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Girl's death 'needs investigated'

The death of a nine-year-old Belfast girl in hospital ten years ago needs further investigation, two doctors have told an inquest.

The inquest into Claire Roberts's death opened in Belfast on Tuesday.

The doctors told the coroner the case should be referred to a government inquiry already set up to look at the deaths of three other NI children.

Lucy Crawford, Raychel Ferguson and Adam Strain died because of a shortage of sodium in their systems.

Health Minister Angela Smith set up this inquiry in November 2004 amid claims that the three children died needlessly from hyponatraemia.

Claire Roberts died from a swelling to her brain.

But one possible cause of that was low sodium levels, so her parents asked the coroner to investigate her death.

The inquest continues on Friday.

Story from BBC NEWS:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/northern_ireland/4944138.stm

Published: 2006/04/25 16:55:54 GMT

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