

The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Mr Jessiman
BTO Solicitors
1 Edinburgh Quay
133 Fountainbridge
Edinburgh
EH3 9QG

Your ref: LJD/ASE1193
MEDI/3/110

Our Ref: BMcL-0057-13

Date: 28th February 2013

Dear Mr Jessiman,

Re Raychel Ferguson

As you may be aware Dr Nesbitt Medical Director Altnagelvin has told the Inquiry (WS-035/1 page 9) that following the death of Raychel in June 2001 he contacted the RBHSC *"about their use of No 18 Solution in post operative children "* and was told (by Dr Chisakuta) that RBHSC *"had changed from No 18 Solution six months previously because of concerns about the possibility of low sodium levels."*

The Inquiry has been advised by the representatives of the Belfast Trust that the Trust cannot locate any documentation within its records relating to such change, which the Inquiry finds surprising.

Please take instructions from your client Dr Taylor in relation to the following matters.

1. Was there so far as your client is aware a proposal or decision, formal or informal, within the RBHSC at any level, to stop using Solution 18 in post operative children, or to change the circumstances in which it was used, whether at local, Ward or Hospital level, prior to June 2001?
2. If so, and in so far as your client is aware;
 - (a) Why and precisely in what circumstances was the decision or proposal made?
 - (b) When was the proposal or decision made?
 - (c) What precisely was decided and in what circumstances did the decision apply?
 - (d) Identify all of those involved in any way in arriving at the decision or proposal
 - (e) How was the decision or proposal communicated?

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(f) To whom was it communicated?

The Inquiry would be obliged for any information your client can provide in relation to these matters.

This matter is most urgent as it is relevant to witnesses who will be appearing at Raychel Ferguson Clinical oral hearings in the forthcoming days. I would seek your response therefore as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Brian McLoughlin', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brian McLoughlin
Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry