

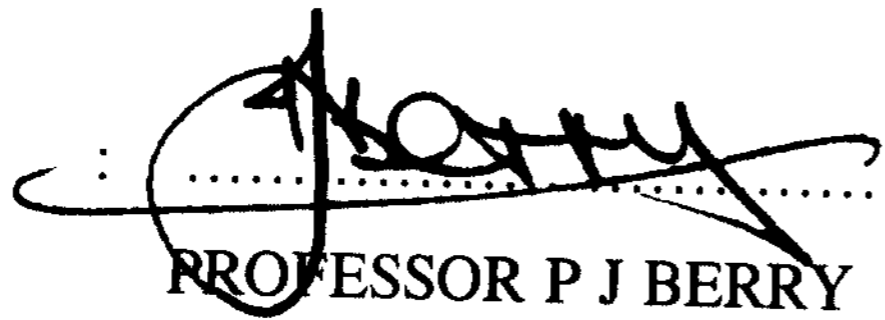
The BRI Inquiry into Paediatric Cardiac Surgery in Bristol (1984-1995)

Name	Professor P J BERRY
Address	c/o St Michael's Hospital Southwell Street Bristol BS2 8EG
Occupation	Professor of Paediatric Pathology

1. This statement is in response to the announcement made by Professor Kennedy on 29 November 1999. I have been asked to identify the precise purposes for which slides or other sections of tissue were taken in Bristol during the relevant years. As described in paragraph 26 of my statement dated 2 July 1999 the retention of tissue was for the purpose of diagnosis relevant to the cause of death.
2. The slides, and other sections of tissue (from which the slides were prepared) were taken for the purpose of preparing the final post-mortem report. The slides are kept as a record of the material used to reach the conclusion set out in the post-mortem report. If specific questions have arisen, or might arise in the future, the slides have been, and will be, available. It is routine in Bristol to retain all slides and the paraffin blocks from which they have been prepared. I believe this reflects good practice nationally.
3. Some archival slides taken for this purpose have since been used for audit, teaching and research. I believe this also reflects what has been accepted as good practice nationally. (Nuffield Council on Bioethics, Human Tissue Ethical and Legal Issues April 1995). This is subject to review, as reflected in the RCOP Guidelines published for consultation.

4. I supplied all of the information about the practice of pathology in Bristol and the references to national practice, which had been dealt with in my statement and in oral evidence, for the letter sent to the Inquiry by Beachcroft Wansbroughs, dated 17 November 1999, in response to the letter from the Solicitor to the Inquiry of 19 October 1999. I can confirm that the letter accurately reflected that information.

SIGNED

: 

PROFESSOR P J BERRY

DATED

: 9. 12. 99

H:\Worc\sey\ubt001-jea98005\supp stat berry(DB) 07-12-99