

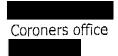
## NI COURT SERVICE INFORMATION SERVICE

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**Total Pages:** 

2

Another article from today's Belfast Telegraph on the inquest of Raychel Ferguson. If we find anymore in relation to this case we will send them across to you.

Also on the matter of getting a transcript of the report on BBC Radio Foyle yesterday. A tape-has been requested from Radio Foyle themselves. Hopefully this should arrive on Monday. The problem was that the people we normally request transcripts from don't cover Radio Foyle. That is why there is a slight delay in getting this to you.

Regards,



380

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The Belfast Telegraph Friday 7th February 2003

## FIUIO &

By Kleran McDaid

A FLUID given to a young A FLUID given to a young girl who died following surgery at a Londonderry hospital is no longer prescribed for children recovering from operations there, an inquest has heard.

A consultant space.

consultant anaesthetist at Althagelvin Hospital yesterday told an inquiry into the death of Raychel Ferguson that the solution she received was no longer given to post-operative children.

The inquest earlier heard Raychel could have sur-vived if she had been put on a saline drip after under-going surgery to remove her appendix. Belfast Coroner's Court

heard that Raychel contin-ually vomited after an operation at Altnagelvin Area

Hospital in June 2001.
The child was then rushed to Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital after suffering a seizure and swelling to the brain, and died on June 10.

The inquest heard that Raychel was a normal, healthy child before com-

## Inquest told of change in hospital procedures

plaining of stomach pains on her return home from St Patrick's Primary School in Pennyburn, Londonderry, on June 7.

Her mother then took her to hospital from their Benview Estate home in Coshquin where her ap-pendix was removed that night.

Dr Bernie Trainor, a paediatrician who was called to treat Raychel after she suffered a seizure, told the inquest today that surgeons were responsible for prescribing fluids to children after operations.

She said that when she saw Raychel in the early hours of June 9, she looked "very unwell" and had a rash on her face, neck and upper chest which was consistent with vomiting.
Dr Trainor noted that

Raychel had vomited up

seven times following the surgery.

The inquest also heard that the two surgeons who attended Raychel, including Dr Ragai Reda Makar who prescribed the fluids which were administered before and after the operation, would not be appear-

ing.
Coroner for Greater
Belfast, John Leckey, said
Dr Makar had been written a letter and sent a witness. summons to attend the hearing but he had no explanation as to why he had not attended.

The court later heard he was on two weeks leave from another hospital where he now works. other surgeon, Mr Zafar, was excused by the coroner as he is currently sitting exams.

Paul Foster, a barrister acting on behalf of the Ferguson family, instructed by Kelly and Corr solicitors, expressed concern that this could leave a gap in the evidence of the events which led up to Raychel's death.

The inquest was adjourned until tomorrow.

381