

Witness Name: Dr Jonathon Snook

Statement No.: WITN4080001

Exhibits: None

Dated: 3 March 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF DR JONATHON SNOOK

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 27 February 2020

I, Dr Jonathon Snook, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

- 1.1 Dr Jonathon Snook MA DPhil (Oxon) FRCP, Department of Gastroenterology, GRO-B
GRO-B
- 1.2 Consultant Physician and Gastroenterologist, GRO-B (1992 – present)
– responsible for the management of a range of medical disorders relating in particular to the liver and gastro-intestinal tract.
- 1.3 None relevant

Section 2: Responses to criticism of W1974 and W0874

- 2.1 I'm afraid that after 27 years I don't have a clear recollection of the single consultation with GRO-B on 1st March 1993. All that I have to go on is my clinic letter, which is already on record (WTN1974002 Ex2).

It is important to bear in mind that the virus was only isolated and characterised in 1989. In 1993, just 4 years later, our understanding of the natural history of HCV was still very limited, and the RNA PCR test for detecting persistent infection was not available outside research settings. At that time, the only guide we had as to whether or not the virus was

still present was to test liver enzyme levels in the blood, as these rise when the liver is inflamed. In GRO-B's case the levels were normal. hence my words of reassurance.

I did however recommend to her GP an annual blood test to monitor liver enzyme levels, and also to check her for HCV RNA when that particular test became available. I have no record to indicate whether this recommendation was followed but presumably it was, either through her GP or at Southampton, as this would have been the test indicating that the treatment she went on to have was warranted.

2.2 I assume these comments relate to her Southampton notes. As I wasn't working there at that time and don't have access to them, the Southampton team are I think better placed to address the issues that GRO-B raises here.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed: GRO-C

Dated 3.3.20