to and responsibilities towards Adam and his family from his admission to RBHSC on 26th November 1995 until 28th November 1995 when ventilatory support for him was withdrawn, and in particular:
 - (a) from Adam's admission to RBHSC until his arrival in theatre
 - (b) while Adam was in theatre until his admission to PICU
 - (c) from admission to PICU until his death
- (6) In regard to Adam's medical notes and records, identify precisely the entries that you made or which were made on your direction and state below:
 - (a) When each of the identified entries was made
 - (b) The source of the information recorded in the entry
- (7) Describe and explain the pre-operative fluid management plan for Adam and your role in implementing it.
- (8) Describe your experience, by 26th November 1995, of assessing the electrolyte results of a child who was being prepared for a renal transplant.
- (9) If you signed any of the following report forms:
 - (a) Biochemistry Report #23022, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
 - (b) Haematology Report #25467, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
 - (c) Bacteriology Report #BS15129, date of specimen 26th November 1995, date of report 27th November 1995
 - (d) Bacteriology Report #BR19656, date of specimen 27th November 1995, date of report 28th November 1995
 - (i) State when you signed each report and explain why your signature is on each report form.

- (ii) Identify where in Adam's clinical notes the request for each report is noted. If it is not noted, explain why.
 - (iii) State if it was your decision for obtaining the specimen analysed in each report form. If so, state when you decided to obtain each specimen and explain why you took the specimen at that time.
 - (iv) If you were asked by another clinician to obtain a specimen, identify who asked you to do so, when and where you were asked to do so, and explain the purpose for the specimen being taken.
 - (v) Identify where in Adam's clinical notes the taking of the bloods for each report is noted. If it is not noted, explain why.
 - (vi) State at what time each blood sample was taken from Adam for laboratory analysis in the report.
 - (vii) State if you took the blood which was to be analysed in each report. If so, state who was present at the time. If not, identify who took the specimen analysed.
 - (viii) Identify where in Adam's clinical notes the results of each report is noted. If it is not noted, explain why.
 - (ix) State if you discussed the results of each report with any other clinician. If so, state with whom you spoke, when and where you discussed it, what you discussed, and explain why you discussed it. If not, explain why you did not discuss the results with anyone else
 - (x) Identify any protocols and/or guidelines that governed your actions with each report.
- (10) *"Sodium 133 ... Date of Specimen 26/11/95 ... Date of Report 27/11/95"* (Ref: Biochemistry Report #23022)
- (a) Identify where in Adam's clinical notes a serum sodium level of "133" mmol/L is noted. If it is not noted, explain why.
 - (b) State what consideration you gave to Adam having a serum sodium level of "133" mmol/L. If you did not consider this, explain why.
 - (c) State what action you took as a result of Adam having a serum sodium level of "133" mmol/L. If you took action, explain why you did so. If you did not take action, explain why you did not.
 - (d) In particular, state whether you reviewed Adam's fluid regime in light of that result and if so, what action you took as a consequence of that review.
 - (e) State if you made any other clinician aware of Adam having a serum sodium level of "133" mmol/L. If so, state with whom you spoke, when and where you discussed it, what

you discussed, and explain why you discussed it. If not, explain why you did not discuss the results with anyone else.

- (11) State whether a chest x-ray was performed on Adam at any time during your care of him.
- (a) If so, state what the chest x-ray showed, when it was taken, by whom it was taken and identify where in Adam's notes this is recorded. If it is not recorded, explain why.
- (12) State whether you made any notes on or completed any of the transplant form (Ref: 057-007-008) and if so, state:
- (a) which notes you made.
- (b) when those notes were made.
- (c) the source of information for those notes.
- (13) Identify the renal transplant protocol, if any, governing your actions in respect of Adam over the period 26th November to 27th November 1995.
- (a) State whether a renal transplant protocol existed prior to Adam's transplant surgery. If so, explain how you learned of it.
- (b) If a renal transplant protocol did exist prior to Adam's transplant surgery, state whether you were ever provided with a copy of it and if so when.
- (c) State whether anyone discussed the renal transplant protocol with you in relation to the preparation of Adam for his transplant surgery.
- (14) Describe and explain the pre-operative fluid management plan for Adam and your role in implementing it.
- (15) Prior to 27th November 1995:
- (a) State your experience and involvement in preparing patients for paediatric renal transplants (specifically identifying those patients of less than 6 years), the dates of those renal transplants and the location where they took place.
- (b) State your experience in preparing paediatric patients (specifically identifying those patients of less than 6 years) for paediatric renal transplants who were polyuric.
- (16) Since 27th November 1995:
- (a) State your experience and involvement in preparing patients for paediatric renal transplants, the dates of those renal transplants and the location where they took place.
- (b) State your experience in preparing paediatric patients, who were polyuric, for paediatric renal transplants.

- (17) Describe in detail the education and training you received in fluid management (in particular hyponatraemia) and record keeping through the following, providing dates and names of the institutions/bodies:
- (a) Undergraduate education
 - (b) Postgraduate education and training
 - (c) Hospital induction programmes
 - (d) Continuous professional development
- (18) Prior to 26th November 1995, describe in detail your experience of children with hyponatraemia, including the:
- (a) Estimated total number of such cases, together with the dates and where they took place
 - (b) Number of the children who were aged less than 6 years old
 - (c) Number of children who were polyuric
 - (d) Nature of your involvement
 - (e) Outcome for the children
- (19) Identify any 'Protocols' and/or 'Guidelines' which governed your actions in relation to Adam and his family whilst you were on duty.
- (20) Provide any further points and comments that you wish to make, together with any documents, in relation to:
- (a) Care and treatment of Adam from his admission for the renal transplant surgery on 26th November 1995 to his death on 28th November 1995
 - (b) Record keeping
 - (c) Communications with Adam's family about his care and treatment in respect of the renal transplant surgery
 - (d) Lessons learned from Adam's death and its effect on your practice
 - (e) Current 'protocols' and procedures
 - (f) Any other relevant matter



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

Signed:

 Mitchell

Dated: 06/01/12

R.B.H.S.C.
MUSGRAVE MEDICAL WARD
DR J.M.SAVAGE (MS)

Surname STRAIN
Forename ADAM
Age/DOB 04\08\91 Sex M
Hosp.No. 364377

ML

SERUM	VALUE	ADULT RANGE
Sodium	= 133* mmol/l	(135 TO 145)
Potassium	= 4.3 mmol/l	(3.5 TO 5.0)
Urea	= ↑ 16.0* mmol/l	(3.3 TO 8.8)
Creatinine	= 0.76* umol/l	(40 TO 110)
Calcium	= 2.46 mmol/l	(2.10 TO 2.57)
Phosphate	= 1.21 mmol/l	(0.80 TO 1.55)



Date of Specimen 26\11\95
Lab.No. 23022
Date of Report 27\11\95

G.S.Nesbitt
R.V.H. BIOCHEMISTRY

ROYAL BELFAST HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN
MUSGRAVE WARD
CONS.

NAME STRAIN ADAM
HOSP. NO 00364377
AGE/DOB 04.08.91 SEX M

TEST	RESULT	UNITS	REF. RANGE
HAEMOGLOBIN	10.5	G/DL	12-18
ERYTHROCYTES	3.47	MILLIONS/UL	4.0 - 6.5
P.C.V.	.321		0.36-0.54
M.C.V.	92.5	FL	80-99
M.C.H.C.	32.7	G/DL	30-38
M.C.H	30.3	PG	27-33
LEUCOCYTES	9.54	THOUSANDS/UL	4-11
PLATELETS	336	THOUS./UL	150-500



CONSULTANTS INITIALS NOT QUOTED ON REQUEST FORM

LAB. ACC. NO. 025467
DATE OF SPECIMEN 26.11.95
DATE OF REPORT 27.11.95

DEPT OF HAEMATOLOGY
ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Musgrave Ward

FALLS ROAD
BELFAST

(1764)

Surname STRAIN
Forename ADAM
Age/DOB 04 04/08/91 Sex M
Hosp.No. CH364377
Specimen FLUID

CELL COUNTS.....

Erythrocytes (cells/uI)... <1
Leucocytes (cells/uI)... <1
Cytology.....

* FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, IF REQUIRED... Phone 4150 Page 1 of 1

Accn.No. 8S15129

Date: 27/11/95

Specimen Date: 26/11/95

P.V.H. BACTERIOLOGY

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Musgrave Ward

FALLS ROAD
BELFAST

(4828)

P D

Surname STRAIN
Forename ADAM
Age/DOB 04 04/08/91 Sex M
Hosp.No. 364377
Specimen FLUID

CULTURE..... NO GROWTH IN 48 HOURS

* FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, IF REQUIRED... Phone 4150 Page 1 of 1

Accn.No. 8P19656

Date: 28/11/95

Specimen Date: 27/11/95

P.V.H. BACTERIOLOGY