

EXPERTS' MEETING 22nd February 2012

NOTE TO AGENDA

Item 1: Literature

1. Please comment on your consideration of:
 - (a) The literature about the rate of fall and papers on use of N/5 saline.
 - (a) The articles of Paut and Sicot.

Item 2: Adam's characteristics & Risk Factors

2. Please comment on the significance of Dr Anslow's findings in respect of the pattern of the swelling over the brain, in particular that changes due to swelling were 'severe' in the posterior fossa:
 - (a) In relation to Adam's cerebral oedema
 - (b) In relation to the possibility of dilutional hyponatraemia causing cerebral oedema
 - (c) In relation to your finding that Adam's lateral ventricles "*remain patent, particularly posteriorly*" (Ref: 206-004-026 - emphasis added)
3. Please explain the factors that could have been responsible for the white matter oedema observed in Adam's brain
4. We attach responses dated 18th February 2012 from Dr. Anslow to questions posed by Professor Kirkham. Please comment on the significance (if any) of these responses, and state whether you require to amend or supplement any of your previous reports to the Inquiry as a result of Dr. Anslow's responses.
5. Assuming that there had been the emerging signs of hypoxia, please explain:
 - (a) Where would you expect to find them
 - (b) Whether you were provided with, or were able to make, slides of that part of the brain
6. Please comment on the timeframe for possible hypoxic damage in Adam's case.
7. Please explain what you mean by 'moderate' oedema (Ref: 206-002-003 and 'moderate' swelling (Ref: 206-002-004, 206-002-005). Furthermore, advise on whether you have seen cases in which this degree of 'moderate' oedema has led to the death of a child and if so, please explain the circumstances - in so far as you are aware of them.

8. Please furnish the average/normal expected brain weight of children of Adam's age on dialysis or with renal failure compared to that of a similar child who had previously been healthy. You may wish to do so by a table of comparative values.
9. Please furnish the intracranial volume of cerebral spinal fluid and blood in a normal 4-5 year old child as queried by Dr. Haynes during the Experts' meeting on 22nd February 2012.
10. Please provide your view on the significance of:
 - (a) The rate of fall in serum sodium in Adam's previous episodes of hyponatraemia, and whether he was symptomatic/asymptomatic at those times.
 - (b) Adam's clinical history in relation to: (i) whether Adam had been anaemic in the past; (ii) whether Adam had been dehydrated in the past from polyuria; (iii) whether Adam had an iron deficiency; (iv) the length of time Adam had received erythropoietin.
 - (c) Adam's previous surgical procedures in hospital, particularly over recent months and Dr. Armour's finding of a suture in Adam's autopsy.
 - (d) Cyclosporin which is recorded as having started in PICU at 12.00 (Ref: 057-018-026, Ref: 058-005-012, Ref: 058-035-137, Ref: 058-038-150)

(See an attached Table compiled by the Inquiry to assist you)

11. Please advise whether there is ever thrombosis in the paravertebral plexus, and if so, explain what would be the effect of this on the brain.
12. Please advise whether Dr. Armour ought to have examined the paravertebral plexus in the autopsy, and explain the reasons for your answer.
13. Please comment on the point at which you consider that Adam's condition would have ceased to have been reversible and explain the reasons why.
14. Please advise on the extent to which you consider that in Adam's case there were any other risk factors for chronic or acute venous thrombosis which could have involved the cerebral venous sinuses, and explain what they were any your reasons for considering that they could have been present.
15. Please comment on whether there are any parts of Adam's brain that, had they been examined and histological slides prepared, would have placed you in a better position to advise on the likelihood of either venous sinus thrombosis or PRES being present and if so please explain the reasons.
16. We attach for your information and consideration:
 - (a) Table compiled by the Inquiry
 - (b) The other Experts' papers on Dr. Taylor's latest statement

- (c) The other Experts' papers on Professor Kirkham's Report
- (d) The responses from Dr. Squier and Dr. Anslow to queries posed by Professor Kirkham
- (e) Report of Messrs. Forsythe & Rigg on the suture
- (f) Report of Dr. Haynes on the suture
- (g) The British Association of Paediatric Nephrologists paper referred to by Dr. Coulthard including the slide which he showed the Experts during the meeting.
- (h) An Article entitled "Measuring CVP" and seek your guidance with reference to it on the method intended to be employed with Adam
- (i) Information Note dated 6th March 2012.

5 March 2012