

ERNE HOSPITAL ENNISKILLEN, CO. FERMANAGH. BT74 6AY. TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE

Mr T Anderson, Clinical Director, Womens and Childrens Directorate, C/O: Ob/Gyn Department, Erne Hospital.

5/3/2000

Dear Trevor,

Attached is the report on the admission of Lucy Crawford as requested. I have tried to be as factual as possible. I have obtained a copy of the post-mortem report from her GP, copy attached.

Yours sincerely,

Dr J M O'Donohoe

Consultant Paediatrician.

LC-SLT

034-015-046

re: Lucy Crawford. Erne Hospital Number: 123000

I was called to see Lucy on the day of admission by the SHO on duty (Dr Malik) because he was unable to site a drip. Lucy had been admitted with a history of vomiting and drowsiness. On examination she was sleepy but rousable. Since blood had been sent for urea and electrolyte measurements I applied local anaesthetic cream to the areas where I thought I was most likely to be able to insert an IV cannula. In the meantime I gave her a bottle of fluid which she took well.

When the local anaesthetic cream had had time to take effect I inserted a cannula. While strapping the cannula in situ I saw Dr Malik writing as I was describing the fluid regime i.e. 100 mls as a bolus over the first hour and then 30 mls per hour. The 100 mls was approximately 10 ml/Kg and to cover the possibility that the cannula might not last very long and the succeeding rate was relatively slow since I had seen her taking oral fluid well and presumed the rate of fluid needed was relatively small.

I looked in to the treatment room a few minutes later and Lucy was standing on the couch in front of her mother and looking better.

I was next called at approximately 03.00 because Lucy had had what sounded like a convulsion. My initial presumption was that this was a febrile convulsion. However since she showed no signs of recovering by the time I arrived and since there was a history of profuse diarrhoea I took a specimen for repeat urea and electrolytes. This showed that the sodium had fallen to 127, a level at which hyponatraemic convulsion is rare. When I took over bagging from Dr Malik it was clear that there was no respiratory effort and her pupils were fixed and dilated. I continued bagging until Dr Auterson arrived and he intubated her and she was transferred to I.C.U.

I arranged transfer to the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Belfast and since there was no anaesthetist available to travel with her I accompanied her. I was unable to make a diagnosis for her detioraration prior to transfer. She was hand bagged until arrival in Belfast either by myself or the accompanying nurse from ICU. The only problem in transit was a fall in her blood pressure towards the end of the journey at which point I started a dopamine infusion.

Autopsy No: A45144

PPM No. 57-00

Name: Lucy Crawford

Date: 17.04.2000

NORTHERN IRELAND REGIONAL PERINATAL PAEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY ROYAL GROUP OF HOSPITALS TRUST, BELFAST

POST MORTEM REPORT

Name: Lucy Crawford A. No: A45144

<u>Hospital No:</u> CH461358 <u>PPM No:</u> 57-00

Age: 18 months (dob: 5.11.98) Sex: F Health Board: WHSSB

Mothers Name: May Crawford . Date of PM: 14.04.2000

Ward: PICU Hospital: RBHSC Clinician: Dr D Hanrahan

Pathologist: Dr M D O'Hara Total No. of Pages: 1

Provisional Anatomical Summary:

- 1. History of acute 24-36 hour history of vomiting/diarrhoeal illness with dehydration and drowsiness 14.4,2000.
- 2. History of seizure at 0300 hours 13.4.2000, pupils fixed and dilated following intubation.
- 3. Relatively little congestion with some distension of large and small intestine with gas and clear fluid, patchy pulmonary congestion, pulmonary oedema.
- 4. Swollen brain with generalised oedema, brain to be further described following fixation.
- 5. Heart given for valve transplantation purposes.

Signature:

LC-SLT