

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Police Identification Mark WRC101

TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE RECORDED INTERVIEW

TAPE REF NO:

LDV27/05

Master Tape
Seal Number(s):

T112300A

PERSON INTERVIEWED:

SALLY ANNE MCMANUS

ADDRESS:

DOB:

PLACE OF INTERVIEW:

INTERVIEW ROOM, ENNISKILLEN PSNI

DATE OF INTERVIEW:

23/02/2005

TIME COMMENCED: 1236 HOURS

TIME TERMINATED: 1255 HOURS

INTERVIEWING OFFICERS:

OTHER PERSON(S) PRESENT:

- 1 D/SERGEANT W CROSS
CARE UNIT, ENNISKILLEN
- 2 D/CONSTABLE R HALL
CARE UNIT, ENNISKILLEN
- 3

- 1 SOLICITOR
- 2
- 3

MADE BY:

D/SERGEANT CROSS

Tape Number and
Tape Times:

D/Sgt Cross:

We are continuing the interview, it's 1236 and the same four people are in the room. If I can remind you nurse that you are still under caution.

Sally Anne McManus: Right.

D/Sgt Cross:

And could I ask you to confirm that we didn't discuss, we didn't ask any questions while the tapes were off.

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross:

In relation to what we're interviewing about. Right if I could pursue this, there was another issue raised in the Trust's review of, just bear with me and we will produce this, the Trust reviewed this matter and produced this document. I don't have enough hands ... I am showing the nurse here the review of the late Lucy Crawford case, this is Mr Fee and Doctor Anderson's review. Have you seen this document, are you familiar with it? Have you seen this document, are you familiar with it?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross:

Have you seen this

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Solicitor: No. No, No I haven't seen it.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, we'll maybe I mean there's a lot in it that you would have no evidence in relation to but what I did want to cover here is this eh paragraph. The main issues identify here are the need for clearly documented prescriptions for IV fluids. The accurate documentation of the fluid administration.

D/Sgt Cross: I think that is the reason in fact and Thecla will admit that she didn't do the running total properly eh ...and the need to document patients or parents descriptions of unusual clinical events they were concerned too I think eh about Mrs Crawford's description or or record of how the child fitted. They were concerned about how that was recorded such as the seizure describing the detail which may be required at a later date. Now what I'm asking you is these issues were highlighted, do you recall were they addressed with you or your staff?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: No, are you quite certain that they weren't.

Sally Anne McManus: No I never heard that about the parents description before at all.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, we will come back to that general issue of that. Well could I ask then about the parents, right, you're not you are saying that you didn't hear that raised. Was there any further training then for you or the other three nurses on the ward that night eh in relation to documenting the prescriptions and the administration?

Sally Anne McManus: No, but we did go for, everybody the whole ward staff went for em ... the legal aspects of documentation retraining.

D/Sgt Cross: Right.

Sally Anne McManus: But it wasn't specific to fluid management, it was more specific to written documents.

D/Sgt Cross: Just general record keeping.

Sally Anne McManus: Hm hmm.

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D/Sgt Cross: For nurses who would be responsible for giving you guidance on record keeping and documents etc is it the NMC?

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, right. The documents eh ... indeed I think here a team briefing of all disciplines did not take place, such a process may support those concerned and reduce the fear of attempts to apportion blame between team members. That sort of thought runs through a fair amount of the the Trust's documentation. Eh ... At any stage thereafter was there a sort of a team briefing or on site counselling for the group of people involved?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: No.

Sally Anne McManus: Only since the inquest.

D/Sgt Cross: Since the inquest OK. Eh ... Right. Now nurse this is the review into the care and progress of Lucy and it's conducted by Doctor Anderson and Doctor Fee, again I'm reading from Page 122.

Sally Anne McManus: Mr Fee's a nurse.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes he's a trained nurse but is he a practising nurse now or is he entirely management?

Sally Anne McManus: I'm not sure whether he does practice elsewhere.

D/Sgt Cross: Right.

Sally Anne McManus: To keep his registration. I'd imagine he probably does.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: It's just you called him a doctor.

D/Sgt Cross: Oh sorry sorry Doctor Anderson and Mr Fee then right yes because he is represented by the Royal College of Nurses.

Sally Anne McManus: He is a nurse.

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D/Sgt Cross: Yeah. Right this review involved an examination of the case notes, eh ... receiving and reviewing comments or reports from those involved in Lucy's care and an examination of the case notes. Were you actually interviewed in relation to this review by Mr Fee or Doctor Anderson or Doctor Kelly?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: Were you requested to submit a report in relation to this?

Sally Anne McManus: Yes, but I refused.

D/Sgt Cross: Did you right, do you mind saying why you refused?

Sally Anne McManus: I don't mind saying, I felt that I was being asked to write a statement that was asking for my opinions about a thing that I hadn't witnessed.

D/Sgt Cross: Right ok.

Sally Anne McManus: And I felt very, I felt very unsure about what the statement was going to be used for.

D/Sgt Cross: Right.

Sally Anne McManus: And obviously once you've written a statement it's written.

D/Sgt Cross: You've committed yourself.

Sally Anne McManus: And I wasn't sure where it was going to be kept, whose use it was for and I refused.

D/Sgt Cross: Right that's fair enough, but that answers my question that you at least were approached in relation to that.

Sally Anne McManus: I think I was approached actually, it would have been, I think. I can't remember what day that was, it was a Wednesday wasn't it or Thursday.

D/Sgt Cross: That it happened?

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah it was a Wednesday I think.

Sally Anne McManus: So it would have been the next night because I would have worked Wednesday, Thursday, Friday so it would have been the Thursday or the Friday night.

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D/Sgt Cross: Right and again if I can do you recall who asked you for that?

Sally Anne McManus: Mr Fee.

D/Sgt Cross: Mr Fee and again to get you to confirm that when the review was finished you were never shown a copy of this?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: And were you involved in any briefing where the findings were discussed for, as a learning process?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: No OK. There is a comment nurse in a letter from Doctor O'Hara, Doctor O'Hara was the Pathologist and unfortunately is now deceased.

Sally Anne McManus: Right.

D/Sgt Cross: Eh Doctor O'Hara said that at the time there appeared to be difficulties about Lucy's death that may lead to litigation, does that comment surprise you or did that occur to you at the time. That this may well ...

Sally Anne McManus: I think I was concerned that a child had died

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah.

Sally Anne McManus: Who had really come in with diarrhoea and vomiting.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah.

Sally Anne McManus: You know it was beyond really the realms of what you expect.

D/Sgt Cross: Ah ha, and very soon after there was talk on the ward that there was a difficulty with the fluids.

Sally Anne McManus: There would have been yeah.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, do you recall what.

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: Right was it the fact that it was No 18 or the amount?

Sally Anne McManus: The amount. The fact it was No 18 never really, initially was the problem because it was what was routinely given.

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D/Sgt Cross: Yeah. In the early stages of this investigation there were concerns raised by the fact that there hadn't been a team briefing and eh some did feel that that was suspicious, potentially that it was an attempt by the Trust to cover up, we'll not have them talk about it and it'll all go away. I think, we have asked this question off quite a few people, and without leading you into your reply but they have all said well you know that it was a tragedy but death of any child is a tragedy and they tend not to lead team briefings and great counselling etc unless there is something highly unusual. That is our opinion anyway and have you any reason to contradict that?

Sally Anne McManus: No. I think unless it's very traumatic like an A&E death or a road traffic accident.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: There tends to be.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: I think A&E staff would be maybe better at it.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes. Yeah.

Sally Anne McManus: Because they have to go then to the next trauma and the next trauma.

D/Sgt Cross: I think it is fair to say the only people who have been, Sue Chapman I think, has she ever been involved in any, I think the one maybe at the maximum but one of the doctors in the Royal said in her whole career only once and that was as you say, it was two very traumatic deaths of children who had been caught up in machinery and brought in on the one day and another death on the ward and it was such a bad day they did organise it.

Sally Anne McManus: I think nurses especially are particularly good at talking anyway. We don't need somebody to sit us down formally because it is something that we discuss. We don't hide things away we just talk about them.

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D/Sgt Cross: Do you recall telling Mr Fee, for the purpose of his review, that 100 mls per hour until urine was passed was standard practice?

Sally Anne McManus: I dunno whether I said it to him but.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah, you've already said that it's.

Sally Anne McManus: You know an extra fluid would have been standard I'm not saying 100 mls would have been standard.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: Whether I actually said it to him or not, if he asked me I would have said, I would have.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah, what I'm particularly, I put it to you there this is Page 124 under communications in the Trust's review, eh ... the record shows that Doctor O'Donohoe's intention and recollection was that Lucy would have 100 mls bonus in the first hour and 30 mls thereafter while the nursing staff held a clear view that the expressed intention was to give 100 mls hourly until Lucy eh ... passed urine. Furthermore this was considered by the nursing staff interviewed to be a standard approach.

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah if he would have asked me then I would have said but I can't remember him specifically asking me.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, right but that's a fair enough comment in your experience.

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah hm.

D/Sgt Cross: And you wouldn't disagree with that necessarily?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: Right fair enough. Could I ask nurse did you make any notes thereafter for your own?

Sally Anne McManus: No no I think because I wrote the nursing cardex I felt that that was sufficient.

D/Sgt Cross: That was your record?

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Sally Anne McManus: Yeah, whereas maybe other people didn't have that in their own writing. I mean I think that, that was one thing I'd said to Mr Fee when he wanted a statement, I really didn't feel that I could add anything to that.

D/Sgt Cross: The cardex?

Sally Anne McManus: That would have been relevant to it.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: To what he was looking for.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes. You have highlighted that this sheet, this is the fluid prescription sheet again, Page 66 isn't it, eh ... it records less than really is required. To your knowledge was that specific issue addressed by nurses with anyone, I mean after the event?

Sally Anne McManus: Sorry I don't understand what you mean.

D/Sgt Cross: For instance would you have said within two days there is discussion on the ward that fluids are possibly implicated in Lucy's deterioration, do you know did any of the nursing staff pull this out of the notes and go to say assist and say look at this you know?

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah I think they did. To be quite honest I think Sister would have pulled this quite quickly.

D/Sgt Cross: Sister who?

Sally Anne McManus: Sister Trainor.

D/Sgt Cross: Trainor, right.

Sally Anne McManus: Noticed quite quickly I think.

D/Sgt Cross: Eh ... what's this, right that's that part. Right. Could I ask, have you seen the TV programme on this, that was on last night?

Sally Anne McManus: Which one?

D/Sgt Cross: Insight?

Sally Anne McManus: Yes.

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D/Sgt Cross: Right do you recall the episode they showed of people acting Doctor Asghar and Doctor Malik and the conversation that they reportedly had. Have you any information on that conversation and of Doctor Asghar's role? Right.

Sally Anne McManus: No but I did have Malik come to me the next night and say that he'd been asked for a statement from Doctor O'Donohoe.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, right.

Sally Anne McManus: And I told him to seek go to his equivalent to his union.

D/Sgt Cross: Yes.

Sally Anne McManus: Before he wrote any statement for the same reason that I had.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah.

Sally Anne McManus: So fluids must have been mentioned by that point within the next 48 hours.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah.

Sally Anne McManus: They have had to have been or else I wouldn't have said that to anybody. I would have said for goodness sake just write a statement. I actually advised, he was very worried, he was very upset and I said make sure before you put anything to paper.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah, take advice.

Sally Anne McManus: That you have taken advice yourself, but he didn't say that he'd been pressurised or anything he just said he'd been asked for a statement and what did I feel he should do. It probably would have been the next thing.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah Doctor Asghar allegedly identified fluid as the cause of the deterioration the next morning and highlighted that to management. And ah ... Was that discussed on the ward, Asghar's view, no? Were you aware that Asghar had raised that as an issue?

Sally Anne McManus: No, to be quite honest I'd only been there eight months.

D/Sgt Cross: Yeah.

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Sally Anne McManus: The fact the staff grades or registrars could not work between two hospitals and night shifts meant I'd had very little dealings with Asghar.

D/Sgt Cross: Right.

Sally Anne McManus: By that point, I knew him very little.

D/Sgt Cross: Right and you were asked for a statement, which you declined to provide and then you later provided information for the deposition.

Sally Anne McManus: Hm hm.

D/Sgt Cross: Can I ask did anybody at any level in the hospital attempt to influence you as to what you would say or not say?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/Sgt Cross: Right and would you have provided information for your deposition eh ... from which material was deleted or removed other than what you've described to me by changing jargon or abbreviation?

Sally Anne McManus: No, no there was nothing taken out, no.

D/Sgt Cross: Rosie is there anything you want to ask? Is there anything else you want to say Nurse?

Sally Anne McManus: No.

D/SGt Cross: Is there anything [REDACTED] that you want to say or want clarified eh ...

Solicitor: No.

Sally Anne McManus: Nurse it's 1253 and I intend to terminate the interview. It's it's difficult for me to say exactly what we are going to do now, normally we release somebody and tell them, well you're not being released because you're not in custody, but normally when we finish an interview we say this is going to be reported direct or something. I'm I'm not saying that now at the minute because I have a few other people to interview and they may say things that I would want you to clarify.

Sally Anne McManus: Right ok.

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D/Sgt Cross: Probably they'll not, but I want to leave that option open, what I intend therefore is finish the investigation and I will phone your solicitor and tell your solicitor that we have finished now and we're going forward with it, but at the minute we're not going to tell you that just in case we want to reinterview.

Sally Anne McManus: Yeah ok.

D/Sgt Cross: Right, happy enough. Right it's 1254 and we'll terminate the interview. Nurse I have to give you this form, it's called a PACE 21 and it's a notice to person whose interview has been tape-recorded, this explains basically what happens these tapes and your solicitor can get copies of the tapes and you can get a summary of it, which we will prepare in due course.

D/Con Hall: Can you give me a signature Sally, just there to say that you have received that form.

D/Sgt Cross: I acknowledge receipt of notice to person whose interview has been tape-recorded PACE 21.

D/Con Hall: The time is now 1255, this interview is terminated.

