

## The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Ms Wendy Beggs  
Directorate of Legal Services  
2 Franklin Street  
BELFAST  
BT2 8DQ

Your Ref: NSCB04/1  
NSCW50/1  
NSCS071/1

Our Ref: AD-0499-13

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Dear Ms Bolton,

**Re: Raychel Ferguson**

Thank you for your letter of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

I refer to the above and would be grateful if you would ask the Western Trust to provide the following information:

- What policies existed for operating on children at night?
- What information was provided to junior doctors in the surgical and anaesthetic teams regarding contacting consultants when children were admitted out of hours?
- Was there any written guidance regarding the management of intravenous fluids in post-operative children at the time?
- What policies were in place regarding care planning and maintenance of complete patient records? How did the Trust ensure that these records met professional guidance at the time?
- What policies were in place for the supervision and management of postoperative children?
- Whether Altnagelvin Trust acknowledged the concept of family-centred care and what staff training and development was given to staff in this respect.
- What information had been provided to the surgical trainees regarding operating on children at night?

**Secretary:** Bernie Conlon

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- What information had been provided to junior doctors in the surgical and anaesthetic teams regarding contacting consultants when children required surgery out of hours?
- Was there any written guidance relating to communication with parents when their child was in theatre?
- Was there any written guidance regarding the management of intravenous fluids in post-operative children at the time? If not, where did junior doctors find this information?
- Were nurses required to attend children with a doctor when they had been asked to see the patient? If so, how was this communicated to them?
- What policies were in place regarding care planning and maintenance of complete patient records? How did the Trust ensure that these records met professional guidance of the time?

I would be grateful if you would advise me whether Ward 6 had a ward diary and/or handbook. If so I would be grateful to receive the same together with surgical, paediatric and nursing rotas for the period 7-9th June 2001.

Given the proximity of the oral hearings in Raychels' case I would be very grateful if you would respond to me as early next week as your client can manage. Perhaps you would contact me next week in order to advise the earliest date some of these documents may be made available.

I am grateful for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Dillon  
Solicitor to the Inquiry