

2 Franklin Street, Belfast, BT2 8DQ
DX 2842 NR Belfast 3

Your Ref:
AD-0154-10

Our Ref:
NSC B04/1

Date:
24 November 2010

Ms Anne Dillon
Solicitor to the Inquiry
Arthur House
41 Arthur Street
Belfast
BT1 4GB

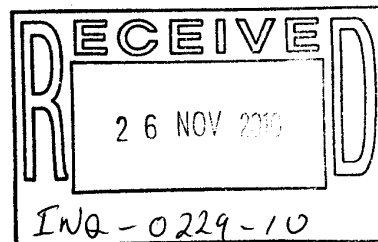
Dear Madam

RE: INQUIRY INTO HYPONATRAEMIA RELATED DEATHS

I refer to the above and to your letter dated 15 September 2010 (AD-0166-10). In relation to each point I can advise as follows:

1. Relative Counselling Records have been used in PICU, RBHSC since the early 1990's. Staff are unable to provide a start date for commencement of its use, however they continue to use it now.
2. In 1996 CT scans were carried out in the Neuroradiology Dept, Level 3, A Block, RVH as RBHSC did not have a CT Scanner at that time (RBHSC got its own CT Scanner in 2002). Patients would have to be transferred via ambulance across the site escorted by an Anaesthetist, (Consultant or Registrar) depending on the patient's condition, a nurse and an MTO. The X-Ray Department have advised that the time it took to arrange Claire's CT scan (from request timed at 4am to report timed at 5.30am) would have been appropriate given the system in place at the time.
3. EEG recording facilities were available in RBHSC in 1996. This service was provided Mon- Fri 9 am - 5 pm. The technicians also provided an ad hoc out of hours service at the request of the Consultant Neurologists, however this was an informal arrangement.
4. A chronology of Claire's care and the staff involved is enclosed (RGH 34).
5. Nichola Rooney who chaired the meeting on 7th December 2004 does not recall who took the handwritten contemporaneous note of the meeting but presumes, as is normal practice, that this note was discarded once the typed version was agreed.

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6. The only event where Claire's death would have been discussed was the Paediatric Directorate Audit meeting where deaths during the previous month are discussed however the Audit Minutes have not been found.
7. With reference to document 090-038-135 the corresponding urine sample result is not a biochemistry report but a bacteriology report (090-030-094, better photocopy enclosed).
8. The documents 090-022-058 to 060 are medical notes containing chronological entries from the medical staff. The Relative Counselling Record (090-028-088) is complete and is a nursing record containing entries by nursing staff. The date given 22/10/96 (sic) must be incorrect as ventilatory support was first given at 3.00am on 23rd October 1996 and the nursing entries on the page all relate to events after that.

Yours faithfully

pp *Nicola Docker*

Wendy Beggs
Assistant Chief Legal Adviser

Direct Line: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Royal Group of Hospitals TrustRe: Claire Roberts CH 328770RGH 34: Table setting out chronology of care provided for Claire during her admission to Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children.

Claire was referred to the A&E Department of the RBHSC by her General Practitioner on the evening of 21st October 1996.

Page	Date/time	Role - Action taken	Signature / initials
12	21/10/96 19:03	A&E Nursing triage	S/N E A Jackson
14	21/10/96 19:15	A&E Doctors medical note	Dr Janil Pathuchear, SHO
50-52	21/10/96 20:00	Allen Ward medical note	Dr Bernie O'Hare, Paediatric Registrar
12,14	21/10/96 20:45	A&E Nursing Admission	S/N E A Jackson
142-143 145-146	21/10/96 21:45	Nursing Care Plan	S/N Geraldine McRandal
140	21/10/96 22:00	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Geraldine McRandal
134	21/10/96	Intravenous Fluid Prescription Chart	Dr Andrea Volprech, SHO
133	21/10/96- 22/10/96 21:45-12:00	Fluid Balance Chart	S/N Geraldine McRandal S/N Barbara Maxwell S/N Jennifer Brownlee
52	21/10/96 24:00	Paediatric Medical Note	Dr Bernie O'Hare, Paediatric Registrar
52	22/10/96 Untimed	Blood Sample results	Dr Andrea Volprech, SHO
135	22/10/96- 23/10/96 08:00-02:00	Fluid Balance and IV Prescription Chart	S/N Sarah Field (now Jordan) S/N Patricia Ellison S/N Karen Taylor S/N Lorraine McCann S/N Rachel Murphy S/N Jennifer Brownlee
136	22/10/96	I V Fluid Prescription Chart	Dr Roger Stevenson, SHO S/N Karen Taylor S/N Rachel Murphy 1 illegible signature
140-141	22/10/96 08:00-14:00	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Sarah Field

RGH 34

Page	Date/time	Role - Action taken	Signature / initials
138-141	22/10/96 14:00-20:00	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Patricia Ellison
73-74	22/10/96 9:30	Drug Prescription Sheet	Dr Joanne Hughes
75-76	22/10/96 Untimed	Drug Prescription Sheet	Dr Roger Stevenson, SHO Dr Neil Stewart, SHO Dr Andrew Sands, Paediatric Registrar 1 illegible signature
77	22/10/96	Drug Recording Sheet	S/N Patricia Ellison S/N Lorraine McCann 1 illegible signature
54 & 55	22/10/96 14:30	Paediatric Medical note	Dr Roger Stevenson, SHO
144	22/10/96 15:10 – 21:00	Records of attacks observed	Mother Unrecorded S/N Lorraine McCann
52-53	22/10/96 Untimed	Ward Round	Dr Andrew Sands, Paediatric Registrar Dr Roger Stevenson, SHO
53-54	22/10/96 16:00	Neurology Medical note	Dr David Webb, Consultant Neurologist
55	22/10/96 17:00	Neurology Medical Note	Dr D Webb, Consultant Neurologist
138	22/10/96 21:30	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Lorraine McCann
147	22/10/96 - 23/10/96 21:45-12:00	Observation Chart	Entries not identified
138	22/10/96 23:00	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Lorraine McCann
56	22/10/96 23:30	Paediatric Medical note	Dr Neil Stewart, SHO
137	22/10/96- 23/10/96 Untimed	Central Nervous System Hourly Observation Chart	Unsigned nursing entries
138	23/10/96 02:30	Nursing Evaluation	S/N Lorraine McCann
56	23/10/96 03:00	Paediatric Medical Note	Dr B Bartholome, Paediatric Registrar Dr Chris Clarke, Anaesthetic Registrar
57	23/10/96 04:00	Paediatric Medical Note	Dr Heather Steen, Consultant Paediatrician

Page	Date/time	Role - Action taken	Signature / initials
57	23/10/96 04:40	Neurology Medical Note	Dr David Webb, Consultant Neurologist
78-88	23/10/96	PICU nursing assessment (dated in error 22/10/96)	S/N Sandra Ross and S/N Margaret Wilkinson
58	23/10/96 05:30	Radiology Note	Dr Peter Kennedy, Radiology Registrar
58	23/10/96 06:00	Neurology Medical Assessment	Dr David Webb/Dr Heather Steen
58-60	23/10/96 07:10	Anaesthetic Medical note	Dr McKaigue, Consultant Anaesthetist
60	23/10/96 08:00	Anaesthetic Medical Note	Dr McKaigue, Consultant Anaesthetist
61	23/10/96 Untimed but approx 10:00	Anaesthetic Medical Note	Dr Taylor, Consultant Anaesthetist
89	23/10/96 11:00 14:00	Drug Prescription Recording	Two illegible signatures
89	23/10/96 Untimed	Drug Prescription Recording	Dr Mannam, SHO
61	23/10/96 18:25	Paediatric Medical Assessment	Dr H Steen and Dr Webb
61	23/10/95 (error for 96) 18:45	Anaesthetic Medical Note	Dr J McKaigue, Consultant Anaesthetist
61	24/10/95 (error for 96) 12:00	Paediatric Medical Note	Dr Mannam, SHO
61	11/11/96 3:35	Paediatric Medical Note	Dr Andrew Sands, Paediatric Registrar