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HUP settles with Ryan family

The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and the family of Anne Ryan, a then-College sophomore who died of bacterial meningitis on Sept. 9, 2007, agreed yesterday to settle a lawsuit brought by the family alleging malpractice during Ryan's treatment at HUP.

Thomas Kline, the Ryan family's attorney, issued a statement on behalf of his clients and HUP saying that an agreement had been reached without a need for further litigation.

"Beyond stating that the parties agree that this settlement is in the best interests of all concerned and that they are grateful for the assistance of the Court in reaching this agreement, there will be no further comment," the statement said.

The decision came just before opening arguments were set to begin. The start of the trial had already been postponed by nearly two days due to the need to replace one of the jurors, Kline said.

HUP lawyer James Young declined to comment further ...