

NAME OF CHILD: Raychel Ferguson

Name: Elaine Hicks

Title: Dr.

Present position and institution:

Retired

Previous position and institution:

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

Clinical Director, Paediatrics- Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children ("RBHSC").

Consultant paediatric Neurologist - Royal Hospitals Trust

Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:

[Identify by date and title all of those between January 2000 - present]

Previous Statements, Depositions and Reports:

[Identify by date and title all those made in relation to the child's death]

OFFICIAL USE:

List of previous statements, depositions and reports:

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.

(1) Please state your position in the RBHSC/RGHT between January 2000 and June 2001.

Consultant Paediatric Neurologist; Clinical Director Paediatric Directorate

(2) In relation to the statement made to the PSNI on 14th March 2006 by Dr. Nesbitt (former Clinical Director in Anaesthesia & Critical Care- Altnagelvin HHSST) in respect of a conversation in June 2001 when he "spoke to Dr. Chisakuta, a Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia and Intensive Care in the RBHSC about their [the RBHSC's] use of No.18 solution in post-operative surgical children and he informed me that they had been using precisely the same regime as Altnagelvin Hospital but had changed from No.18 solution six months previously because of concerns about the possibility of low sodium levels. This was also the position in Tyrone County Hospital" (Ref: 095-010-040) please state:

(a) Whether the RBHSC had "changed from No.18 Solution six months previously"? I have no recollection of this

(b) Whether the RBHSC had made any alteration to its use of Solution 18 in the year preceding 10th June 2001? I am unable to remember any such occurrence

(c) If such change occurred:

(i) What was the change referred to;

(ii) Precisely when such change occurred;

(iii) The reasons for the change;

(iv) The identity of those individuals responsible for this decision;

(v) Whether you were informed of the change;

(vi) How such a decision was implemented, by whom and by what means;

(vii) Whether this decision was communicated to the Medical Director;

(viii) Whether this decision was communicated to any other hospital committees, advisory groups, sub-committees or working parties, either then or subsequently;

(ix) Whether any steps were taken to disseminate this information to the wider medical community (and if so please detail to whom such information was disseminated);

- (x) Whether any steps were taken to disseminate this information to the Altnagelvin Hospital (and if so please detail to whom such information was disseminated);
 - (xi) Whether any steps were taken to disseminate this information to the Tyrone County Hospital (and if so please detail to whom such information was disseminated);
 - (xii) Whether any steps were taken to disseminate this information to Craigavon Area Hospital (and if so please detail to whom such information was disseminated)?
- (d) Whether there existed any means of liaison between the RBHSC, Altnagelvin Hospital and/or the wider medical community with respect to:
- (i) **Information sharing;** Yes; through DHSSNI, Area Boards, Professional Groups (Ulster Paediatric Society, RCPCH) and individual members of staff
 - (ii) **Coordination of education, training and medical updates;** Through UPS and RCPCH
 - (iii) **Communication between clinicians and medical staff?** I am uncertain what this means.
- (e) **When and how you first heard about the death of Raychel Ferguson?** I do not remember, possibly through this inquiry.
- (f) **Whether you had any conversation/discussion/meeting/consultation in the RBHSC/RGHT in respect of the change in the use of Solution 18 (and if so please include details)?** Around the time the CMO set up the working group to review the issue of hyponatraemia but I am unable to remember the date or details.
- (g) **Whether you had any conversation/discussion/meeting/consultation in the RBHSC/RGHT in respect of the death of Raychel Ferguson (and if so please specify)?** No.
- (h) **Whether you had any conversation/discussion/meeting/consultation with anyone in the AHHST/ Altnagelvin Hospital in respect of the death of Raychel Ferguson (and if so please specify)?** No
- (i) **Whether a Regional Teaching Hospital had responsibility for sharing information with other Area Hospitals in Northern Ireland?** I do not recall any directive or guidance which stated this.
- (3) **Please provide such additional comment as you think relevant. It would be of very considerable assistance if you could attach such documentation as you may hold which relates to procedures, strategies, policies or other issues of relevance.**
I do not hold any such documents.

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

Signed: *Reine M. Hinds*

Dated: *30.06.13*