

Countess of Chester Hospital **NHS**

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Department of Paediatrics

Doctor ZA

Consultant Paediatrician

Our Ref: Dr ZA Personal Data

NHS No: Personal Data

Date Dictd: 11/10/2023

Date Typed: 11/10/2023

Private and confidential

The Parent/Guardian of

Child F

Personal Data

Dear: Mother and Father E&F

I hope that you do not mind me writing to you.

I want to assure that when Child F and Child E were treated on the Neonatal Unit, I didn't have the slightest suspicion that anything untoward had happened to them. Although the circumstances were unusual, I was completely convinced that Child E died of NEC. I am sorry that I didn't push for a post mortem; I wanted to minimise any further pain for you. This was the wrong decision, and I am truly sorry.

When as time went on, we became suspicious and reviewed earlier cases. I would like to apologise for not sharing our concerns with you at the time. It is my normal practice to be honest and candid with parents and keeping this from you sat very uneasily with me. I hope you can understand that we couldn't speak to you in order to not disrupt the judicial process. I want you to know that everything we did, was with your babies at the forefront to our minds.

I am truly sorry for everything that you, Child F, Child E, and your family have been through.

Yours sincerely

Personal Data

Doctor ZA

Consultant Paediatrician