

JM/LW/U8706831

22 December 1988

Dr W P McMillin  
220 Knock Road  
Belfast 5

Dear Dr McMillin

Re: Claire Roberts [REDACTED]

Claire was seen at Outpatients on 19 December 1988 at the age of one year and 11 months. Her mother tells me that she has had no convulsions now since September 1987. She is taking Epilim 2.5 mls twice daily and blood has been sent today for serum level. I will append the result to the end of the letter.

Her general health is satisfactory. Her appetite is good. She is beginning to self feed. She takes a routine family diet of mashed consistency. There is no history of any bowel upset.

Her mother is delighted with her progress since she has been attending Occupational Therapy. They volunteered that there is more eye contact with toys and she is now able to carry out some simple activities such as slotting rings. She also reported an increased single word vocabulary.

On physical examination she looked well. Her tongue appears to protrude. Her head circumference is 48 cms. Chest is clinically clear. No infection was noted in her ears or throat. Two heart sounds were present - no murmurs heard. Abdomen was soft - no visceramegaly. Her tone appears normal. Both hips abduct equally.

Fine motor development - she uses both hands although her performance appears to me to be better with the left hand. She slotted rings but was unable to correct the order. She made an attempt at shapes and with help could manage to post the circle. She had great difficulty replacing men in a boat. She did not understand minatures.

Speech development - her mother reports many single words such as - pretty, shoes, kitty, bag, book, ball. She uses some words, gesture and behaviour to communicate. She is prone to outbursts of temper and head banging. I have suggested to Mrs Roberts that she ignore the head banging.

Receptive speech - her understanding of body parts was disappointing. She would not select common objects but gets the object she prefers. She does not obey simple commands for example - give to mummy. On the other hand she did attempt to label pictures in a book for example - apple and brush. When given a brush she can brush her hair but when presented with a brush and a cup she is unable to select the brush and brush her hair.

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In summary there has been progress with Claire and her mother appears to have worked extremely hard with her. However her development is delayed and I would like to assess her more fully at the Assessment Clinic in 4 months time. In the meantime she will attend Occupational and Speech Therapy Departments.

Yours sincerely

Dr J Major Associate Specialist to  
Dr T Brown  
Consultant Paediatrician

PS. Thyroid function tests are within the reference range.  
Serum Valproic level is 50 mgs/L.