

Witness Statement Ref. No.

370/1

NAME OF CHILD: CONOR MITCHELL

Name: Mrs. E. O'ROURKE

Title:

Present position and institution:

Retired

Previous position and institution: Clinical Services Manager, Craigavon Area Hospital  
*[as at 29 March 2004]*

Membership of Advisory Panels and Committees:

*[Identify by date and title all of those between January 1995 -August 2013]*

None

Previous Statements, Depositions and Reports:

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

Have no recall of been asked to write any report or statement re this case

OFFICIAL USE:

List of previous statements, depositions and reports:

Ref:	Date:	

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**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*

(1) Please address the following,

- (a) As of 29 March 2004 state your professional qualifications and the date you obtained them.

**RNM Part 5**

**Nursing and Midwifery Council Registered Nurse Part 1**

- (b) State the date of your appointment to Craigavon Area Hospital, and the role to which you were appointed.

**Staff Nurse General Medical Ward 1975**

- (c) On what date were you appointed to the role of Clinical Services Manager, and for how long did you perform that role.

**Clinical Services Manager 1995 – 2007**

- (d) Outline your responsibilities and main duties as Clinical Services Manager at Craigavon Area Hospital, and provide a copy of your job description. If you do not personally retain a copy of your job description, please take steps to obtain a copy from the Trust.

**I provided senior managerial support to the Clinical Director and Lead Consultants. I had responsibility for ensuring Patient Centred clinical services were delivered in line with the Government Targets the Directorate's contracts, within budget and in accordance with agreed quality standards. Management of Human Resources within the Directorate, implementation and monitoring of Strategic Nursing developments throughout the Directorate**

- (e) Describe your career history before you were appointed to Craigavon Area Hospital, and provide an up to date copy of your CV.

**Student Nurse**

**CV attached**

- (f) Describe your work commitments to the Craigavon Area Hospital from the date of your appointment, stating the locations in which you worked and the periods of time in each department/location.

**Staff Nurse General Medical Ward 1975 – 1979**

**Ward Manager Intensive Care Unit 1979 – 1989**

**Nursing Officer 1989 – 1990**

**Nurse Clinical Specialist 1990 – 1995**

**Clinical Services Manager 1995 – 2007**

**General Manager for Acute Medicine, Acute Care of Elderly and Renal Services  
2007 – 2010 (Retired)**

- (2) Describe in detail any education and training you have received in fluid management, the prevention of hyponatraemia and record keeping in relation to fluid balance, to include any particular training relating to fluid management in children, and provide dates and names of the relevant institutions/bodies, by reference to the following:
- (a) Undergraduate level.
  - (b) Postgraduate level.
  - (c) Hospital induction programmes.
  - (d) Continuous professional development.

**I have no record of any training attended**

- (3) The Chief Medical Officer published 'Guidance on the Prevention of Hyponatraemia in Children' in or about March 2002. The correspondence which explained the purpose of this Guidance was addressed to Medical Directors amongst others (Ref: 007-001-001).

Please address the following matters arising out of this correspondence:

- (a) Did you receive a copy of this correspondence in your capacity as Clinical Services Manager in March 2002?

**Have no recall of receiving this information**

- (b) If you did not receive a of this correspondence, how was the Guidance brought to your attention and state in particular:
- (i) Who brought the Guidance to your attention?
  - (ii) When was it brought to your attention?

- (c) Fully describe any steps that you took whether individually or as part of a group to take this Guidance forward within Craigavon Area Hospital, under any of the following headings:

**My only record of this guidance is the mention of the posters in the minute of a meeting with the sisters in March 2004. I cannot remember if I forwarded the posters or whether they were sent to the Sisters from the Director and I was asking them to check they were displayed on the wards.**

- (i) By arranging for the Guidance to be displayed in relevant locations, or disseminated to relevant staff;
  - (ii) By providing training, advice or information in respect of the application and use of the Guidance in clinical and/or nursing practice, or by arranging such training, advice or information to be provided;
  - (iii) By taking steps to monitor the implementation of the Guidance;
  - (iv) Any other step.
- (4) You are referred to Ref: 329-014-122 where it is recorded that you were seeking information with regard to the display of the CMO's Guidance on the Prevention of Hyponatraemia in Children.

Arising out of that record please address the following matters:

- (a) Who asked you to seek this information, and for what purpose was the information sought?

**I can't remember anyone asking me to seek this information, but it must have been brought to my attention and in return I would have checked with the Sisters that the information was available on the wards, as per the minute of March 2004.**

- (b) What response did you receive to the request that you made at this meeting? In particular identify the locations at which the Guidance was displayed, and indicate who provided you with this information, when, and how was it provided?

**I cannot recall the response**

- (c) Did you provide the information received by you to any person and if so, who did you provide it to, and for what purpose was it used?

**I cannot recall passing on any information to any other person**

- (d) Was any action taken by the Trust in light of the information which was provided to you about the display of the Guidance?

**I cannot remember any action taken by the Trust**

(5) Have you ever received training in the use or application of the Guidance? If so, state,

- (a) Who provided you with training?
- (b) When and on how many occasions have you been provided with such training?
- (c) What form did the training take?
- (d) What did you learn from the training?
- (e) Was the training of an adequate quality or standard for the work that you do?

**I have no record of this training**

(6) Have you ever received written information in relation to the use or application of the Guidance? If so, please provide a copy and state,

- (a) Who provided you with the written information?
- (b) When did you receive it?
- (c) What did you learn from the written information?
- (d) Was the written information which was given to you of an adequate quality or standard for the work that you do?

**I have no record of this written information**

(7) Provide any further points and comments that you wish to make, together with any documents, in relation to:

- (a) The Guidance on the Prevention of Hyponatraemia.
- (b) Fluid management.

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

Signed:

*Sileen O'Keefe*

Dated:

*7<sup>th</sup> October 2013*

# CURRICULUM VITAE

Eileen O'Rourke

## Personal Information

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tel No Home [REDACTED]

Mobile No [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

## Professional Education and Training

### **Kings Fund**

Women's Leadership Programme sponsored by Kings Fund 2002

### **Royal College of Nursing**

Certificate in Advanced Mediation August 2008

- Subjects included
- Developing Problem Solving Skills
- Communication in the Work Place
- Problem Solving in the Work Place
- Managing Own Learning
- Developing Own Interpersonal Skills

## On-Going Development

Over the last few years I have attended a Series of Workshops Seminars, relevant to the management aspects of the post I held as General Manager from 2007 to 2010

i.e. Finance, Management Systems, Organizational Efficiency, Clinical Governance Risk Assessment, Root Cause Analysis and Incident Investigation.

### **Professional Qualifications**

RNM Part 5 Honours

Nursing and Midwifery Council Registered Nurse Part 1 Pin No 75K00510

### **Academic Achievements**

#### **Queens University**

Certificate Social Welfare Studies 1983 – 1985

Bachelor of Arts in General Studies July 1991

Post Graduate Diploma in Health and Social Services Management July 1995

### **Work Experience**

Staff Nurse General Medical Ward 1975 – 1979

Ward Manager Intensive Care Unit 1979 – 1989

Nursing Officer 1989 – 1990

- Co-ordinating all aspects of nursing care within the medical areas; monitoring the quality of service; Human resources management; setting standards and measuring and attainment of these standards; planning for service developments; personal development of staff; monitoring staff/patient ratio levels

Nurse Clinical Specialist 1990 – 1995

- Co-ordinate all aspects of patient care within the Medical Speciality; manage services within budgetary constraints; Human resources Management; planning for service development; writing and implementing policies.

Clinical Services Manager 1995 – 2007

- Senior Manager support to the Clinical Director and Lead Consultants. Responsibility for ensuring Patient Centered clinical services were delivered in line with the Government Targets the Directorate's contracts, within budget and in accordance with agreed quality standards. Management of Human

Resources within the Directorate. Implementation and monitoring of Strategic Nursing developments throughout the Directorate.

General Manager for Acute Medicine, Acute Care of Elderly and Renal Services  
2007 - 2010

- As General Manager I was accountable to the Assistant Director of Acute Services for the leadership and direction of staff within the relevant specialities, overall responsibility for the operational management of the services, to ensure that programmes are identified and managed to improve the service provided to patients through improved performance, improved quality and an improved patient experience. Responsible for budget delivery within balance and responsible for the management of cost improvement programmes. The post also involved ensuring that staff were fully engaged in the process of change management and in particular, that clinicians and multi-disciplinary professionals were fully involved at the forefront of service improvement initiatives. Within the post I also provided Managerial Leadership for staff in order to support the delivery of high quality clinical services of Patients.

I retired from the Trust in November 2010

Eileen O'Rourke

March 2011