

The Split Site

21. Initially Joe was in a little room at the BRI then moved into a general ward, probably after less than a week. Once he was off the ventilator he was taken in an ambulance up to the Children's Hospital. For that journey the nurse needed to be accompanied by an Anaesthetist. The fact that it was a split site meant some degree of inconvenience to us and to the staff, but ultimately it did not seem to affect the standard of care given to Joe. We felt more at home at the Children's Hospital, but were not aware of any particular problem in treating Joe at the BRI.

Subsequent Post-Operative Care

22. In the weeks following the operation, we were aware that Mr Wisheart was regularly monitoring the situation, and when we met with him, he was helpful and informative. He often seemed to be turning up at all times of the day or evening, whether it was to see our son or other patients of his.

23. Joe was able to come home some three weeks or thereabouts after the surgery, which was very good. He was then back in the care of Dr Joffe and Dr Marlow and he would see them every four to six weeks or thereabouts as a matter of course, or otherwise as necessary. He now sees Dr Joffe on an annual basis and has long since been without the need to see a Paediatric Doctor. He has continued under the care of Miss Noblet and now Ms Huskisson. There appear to have been no particular problems arising from the surgery, and whereas there remains a possibility of Joe needing some further surgery, this would only be

at a later stage when he was very much older. He does however remain susceptible to infections, and we therefore need to be careful.

24. My wife and I felt that Joe received very good care from the Surgeon and from all the other medical staff during the course of his surgery and treatment, and we are very grateful for that. We were kept well informed at every stage. Issues and procedures were explained to us well, and medical notes were readily made available to us, and we were made to feel comfortable and involved, but I believe that not only Joe as the patient but also the parents and the rest of Joe's immediate family have been very well cared for.

Signed *Dr. J. S. McLorinan*
JOHN STEPHEN McLORINAN

Dated: *3rd*, March 1999

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