

Witness Name: Dr Angela McKernan

Statement No.: WITN3923001

Exhibits: WITN3923002

WITN3923003

WITN3923004

WITN3923005

WITN3923006

WITN3923007

Dated: 10 January 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ANGELA McKERNAN

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 9 April 2019.

I, Angela McKernan, will say as follows:

Section 1: Introduction

1. My name is Angela McKernan and my address is Department of Haematology, Royal Derby Hospital, Uttoxeter Road, DE22 3NE. My date of birth is GRO-C 1958. I hold the following qualifications: MB, ChB; MD; FRCP; FRCPATH.
2. I have held the following consultant posts: I was Locum Consultant Haematologist with responsibility for the Haemophilia Centre at Royal Liverpool Hospital from 1st December 1994 to 28th February 1995. I was responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of people with hereditary bleeding disorders.
3. I took up my present position of Consultant Haematologist and Director of the Haemophilia Centre in Derby on 1st March 1995. I was initially based at Derbyshire Royal Infirmary which merged with Derby City Hospital to form Royal Derby Hospital in 2009. Throughout this employment I have been responsible for the diagnosis and

treatment of people with hereditary bleeding disorders. My job plan also includes thrombosis, anticoagulation, obstetric and paediatric haematology and general haematology. Until 10 years ago a large proportion of my work was in malignant haematology but this has gradually reduced over the past 10 years.

4. I became a member of the UK Haemophilia Centre Doctors Organization (UKHCDO) in October 1998. I was a member of the Dental Working Party of the UKHCDO between 2010 and 2013. I have been a member of the Musculoskeletal Working Party of the UKHCDO since 2011.

Section 2: Criticism of W0666

1. I am basing my response on Mr Burton's medical case note in particular my handwritten notes [WITN3923002, WITN3923005], the typed clinic letters [WITN3923003, WITN3923006] and the paper report containing the hepatitis C result [WITN3923004]. The Infected Blood Inquiry have informed me that Mr Burton has given his consent for me to look at his medical records for the purpose of this response.
2. I met Mr Burton for the first time in the outpatient clinic on 17 January 1996. I don't remember the consultation but from my handwritten notes of the 17 January 1996 consultation [WITN3923002], and typed clinic letter from the 17 January 1996 consultation [WITN3923003], we discussed that he had had a hepatitis C test in 1991 which was negative. It was my usual practice at the time to test all severe haemophilia patients for HCV when I saw them in clinic. Also, as I noted in my clinic letter, improvements had been made in the test since then so I arranged for him to have a repeat Hepatitis C test.
3. I made arrangements to see Mr Burton in clinic in 6 months. The hepatitis C test done on 17 January 1996 was positive. The paper report of the test result was dated 20 March 1996 - Hepatitis C result [WITN3923004]. My normal practice would have been to arrange an appointment to discuss the result but cannot remember what happened in this case. The next clinic appointment was on 10.07.96. Mr Burton did not attend for this appointment - DNA 10/7/96 clinic appointment [WITN3923005]. I next saw Mr Burton in the outpatient clinic on 03 December 1997 - handwritten notes of the 03 December 1997 consultation [WITN3923005], typed clinic letter from the 03 December 1997 consultation [WITN3923006] - when I told him that the Hepatitis C

test from 17 January 1996 was positive. I wish to unreservedly apologise to Mr Burton for this delay.

4. I don't remember the 1997 consultation [WITN3923005], [WITN3923006] but it would not have been my intention to blame Mr Burton for the delay in informing him of the positive test. However, if anything I said or did led Mr Burton to think that I did, I unreservedly apologise.
5. As a Haematologist I had no training or expertise in the management of hepatitis C. I dictated a letter on 03 December 1997 [WITN3923007], referring Mr Burton to a liver specialist for management of his HCV infection which I would have assumed included psychological advice, and guidance regarding sexual activity.

Table of Exhibits:

Date	Description	Exhibit Number
17/01/1996	Handwritten notes of the 17/01/96 consultation	WITN3923002
17/01/1996	Typed clinic letter from the 17/01/96 consultation	WITN3923003
20/03/1996	Hepatitis C result	WITN3923004
10/07/1996	DNA 10/7/96 clinic appointment	WITN3923005
03/12/1997	Handwritten notes of the 03/12/97 consultation	WITN3923005
03/12/1997	Typed clinic letter from the 03/12/97 consultation	WITN3923006
03/12/1997	Referral letter 03/12/1997 to a liver specialist	WITN3923007

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed GRO-C

Dated 10th January 2020