

STATEMENT OF LINDA BASCOMBE

53. Continuing Attempts at Injection

The doctor insisted that the procedure he was following had to be continued but, if he could not insert the needle, he would administer the medication by injections into Simone's leg instead. I pointed out that she was used to injections, and I would much prefer him to proceed by this method, especially as she had tolerated leg injections well during her previous episode of heart failure. However, the doctor insisted on continuing to try and insert the needle into the forehead and, after one more failed attempt, he gave up, and inserted the injection through the leg. I was relieved that the antibiotics were now in her system, and could start working.

54. Improvement in Simone's Health

After this incident, Simone's health gradually improved. She remained susceptible to infections but, as we were now living in a house, she was nowhere near as weak as she had been.

55. Bristol and West Children's Heart Circle

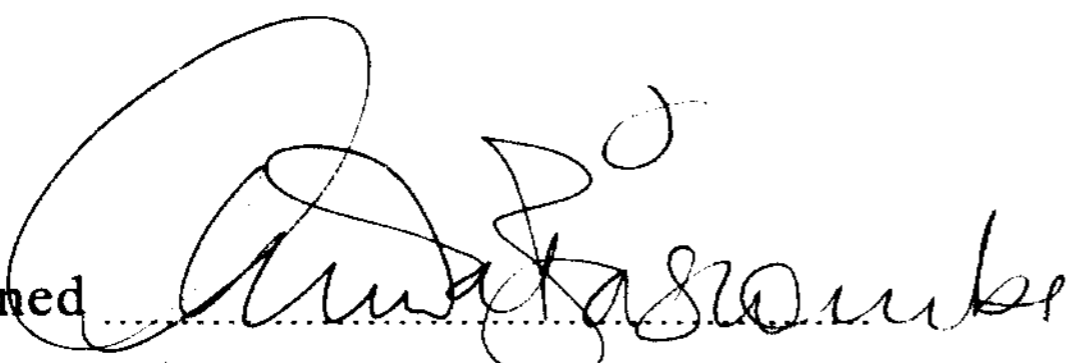
I was, by this time, Secretary for the Cornwall Branch of the Bristol and West Children's Heart Circle. I felt very alone with my sick child, so it was good to be able to communicate with other parents, and share our concerns.

56. Second Catheterisation

In September 1987, Dr Jordan advised me that Simone would need a second catheterisation, to see how she was. I understood that, once this had been done, she would go on the waiting list for the heart operation. I did all I could to make Simone as healthy as she could be before the operation: I was, obviously, concerned that she should not have the same reaction as she did to the first catheter.

Signed

Dated


 18.7.99

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57. Expressing my Concerns at Bristol Children's Hospital

When Simone went to the Bristol Children's Hospital for her second catheterisation, I pointed out that, the first time around, she had possibly been allergic to the dye, or the anaesthetic. I had been carrying out some reading myself, and I wanted to give her Arnica. Arnica is a natural herbal remedy, which I felt would assist Simone in her recovery from the trauma. I spoke to a doctor about this, and she said I could give her the Arnica, provided I accepted it was totally my decision. I did so by placing little soluble pills under Simone's tongue. I feel that Arnica greatly helped Simone's recovery.

58. Location of Second Catheterisation

The second catheterisation was performed at the Bristol Children's Hospital, not the BRI.

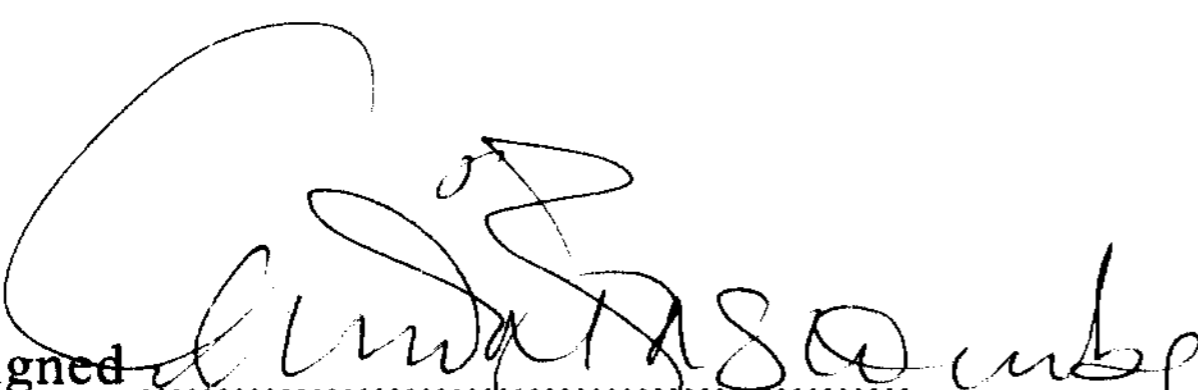
59. The Risks Involved in Catheterisation

I cannot recall any risks attached to the catheterisation being discussed with me, on either the first or second occasion. I was only told that it was a routine, minor procedure.

60. Reaction To Pre-Med

This time, Simone had a reaction to the pre-med. I was left alone, and was holding her on my lap, when she started to thrash about for several seconds. Luckily I was able to stop her from hurting herself.

Signed



Dated

18.7.99