

Witness Statement Ref. No.

367/2

NAME OF CHILD: CONOR MITCHELL

Name: Mrs Bridie Foy

Title:

Present position and institution:

Previous position and institution: Director of Nursing, Craigavon Area Hospital

*[As at the time of the publication of the Guidance on the Prevention of Hyponatraemia in Children, March 2002]*

Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:

Previous Statements, Depositions and Reports:

OFFICIAL USE:

List of previous statements, depositions and reports:

Ref:	Date:	
WS-367-1	09-10-2013	Inquiry Witness Statement

Miss B Foy

15 October 2013

### **Summary Statement**

I was appointed as Deputy Director of Nursing to CAH Trust, June 1992 as support to the Director of Nursing. Following Miss Joseph's Retirement in circa early 1998, Miss Roisin McCormick was appointed Director of Nursing and her employment ended in January 2001

I was asked by the Chief Executive to take up the post of Acting Director of Nursing in a temporary capacity which lasted until August 2002. Previous to accepting this acting up role I had planned to retire in early 2001.

Prior to my accepting the role of acting Director of Nursing, the team comprised of the Director of Nursing, the Deputy Director of Nursing and 2 senior nurses in supporting roles of:

- 1) In service Training for Nursing staff and
- 2) Complaints and Quality Assurance

The first 6 months of my role was a particularly difficult period of time, I had been carrying out the duties of two posts as my former post of Deputy Director of Nursing had not been replaced. One of the two senior nurses had resigned within the early months of my acting up role, to take up a post in the Belfast Trust. Her role was Complaints and Quality Assurance. This post was replaced on a temporary basis with a junior member of nursing staff who required maximum support in the initial period. It is my recollection that this appointed member of staff had period(s) of sick leave.

December 2001 to January 2002 I myself had a period of sick leave due to having contracted shingles and chicken pox. The Directorate had no manager present during this period.

The second senior Nurse resigned his post in the summer of 2002 to take up a new role as Nurse Consultant in Altnagelvin Hospital. This post was not replaced as there was pending interviews and appointment of a new Director of Nursing.

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During this period the role of the Clinical Services Nurse Manager was in place. She had the responsibility of ensuring that clinical issues in relation to nursing were implemented and in this capacity reported directly to the Medical Director but on professional issues was responsible to the Director of Nursing. In relation to the Guidelines on the Prevention of Hyponatraemia in Children, it was the responsibility of the Nurse Clinical Services Manager and the Medical Director to oversee the implementation of this document.

Signed..... *Sadie Fay* ..... Dated..... *15<sup>th</sup> October 2013* .....