

The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

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

Your Ref: NSCB04/1
NCSW50/1

Our Ref: AD-0542-13

Date: 15th March 2013

Dear Ms Beggs,

Re: Use of Solution 18 by all Trusts

I refer to the above.

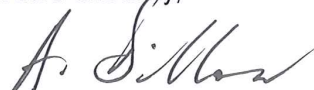
In his statement to the PSNI, Dr Geoff Nesbitt makes reference to checking with colleagues in other hospitals regarding their use of Solution 18 (Inquiry reference 095-010-040). He refers to Tyrone County, Antrim, Craigavon and Ulster Hospitals. He noted that *"Craigavon Hospital said specifically that anaesthetists had been trying to prescribe Hartmann's solution as the post-operative fluid..."* and that like the RBHSC, Tyrone County had stopped using Solution 18 six months previously.

I would be grateful if you would take instructions from the Southern Trust regarding any steps taken by them about the use of solution 18 in and about the period 1999-2001. Specifically I would be grateful to receive the following information regarding Solution 18:

- a. Did the hospitals named above (or any others) stop using this fluid?
- b. What prompted the consideration to change?
- c. If they did discontinue when, how, why and by whom was the decision made?
- d. To whom was it communicated?
- e. Any and all communication/correspondence they had with the RBHSC or other hospitals regarding any change in practice

I would be grateful for your response on or before Wednesday 27th March 2013.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Dillon
Solicitor to the Inquiry

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