

Your ref: DJD/NH/5/FER

In reply please quote: CF/FPD/2004/3139/01/02/03/04/05/06

19 January 2005

Mr D J Doherty  
Desmond J Doherty & Co Solicitors  
Clarendon Chambers  
7 Clarendon Street  
Derry  
BT48 7EP

**GENERAL  
MEDICAL  
COUNCIL**

*Protecting patients,  
guiding doctors*

Dear Mr Doherty

**Your Clients: Mr & Mrs Ferguson – the next of kin of Raychel Ferguson  
(Deceased)**

Thank you for your letter of 14 January 2005.

We note that you will be acting on behalf of Mr and Mrs Ferguson in relation to their complaint submitted to the GMC.

Regarding the content of our complaints file, I can inform you that this is very limited at the moment as all we have is a copy of the two-page faxed letter dated 6 November 2004 sent to us by Mrs and Mrs Ferguson. You will no doubt have a copy of this.

In order for us to be clear about the complaint(s) against each of the six referenced doctors, we wrote to your clients on 25 November 2004 requesting specific detail of their allegations against each doctor. At the same time we sought Mr and Mrs Ferguson's written consent to disclose their complaint(s) to each doctor and their consent to enable us to obtain Raychel's medical records. Whilst we received signed consent forms we, unfortunately, did not receive the additional detail we had requested. This information was therefore requested again in our letter to Mr and Mrs Ferguson dated 7 January 2005, and is still awaited. Consequently, you will note from this that we do not possess anything on file other than the limited information initially submitted to us by your clients.

Regarding your request for details of our complaints procedures, I am pleased to say that we provided your clients with our 'Investigating Concerns' fact sheet as an enclosure to our letter of 25 November 2004. If you require any information in addition to this, perhaps you could clarify your specific requirements and we will willingly consider how we might best meet your request.

**RF - FAMILY**

068-020-038

In the meantime, it would be helpful if you could confirm whether your clients plan to await the outcome of the public enquiry before proceeding with the complaint(s) submitted to the GMC.

Yours sincerely



**Ceri Fiona Floyd**  
**Investigation Officer**  
**Fitness to Practise Directorate**

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