

Charlie's parents should decide

Taxpayers fund the NHS to save lives, so why is it wasting thousands of pounds on trying to end one

("Sometimes it's better to let a child go", News Review, last week)? If the parents of Charlie Gard feel treatment in America can offer their child hope, they should be free to try it. The seemingly dogged determination of the NHS to prevent them offers an uneasy and dystopian vision of a future health service.

*Angus Long
Newcastle upon Tyne*

Doctors know best

I am sure the staff at Great Ormond Street Hospital are compassionate but they are

also the medical experts who are able to look at the outlook for this baby and judge what decisions are in his best interests.

*Suzanne Wilson
Windermere, Cumbria*

We let our baby go

I have great sympathy for these agonised parents. We had to let our first baby go. We searched the world, before the internet – by post – to find a "cure". There was none, so we resolved to make this little adored baby as happy as possible – if he woke in the night and wanted fun, so be it. Later we sat with him, and held him, until he left us. I was 35, desolate beyond measure, but sometimes death is the best healing.

Name and address supplied

Sunday Times 16.7.17