



**Business Services  
Organisation**

**Directorate of Legal Services**

— PRACTITIONERS IN LAW TO THE  
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SECTOR —

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

Your Ref:  
AD-0546-13

Our Ref:  
HYP W50/1

Date:  
15<sup>th</sup> April 2013

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



Dear Madam,

**RE: INQUIRY INTO HYPONATRAEMIA RELATED DEATHS – RAYCHEL FERGUSON  
GOVERNANCE**

I refer to the above matter and to your letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Using the same numbering I confirm as follows:

- 1) It would appear that this document is referred to in the Bibliography of Sally Ramsey's report. I would respectfully suggest that this request is redirected to Mrs Ramsey.
- 2) With reference to the document entitled "Fatal Care of Hyponatraemia in Altnagelvin Hospital" (077-005-006/7) I note that you are seeking confirmation as to the purpose for which this document was used, by whom and when. This document is listed in the index to Inquiry File 77 as "Additional slides prepared and used by Dr Nesbitt in his presentation to the WHSSC".

I would also refer you to the Inquiry document 316-004 which is our letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012 (BC-0073-11). A copy of a letter from Dr N P Corrigan (Consultant Paediatrician) to Dr T McMurray dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005 (316-004e-001) with the enclosures was attached to our said letter of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

In the letter of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005 (316-004e-001) Dr Corrigan states that in "In 2002 following our own case of hyponatraemia and cerebral oedema Dr Geoff Nesbitt prepared a talk specifically on this topic and has presented this widely as per his own response to the Inquiry (ref 2)". The document "ref2" is exhibited in the Inquiry's papers at 316-004e-035. Please note that "ref 2" (316-004e-035) is one and the same as 077-005-006/7.

We have taken instructions from Dr Nesbitt who confirms that he prepared the two page document [077-005-006/316-004e-035] "Fatal Case of Hyponatraemia in Altnagelvin Hospital". I am instructed that this document is part of a presentation made to the Western Health & Social Services Council on Wednesday 19 February 2003. Dr Nesbitt states that this document was a combination of information and education and that it was part of a larger presentation and goes on to fluids in children and the case of Raychel Ferguson in particular. The larger

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presentation was also included as an attachment to the letter of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005 and is exhibited at 316-004e-038 of the Inquiry's papers.

Having considered the longer version of the presentation (316-004e-38) Dr Nesbitt instructs that that some of the slides within the presentation were "build" slides. This means that they presented with basic information and became progressively more complex as the presentation progressed. The copy of the presentation (316-004e-038) contained within Dr Corrigan's letter contains the final version of each "build" slide so that all the information is present. By way of example I would refer you to slide 10 which commences as a simple diagram and progresses to a more complex version of the same diagram containing more information. Dr Nesbitt feels that it may benefit the Inquiry to see the progression of those "build" slides as they would have been presented during the presentation and I am therefore enclosing a copy of same for your attention. I must stress however that the version attached to Dr Corrigan's letter is not in any way incomplete and contains all the same information.

- 3) We are instructed the "summary of the investigation" referred to in document 021-025-062 was the document entitled "Agreed action following critical incident meeting 12/06/01" (reference 022-108).
- 4) Please find enclosed copy correspondence from Dr Taylor to Dr Nesbitt which has been provided by Dr Nesbitt for your attention. We are unable to confirm whether this is the document which is referred to in 160-084-001.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'JR Bolton' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joanna Bolton  
Solicitor Consultant