

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF: MARIE DONNA ANN FERGUSON

Name

Rank

AGE OF WITNESS (If over 18 enter "over 18"): OVER 18 - 30.3.66

*To be completed
when the statement
has been written*

I declare that this statement consisting of 3 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 1 day of SEPTEMBER 2005

P J Monaghan

M Ferguson

*SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom
statement was recorded or received*

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

PAMELA-JANE MONAGHAN, D/CON

PRINT NAME IN CAPS

I am the mother of Raychel Zara Ferguson. I can confirm that Raychel had no significant medical history prior to her admission to Altnagelvin Hospital in June 2001. Where I said in my original statement to police that a doctor began to examine Raychel, the doctor in question was Doctor Makar and I recall that he was coloured. When Raychel was leaving A&E I do not recall her being on a drip. In relation to the nurse that I asked why Raychel was going to theatre so early and the nurse that told me that Raychel would be back on the ward in an hour; I would like to clarify that this was the same nurse. In my opinion this nurse was aged between 40-50 years of age and was tall. I can confirm that it was not Nurse Noble. I am unable to recall the description of the nurse whom I asked about the delay in Raychel returning to the ward. When Raychel returned to the ward I could see that there was a drip attached to the bed and fluids were being administered to Raychel, I recall that after her return and up until I left at 6.00 am the nurses were back and forwards to Raychel; something was bleeping on the drip. During the night they would have checked her pulse and other things. Ray phoned me from the hospital at about 9.00 am, he said that Raychel was great and walking up and down the corridor with him. I would have got into the hospital at around 10.00 am; when I got there Raychel threw her arms around me and

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said, "Guess what mummy, I've been sick". By that I took it that she had vomited. At 12.00 pm I took Raychel to the toilet and can say that she was still on the drip and had been the whole time I had been there that morning. I can say this for definite as when I took her to the toilet I had to push the drip along side her, it was on wheels. When I took her to the toilet I carried her, by this stage I did not think that Raychel looked well, she did not seem herself, she was not so bright and was quieter. Also in the period between 10.00 am to midday she had lain in the bed and although she did not actually vomit in the bed she was wrenching a lot. During this period Raychel was in her bed the whole time. I remember calling the nurses whenever Raychel vomited. During the afternoon the nurses were aware tht Raychel was vomiting as we informed them and we would show them what she had vomited. Roy was present with Ryachel up until I arrived; we were both present up until 3.00 pm except for a while when Ray went home to get washed. I think he was away around midday as he was not there the time that Raychel had the big vomit. I can also say that Raychel was on the drip up until I left at 3.00 pm. Ray and I left Raychel for 45 minutes at this point because our other children were getting out of school. I returned to the hospital at 3.45 hours, but Ray stayed at home to mind our other two children. When I returned to the hospital I took her cards that her school friends had made for her; I put the cards all along the windowsill beside her bed but she did not pay any attention to any of them. There was a chocolate Time Out bar with the cards from one of her friends. When I returned at 3.45 pm I was approached by a woman who also had a child on the ward; this woman said to me that since we had left Raychel had not stopped being sick. She told me that she had had to get the nurses. I later learned that this woman may have been a nurse. I had bought Raychel a magazine and there was free nail polish with it. I asked her if she wanted me to paint her nails, she didn't answer me either way. I painted her toe nails but she did not seem interested; I spoke to her and said that she would need to get better for the next day as we were having a party for her daddy; she did ot respond at all. I got into the bed with her, I said to her that she was not well. We dozed off for a while and I was wakened by

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her wretching again. While we were in the bed I asked her was she not speaking to me; I thought maybe she was huffing because both Ray and I had left at the one time. Raychel was usually a loud child, she had a squeaky voice and was always hyper. Raychel was not communicating with me at all at this stage, she was much worse than she had been on my arrival at 10.00 am. Ray came to the hospital at around 6.15 pm with our other kids, Jason and Jamie and the wee girl from next door, Lisa. We all stayed with Raychel and I took the kids home at around 7.45 pm. Ray stayed with Raychel. At 9.30 pm Ray rang me, he said that Raychel had thrown up blood. I said to tell the nurses but he said that he was sick telling the nurses; he said the sweat was running down his back. He said they had given Raychel paracetamol, he asked me to come to the hospital. I went to the hospital, arriving there sometime after ten; I had to arrange a baby-sitter to look after Jason and Jamie. Ray and I left the hospital at twenty minutes to one in the morning, I looked at the clock in the corridor as we left. We sat up for a while when we got home and went to bed at about 0150 hours. In all the time that I was in the hospital that day I never saw Raychel up walking about. During the evening when Jason and Jamie were there at no time was Raychel out of the bed with them. Lisa was there at the time but Lisa has red hair and looked nothing like Raychel. Raychel was on a drip that whole day; I remember the bag being changed on occasions, but there was no discussion about the fluids she was receiving. When I refer to Lisa her best friend, I am referring to Lisa McColgan. At the same time that Lisa and my sons were in visiting Raychel another of her school friends was on the ward with her mother, they were visiting someone else. This school friend was called Sarah McCullough, she had bought Raychel a wee present but Raychel did not seem interested. Raychel was so listless that Sarah's mother thought she was only out of the operation and they said they would come back the following evening when she was better. I do not recall Raychel being offered anything to eat that day. I do not recall any Doctor doing anything in relation to Raychel's treatment other than what I have already said at the Inquest. While I was at the

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hospital I can say that the nurses were made aware by myself or Ray of every occasion that Raychel vomited.

Certified a true copy of original