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22 January 2026

Gaia Young (deceased)  
Born 4 March 1996  
Died 21 July 2021

Dear Dr Gross (and Baroness Neuberger and Professor Probert)

Thank you for your letter dated 8 January 2026. I really value your professionalism, medical curiosity, and independence. You enclosed this publication:

Case report

Hiding in plain sight: a case of ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency unmasked post liver transplantation

American Journal of Transplantation

Volume 17, Issue 5 May 2017 pages 1405 -1408

M Ramanathan, S Uppalapu, NM Patel

You say that this is “contrary” to my opinion. It is not. It accords with the evidence of Gaia’s case. The paper included the following:

“Clinical case

...the donor was a female college student without known chronic conditions who complained of several days of nausea and headache. She was found unconscious in her dormitory with both deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism... there was evidence on magnetic resonance imaging of cerebral edema...

## Discussion

...The donor history of nausea, vomiting, and headache coupled with imaging evidence of cerebral edema without trauma should have raised concern about the possibility of unrecognized OTC deficiency...There was no examination for papilledema reported...Serum ammonia levels were not checked in the donor...”

The presentation and therapeutic omissions exactly match Gaia’s story (apart from the incidental venous thromboembolism). It provides support for Gaia’s fatal condition having been hyperammonaemia encephalopathy due to OTC deficiency. This case report indicates the importance of determining the cause of death in organ donors – it raises patient safety issues.

My letter dated 7 January 2026 included the following:

“Neither you nor the Trust have proposed a viable alternative to OTC deficiency...

Gaia’s case conforms exactly to OTC deficiency – none of the evidence refutes the diagnosis. The available evidence either supports the diagnosis or is consistent with it...

I ask you and the Trust yet again – if you can find a viable alternative diagnosis to OTC deficiency then please let me know. This is a simple, clear, robust, complete explanation.”

I ask you and the Trust please to address this inquiry.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely

Dorit  
Lady Young of Dartington