

## Marie Dunne - Commun. Mgr

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**From:** Marie Dunne - Commun. Mgr  
**Sent:** 20 October 2004 14:52  
**To:** Stella Burnside - Chief Executive  
**Cc:** Theresa Brown - Risk Management; Susan Cooke - Comm Mgr Assis; Geoff Nesbitt - Anaesthetists; Irene Duddy - Dir of Nursing  
**Subject:** Insight Proramme  
  
**Importance:** High  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

Stella - See copy email below from Trevor Birney.

I was wondering what we might do to prepare for any media enquiries following the broadcast. Attached is the statement I drafted for Geoff last month in case he was 'door stepped'. It has been cleared by the CMO. Could we perhaps use it in the event we get asked for comments on the broadcast? Of course, if we are asked any specific queries, it may not be suitable, but it might be OK as a general response.



Raychel -  
Statement - Sept 04..

Marie

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Marie,

We are now intending to broadcast a programme which will examine the deaths of three children from hyponatraemia.

It will be broadcast tomorrow (Thursday) at 9 pm.

Regards,  
Trevor.

Trevor Birney  
Editor, Current Affairs  
Wester Television



## ALTNAGELVIN HOSPITALS HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST

### MEDIA STATEMENT

The staff involved in the care of Raychel Ferguson were deeply saddened by the tragic circumstances of her death

While it is of little comfort to her parents and family, it is important to emphasise that the clinical practices used during Raychel's care, following her operation, were at that time accepted practice in all other area hospitals in Northern Ireland.

Following Raychel's death, Altnagelvin Hospital immediately made changes to those practices to ensure nothing similar happens again. In addition, the hospital's Medical Director met with the Chief Medical Officer for Northern Ireland to initiate a review. As a direct result, new guidance from the Chief Medical Officer was issued to all hospitals in Northern Ireland and is now available to the wider medical community.

We again offer our most sincere condolences to Raychel's parents and family on their very sad loss. We feel it is inappropriate for us to make further comment on this sad death, or on any other deaths in other hospitals that may or may not be related to the practices to which we refer.

ENDS