

17 January 2005

Mr J O'Hara QC
91 Chichester Street
Belfast
BT1 3JQ

Dear Mr O'Hara

I am writing to you with regard to our late daughter Claire, who died age 9 on the 23rd October 1996 at the Royal Belfast Hospital. My wife and I watched the ITV Insight Programme, broadcast on 21 October 2004 and were deeply moved and upset by the story of the children featured. The content of the programme together with the parents' stories and concerns was virtually a mirror image of the heartache and devastation my wife and I have suffered.

We decided to contact the Royal Belfast Hospital and have subsequently had two meetings with Medical Staff. These discussions have raised serious issues regarding Claire's fluid management and hospital care and as a consequence H.M. Coroner Mr J Leckey has now been informed.

My wife and I had a meeting with Mr Leckey on Friday 7 January 2005 where we discussed our concerns relating to Hyponatraemia and Claire's treatment. Mr Leckey has asked Dr Bingham, Great Ormond Street Hospital to review Claire's medical notes and treatment and issue a report on his findings. Hopefully this report will be available by February, early March.

If Mr Leckey decides that an inquest into Claire's death is required you may wish it to become part of the current inquiry being conducted by yourself into the deaths of the three other children.

I believe it is best to keep you informed of our concerns and progress to date therefore I have enclosed copies of some of our correspondence and meeting notes with the Royal Belfast Hospital.

Yours sincerely



Mr Alan Roberts

Encs