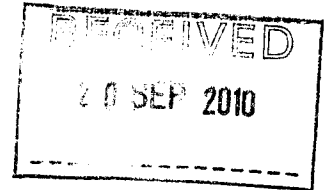


**WITNESS STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO OUTBREAK OF
CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE IN THE NORTHERN TRUST HOSPITALS**

WITNESS NAME: MRS JENNIFER KENNEDY



STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE

I, Mrs Jennifer Kennedy, say as follows:

1. My name is Mrs Jennifer Kennedy and I am a sister of Mrs Harriett Campbell who was a patient at Mid-Ulster Hospital in September 2007 and May 2008.
2. I have read my sister's statement and I agree with what she has said.
3. I visited her when she was in hospital and would like to add some of my own comments and views.

Visits

4. I visited my sister in hospital every day. I went during normal visiting hours, but when she was in the Intensive Care Unit the visiting was not so restrictive. I stayed overnight with her when she was in the Intensive Care Unit.

Commode

5. I thought it was very unhygienic and wrong of the hospital to leave the commode in the room. It was nasty and full to overflowing. My sister asked for it to be removed on a number of occasions, but her requests were ignored.

Depression

6. My sister has become very depressed. I have noticed a big change in her. She is now taking antidepressants and attending a psychiatrist. She used to go out shopping and socialising, but now all she wants to do is sit in the house. She is scared to leave the house because of her symptoms of diarrhoea and depression. She has diarrhoea every day and needs to know that a toilet is nearby.
7. The family are very annoyed that we were not told that she had C difficile at the time when she was in hospital. My sister was only told of this two years later in a letter from the Inquiry Team and this makes us very bitter and cross. If the hospital knew that she had C difficile then she should have been told this at the time.
8. My sister still has symptoms of diarrhoea and even attended Whiteabbey Hospital two months ago for a camera scope test.
9. We knew that she was very ill when she was in the Intensive Care Unit, but they only spoke to us about her epilepsy and did not mention C difficile.
10. My sister even went to her GP before she attended the interview to give a statement to the Inquiry.
11. The family are devastated by the change in her.

Cleanliness

12. We were never given any advice regarding cleanliness, hand washing, use of gels, laundry, personal hygiene or anything else.

Communication

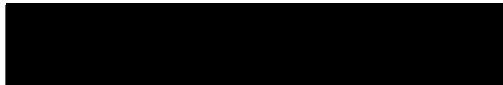
13. I would have liked a lot more communication and information to be given out by the hospital. No one ever spoke to us about C difficile and the family are really annoyed that she was only told by letter two years later that she had it.

Conclusion

14. I relate her depression and her present condition to the C difficile. She still has symptoms of diarrhoea and this is causing her depression.

I declare that this statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed



Date

18th 9/20