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Sent: 22 October 2004 12:01
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Subject: Statement to UTV



STATEMENT FOR UTV
INSIGHT PROG... FYI - we will be issuing this statement to UTV later today. We have only received the one query from UTV, no other media has been in touch so far.

<<STATEMENT FOR UTV Insight programme.doc>>

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STATEMENT FOR UTV

The UTV 'Insight' programme has raised a number of issues to which the Department will want to give careful consideration. The Department's primary concern is to protect the safety of patients, to learn lessons from such incidents and ensure the system works as safely and effectively as possible.

The death of a child is tragic and is something the Department takes very seriously. Following the death of Raychel Ferguson from hyponatraemia in 2001, the Chief Medical Officer acted immediately to develop guidance that would prevent a similar incident happening again. This guidance was the first of its kind in the UK and has been incorporated into clinical practice in Northern Ireland since 2002.

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