

Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety
An Roinn Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí

From The Chief Medical Officer:
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J L Leckey
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Coroner's Office
Courthouse
Old Town Hall Building
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BELFAST
BT1 3GL

13 November 2002

Dear *John*

HYPONATRAEMIA IN CHILDREN RECEIVING INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS

Thank you for your letter of 7 November regarding hyponatraemia in children receiving intravenous fluids.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how the health service might work with the Coroner's Office to improve the management of risk. In my letter of 10 May 2002 to Altnagelvin Hospital I did not intend to infer that this Department should be notified about specific cases either by the Coroner or health service. We are currently however giving some thought as to how we might take a more systematic approach to managing risk in clinical care and it would be useful to explore with you how that might be improved.

You may be aware that Dr Ian Carson has recently joined the Department and is taking the lead on clinical negligence. Ian and I would be very happy to discuss these matters with you. I will ask my secretary to make the necessary arrangements.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Htc

HENRIETTA CAMPBELL (Dr)

cc Dr I Carson

RF - PSNI

098-060-206



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE