

## **Sheila Bennett**

### **Correspondence: Statement 14 March 2012**

At this time I noticed Hayley had nasal prongs fixed to her face with tape, they were not in use as oxygen delivery was given via 'head box'. I decided to remove the nasal prongs to increase Hayley's air entry. I wanted to do this with as little disturbance to Hayley as possible and avoid dislodging the naso-gastric tube, so I cut the nasal prongs off.

I remember discussing my concern about Hayley with the doctor and it was decided to test for Swine flu. Hayley was then put into isolation.

### **Correspondence: Official Complaint Letter**

19 hours before Hayley died:

Junior Sister Sheila Bennett put us in ISOLATION; she told staff nurse Sanjit Moore that Hayley had a COUGH and a COLD. Hayley has never had a COUGH and a COLD in her life. (I only found out Sheila Bennett said this the day after Hayley died)

Please investigate why Junior Sister Sheila Bennett told Sanjit Moore that Hayley had a cough and a cold. Why did she lie? Why did she feel compelled to put us in ISOLATION for no medical reason?

I want Shelia Bennett to read my complaint letter and attachments and recognise and acknowledge the anguish and distress she caused.

Her deliberate "act of malice" seriously damaged Hayley's chances of medical support. We were scared to leave the room to get help with Hayley's line. We would spend 10 minutes trying to fix it ourselves then another 5 minutes worrying about leaving the room to get help. It would occlude 4 to 5 times an hour. The whole time we were getting stressed Hayley wasn't receiving her proper amount of fluids. We took it in turns leaving the room to ask for help. This went on all day.

When Hayley suffered her cardiac arrest no one heard me cry out because the door was SHUT because we were in ISOLATION. I had to leave my dying baby alone to get help. I am haunted every night by the look of terror in her eyes as I ran off. When they called PICU my first thought was Hayley needs help now, it's going to take too long for them to put on the plastic aprons for ISOLATION. Hayley's struggling to breathe; we're running out of time, there is no time to spare. I FELT SICK TO MY VERY CORE.

Shelia Bennett's vindictive act caused so much suffering.

I was meant to bump into staff nurse Sanjit Moore the day after Hayley died. I don't know why I asked for the reason Hayley was put in ISOLATION. I was devastated when Sanjit told me "Hayley had a COUGH and a COLD".

I want a full investigation. I want to know what action will be taken, who will Shelia Bennett be reviewed to, how does the Trust deal with situations like this. I believe there is a civil liberty rights issue that needs to be addressed.

Is it medical malpractice if you lie about a patient's condition which seriously affects their direct access to medical treatment which can save their life?

Hayley died in ISOLATION.

## Correspondence: Transcript of Coroners Court

### Statement – Sheila Stevenson

I went out to the nurses' station and said to Junior Sister Sheila Bennett, 'What happened to my poor wee Hayley?' She didn't even lift her head and just said, 'I do not know, it happened at the changeover of shifts.' I asked who would tell me and she said the doctor would be round later. She offered no words of sympathy or compassion. I could not believe the type of people they had working on a children's ward.

### Sheila Bennett on the Witness Stand

Advised the Coroner that she removed the nasal prongs on the 9<sup>th</sup> and not 10<sup>th</sup> November as was the case. Sheila Bennett tried to claim they were removed a day earlier reducing the time oxygen would have been restricted.

Sheila Bennett stated that "Hayley Fullerton never fitted the criteria for a high dependency patient based on her PEW's score". She contradicted this statement by stating that "PEW's score are a guideline, not a holy grail. We look at the complete picture of the child. We use our clinical judgment. We did manage to work without PEW's scores before 2008". When asked about Sylvia Stevenson asking her about Hayley on the morning of 11<sup>th</sup> November after she had died, Sheila Bennett denied being on shift on the morning.