

# The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Dr Waney Squier  
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Level 1 West Wing  
John Radcliffe Hospital  
Oxford  
OX3 9DU

Your Ref:

Our Ref: AD-0473-12

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Dear Dr Squier,

## Re Adam Clinical: Paediatric Neurologists Reports

I refer to the above. The Inquiry has obtained a second opinion from a paediatric neurologist, Professor Dietz Rating.

I enclose for your attention Professor Rating's two reports. The first was completed without sight of any expert reports, the second after consideration of the various experts' reports, including yours and the Newcastle exchanges. The material sent to Professor Rating at the two stages is reflected on the attached schedule.

In his second report, Professor Rating seeks your views on the following points:

1. Page 6 (document reference 240-004-006): "A fulminant SVT leading to death in such a short time would have produced some cortical bleedings."
2. Page 6 (document reference 240-004-006): "how likely is it that a peracute, severe SVT leading to death within the space of 1-2 hours was not seen during brain section?"
3. Page 24 (document reference 240-004-024): "Whether the neuropathology in Adam's case
  - is in line with an increased intracranial pressure and furthermore
  - whether [she] *you* can exclude with certainty that Adam died as a result of increased intracranial pressure"
4. Document reference 240-004-028: Whether the "quite substantial neuropathological changes" are more in favour or against the diagnosis of PRES.

Secretary: Bernie Conlon

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5. Document reference 240-004-028: The influence of "time schedule... on the neuropathological findings in a case
- a. When oedema developed so quickly that death occurred in 2-3 hours time
  - b. When a child after 8-10 hours came to death."
- What time is needed to see the characteristics of myelinolysis?

I have asked Professor Kirkham for any comments she wishes to make in reply to Professor Rating's reports by 14<sup>th</sup> December. In light of this, it would be of great assistance if I could have your response to the points raised above by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December in order that Professor Kirkham can take them into account.

Thank you for your continuing assistance.

Yours sincerely,

*Bernie Coulton*  
P.P.

Anne Dillon  
Inquiry Solicitor