

MEMORANDUM

Key People: Dr Hanrahan RBHSC ICU
Secretary - 1
(Met Crawfords - 9 June 2000)

Dr Denis O'Hara Paediatric Pathology Dept. RGH
Secretary - Miss Diane Gilliland NIO Mortuary RGH

Mrs May Crawford
Mr Neville Crawford

Dr Claire Thornton Paediatric Pathologist RGH

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Notes of meeting with Mr & Mrs Crawford in Hilltop Friday 5 May 2000 at 10.30am

MR & MRS CRAWFORD



11 April 2000

Lucy Crawford (18 months) vomited at home at 12 noon and kept bringing up liquid. Dr Graham GP in Enniskillen Health Centre was contacted and made an appointment for Lucy at 2.30pm. The GP checked her out and suggested there was nothing really wrong. Back home she didn't eat much and refused her bottle. She became lethargic and slept all night.

12 April 2000

May detected Lucy's temperature was up and gave her paracetamol. In the afternoon she was thirsty. More paracetamol was given at 5.30/6.00pm. The Out of Hours GP Service in Tempo Road was contacted. Dr Kirby asked for her to be brought in at 7.00pm. Dr Kirby told Mr & Mrs Crawford to take her to Children's Ward in Erne where a drip would be put up and Lucy would be home in the morning. At 7.15pm she was in Children's Ward where she was weighed. Dr Malik (SHO) took her to the Treatment Room to set up a drip. He tried at least 10 times to get veins unsuccessfully and then pricked a thumb for a blood test. Fr Malik said he would have to call in Dr O'Donaghue. At 10.20pm the drip was set up and she was placed in a corner cot. The last look at her by a Doctor was 10.30pm. Lucy's sister called in at 11.00pm

13 April 2000

Lucy vomited at 12.15am and May asked the Nurses for a sheet. Mrs Crawford did not know what was in the drip solution. The blood was not tested until 9.00am. They were left alone -Nurses did not check temperatures etc. At 2.10am Lucy had a violent bowel movement and was put in a nappy. She was moved into a side ward/single room. The Nurses left. A little later Lucy breathed heavily - jerked her body - and went rigid. Here eyes were fixed. She was lifted and her body was rigid. At 3.00am Dr O'Donaghue arrived after Neville. He stated he did not have "the right tubes". Dr Auterson was rude. He panicked and it appeared he did not know what to do. Staff were struggling because they did not have "the right gear" and were running to other wards and returning to be told "that's not right". Nobody explained what they were trying to do. At 4.30/5.00am Lucy was moved to ICU. The parents were not allowed in. Staff were still running with tubes to ICU. There was no baby ventilator available. The Doctors decided to send Lucy to Belfast at 6.00am. Dr Auterson said there was no one to relieve him. However the ambulance did leave at 6.40am and the Crawfords followed in a car to arrive at RBHSC at 7.45am. In the Intensive Care Unit the Nurses explained what they were doing. They met the Nurses again at 10.00am and were told Lucy was critically ill. The Nurses were very professional and shared information which did not happen in Erne. Staff said they had not received all the casenotes from Enniskillen. A Scan and ECG was performed. A Dr Hanrahan in ICU said the Brain was not working.

14 April 2000

In the morning Dr Hanrahan undertook tests. At 1.15pm the ventilator was disconnected. Dr Hanrahan said a couple of times "You need to get answers from Enniskillen".

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Other Comments:

The Crawfords felt guilty that they should have done more.

No Doctor in Erne checked Lucy from 10.30pm - 3.00am.

Did Lucy die in Erne?

Nurses in Erne give an impression they were annoyed with Mr & Mrs Crawford.

Dr O'Donaghue said something about "Sodium levels".

The Crawfords noted Gastro-enteritis was talked about before any tests confirmed it.

A phone call was overheard and a Nurse commented "Not another one - I'll make sure I'm not here tomorrow night.

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The Crawfords agreed with the Chief Officer to seek information from Paediatric Pathology in RGH.