

Witness Name: Catherine Moy

Statement No.: WITN087901

Exhibits: WITN087902

Dated:

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CATHERINE MOY

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 2 April 2019.

I, Catherine Moy, will say as follows:

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Catherine Moy. My date of birth is GRO-C 1972 and my address is known to the Inquiry. I reside near GRO-C with my husband and two children. I am a cleaner. I intend to speak about my brother, Andrew Moy who became infected with HIV and hepatitis C through infected blood. In particular, the nature of his illness, how the illness affected him, the treatment received and the impact it had on him and our family.

Section 2. How Affected

2. My brother, Andrew was born on GRO-C 1965. Andrew died on 7 GRO-C 1998 from AIDS as a result of being given infected blood and/or blood products in 1984/85. He was 32.

3. As a haemophiliac, Andrew would regularly suffer from bleeds. As a young boy, he and his school friends enjoyed playing football. However, Andrew would persistently end up in hospital receiving treatment for his bleeds. From 1971 until 1997, under the care of the haematology centre in Addenbrooks Hospital, Cambridge, Andrew was given both Factor VIII and Cryoprecipitate which he was taught to routinely administer at home.

4. He also underwent an operation on his knee, at Newmarket hospital. This was caused by injuries incurred as a result of his haemophilia. This may have required a blood transfusions. However given the passage of time I cannot be sure. It may have been that he was given just Factor V111.

5. I believe that Andrew was infected with HIV and hepatitis C around 1984/85. I do not know whether this resulted from the blood products received to treat his haemophilia or the transfusion(s) given during an operation to treat his knees.

6. I do not believe that Andrew was given any information or advice about the risk of being exposed to infection. Prior to being given Factor VIII, Andrew had been attending the hospital every week to treat his bleeds. At the time it had been a great relief to be given Factor VIII which could be self-administered at home without having to attend the hospital so frequently. Had he known of any risk of infection, I do not believe that he would have agreed to have it.

7. I believe that Andrew found out that he had HIV and hepatitis C sometime in 1985. I learnt of his HIV status in 1994. I had seen on the news that haemophiliacs had been infected with HIV. I was very concerned that Andrew could be infected and discussed this with him. A few days later Andrew informed me that both he and his wife Tina were HIV positive and that he had contracted the virus through contaminated blood. I cannot recall if she revealed at the time that they had been infected with hepatitis C.

Section 3. Other Infections

8. I am not aware that Andrew received any infection or infections other than HIV and hepatitis C as a result of being given infected blood or blood products.

Section 4. Consent

9. Whilst I do not believe that Andrew was treated without his knowledge or consent, as indicated earlier, I believe that, had he been given adequate or full information as to the risk of contracting HIV or hepatitis C, he would not have consented to the transfusion or the receipt of blood products in the circumstances described.

Section 5. Impact

10. Andrew must have suffered a significant degree of fear and anxiety after discovering that he had contracted HIV and hepatitis C through contaminated products. As Andrew's younger sister, I was only informed of his diagnosis some years later when I was a young adult. When we were both still living in the family home, I can remember that Andrew was often very upset and frustrated with his health. At the time, I attributed this to the effects of his haemophilia. However, in hindsight, his frustration may also have resulted from discovering that he had been infected with HIV and hepatitis C.

11. I think he outlived Tina largely because of his positive attitude and determination. Despite Andrew's health seriously deteriorating as a result of AIDS and hepatitis C, he was determined to continue life as normally as possible. I can still remember him baking 12 Christmas cakes for the family the Christmas before he died. He also loved to play golf. Sometimes I don't know how he managed to walk around the golf course but he was determined to do it.

12. Towards the end of 1996, Andrew suffered from pneumonia. He lost a lot of weight and had a terrible cough. He also suffered from diarrhoea. This is when he was informed that the HIV had progressed to AIDS. Around September/October 1997 during a stay in hospital, I can remember a nurse trying to find one of his veins and Andrew screaming from the pain because they couldn't find a vein.

13. In October 1997, Andrew, my husband, my younger sister Amy and I went to Crete for a last holiday together. Andrew became very unwell due to the hepatitis C and had to go into hospital whilst abroad. The damage to his liver had caused him to turn yellow and his feet, face and hands began to swell. When we returned to England, he was taken straight to hospital.

14. After Christmas in 1997, Andrew stayed in hospital intermittently. He continued to lose weight and became increasingly frail. His skin was also very yellow, presumably because of the damage to his liver. By that time, I was 7 months pregnant with my son. On a particular stay in hospital, he said to me, 'the doctors said this is it now, I won't be coming out.'

15. In January 1998, he was at home for a short period of time before he went to stay with my mum. On 14 February, I spoke to him on the phone. His health then rapidly deteriorated and he was admitted to Addenbrooks hospital. He didn't come out again. He died on 7 March.

16. Over the course of Andrew's treatment of Factor VIII he met his wife, Tina. Unaware that he was HIV and hepatitis C positive, he infected Tina. Around 1994 Tina began to lose a lot of weight and became very unwell. Tina died from AIDS in June 1995.
17. Although Andrew was unaware that he was HIV positive when he met Tina, I know that he would have felt very guilty having infected her. They had been dating each other for a while and had married only 6 weeks before she died. After Tina's death, Andrew was absolutely devastated and began to see a counsellor. It must have caused him a tremendous amount of anxiety to witness her death knowing that his health would deteriorate in the same way.
18. Andrew's diagnosis of HIV and hepatitis C had a devastating impact on our family. My younger sister Amy was working in Guatemala in 1997 when she was informed of Andrew's illness. She suffered a psychiatric episode and was admitted to hospital. Our sister Vicky brought her back to the UK where she was sectioned in a psychiatric unit. I believe that the shock of Andrew's diagnosis played a significant role in her mental health at the time. This was a very stressful time for our family.
19. After Tina's death, we as a family offered Andrew as much support as we could. At the time, I was living in a flat in Cambridge. Andrew would stay over and we would go to the pub. I remember him saying that if it wasn't for the family, he would have just ended it.
20. Andrew has missed out on meeting my children. He has 17 nieces and nephews that he has missed out on. Now, my younger sister Alice, who was 9 when he died, is 31 with a baby of her own.
21. My mum met my stepdad when I was around 10 years old. He moved in shortly after. Andrew and I had a difficult relationship with our stepdad.

Our home life became very stressful. However, this was when I and Andrew and I became particularly close. He became like a father figure to me. He would let me sit in his room and watch Top of the Pops. He taught me how to ride my bike and took me for my first pint when I was 15. We had a very close relationship and shared a special bond.

22. When I discovered that Andrew was HIV positive, events from my childhood began to make sense. I recall being at home as a child with my mum and step-mum and we had to have our own toothpaste and toilet roll. I had assumed that they were just being petty. In hindsight, I believe that they knew of Andrew's HIV and hepatitis C diagnosis and were cautious not to infect anyone else in the family.

23. On another occasion, as a joke, I presented my mum with a condom pretending that it was Andrew's to get him into trouble. She immediately got a scrubbing brush and fairly liquid and scrubbed my hands till they were raw. I had been confused at the time, thinking that her reaction was very disproportionate. Even now I can still recall the look of fear and tension on her face. In hindsight, I believe she knew of Andrew's diagnosis and must have suffered a considerable degree of anxiety in trying to protect her family from being infected.

24. Andrew's death devastated me. Not only did I lose my brother, I lost my best friend. I was pregnant when he was dying and had anticipated spending quality time with Andrew during my maternity leave. We used to love watching MTV together and eating KFC and I missed not having his company during such a crucial stage of my life.

25. I remember telling Andrew that I was pregnant when he was in hospital. I told him, 'you're going to be an uncle'. He was so delighted. He advised me to get tested in order to ascertain whether or not I was a carrier of haemophilia. This added a lot of anxiety to my pregnancy. The first time I saw Andrew cry was when I told him that I had been tested. He said: 'I don't want him [my son] to go through what I did'. I know that if I wasn't

pregnant, I would have simply gone off the rails with the stress of Andrew's illness. Andrew wanted me to persuade other family members to donate blood when he learnt I was pregnant. His thought process was that it would be better to use blood from our family, rather than run the risk of infection from blood donated from unknown sources. In the event the hospital refused to allow this.

26. Andrew's death devastated us as a family. I think he would have died a lot sooner than 7 March if it wasn't for my younger sister's 16th birthday on 3 March. I know that he held on for her. His death really affected her during a pivotal stage of her life as she was studying for her GCSES.

27. My mum and dad lived at the hospital with Andrew during his last few weeks. When he was first admitted, he was quite delirious because of the morphine. At one point I can recall him suddenly becoming very quiet. I think he was preparing to die. My mum and dad were sitting at his bedside with a carton of Ribena feeding him through a straw. It was heart breaking. I do not know how my parents endured. I think my dad must have felt a lot of anger at the injustice of the circumstances. This didn't need to happen. I have included a photograph of Andrew taken just prior to his death exhibit **WITN087902** this shows just how frail he had become at this stage, HIV having ravaged his body.

28. I feel extremely angry and upset at the events that led to my brother's death. Before I learned of Andrew's diagnosis of HIV and hepatitis C, I had a very positive outlook on life, believing that there was a solution to any problem that came my way. Upon hearing that he had been infected through contaminated blood, I spent a year and a half grieving and no one had actually died yet. Because there was no cure for HIV, I received his diagnosis as a death sentence. I lost all hope. Visiting Tina in hospital and witnessing the deterioration of her health was devastating. This was exacerbated by the knowledge that I would have to watch my brother's health worsen in the same way. I felt that I didn't have control over anything and began to drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes in order to

manage my anxiety. I also began to suffer nose bleeds and would have up to ten panic attacks a day. I used to work at my dad's shop in the village. On one occasion, Andrew witnessed me experiencing a panic attack. When he asked what was wrong, all I wanted to say to him was 'I don't want you to die' but I knew that I couldn't say this to him. I had to keep a lot of my anxiety to myself.

29. Prior to Andrew's death, his wife Tina died, this was followed by the death of my grandmother, then my stepdad suffered from cancer and died, then one of my step-mum's foster children died. I also found out that my sister had been diagnosed with MS. The combination of all these events caused me to feel incredibly anxious towards hospitals, death, dying and anybody becoming unwell. I have been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder and have been on anti-depressants ever since. Moreover, at the time, I lost my trust in the health system as I couldn't conceive how something so terrible could have happened to my brother. I have also been undergoing cognitive behavioural therapy to treat my anxiety. Even now, there is not a week that goes by where I don't have a dream about my brother. The dream is always the same. After being buried, he comes up from the earth, and says he was buried too soon and it wasn't his time to go yet.
30. When I found out that I was pregnant with my second child, I had to undergo amniocentesis tests to ascertain whether she suffered from haemophilia. This was very stressful for me. Having witnessed what my brother had been through, I was faced with the dilemma of whether or not I should terminate the pregnancy should I learn that my child also suffers from haemophilia.
31. Andrew and our family also suffered from the consequences of the stigma surrounding HIV at the time of his diagnosis. When he found that he was infected, the doctors advised him to keep it quiet. Whether or not this was because they didn't want the public to know about the contaminated blood scandal or whether it was to protect other family

members, I am not sure. My mother later told me that Andrew didn't tell me when I was young because at that age I might have told a friend at school and other people would have found out. I believe my family were very anxious not to be socially ostracized.

32. In the 1980s and 90s, there were many myths surrounding AIDS. Many people were under the impression that it could be passed on by shaking hands with someone with HIV or merely by being in their presence. Others assumed that if you had AIDS you must be gay or a drug user.
33. I don't know if some of Andrew's close friends knew about his diagnosis. No one could talk about it through fear of stigma. Some of their friends stuck by them, others were a bit wary. One friend in particular, Steve Taylor was always a loyal friend and stuck by him. Andrew and Tina had been on holiday twice with another couple. I don't think they knew that Andrew and Tina had HIV and when they found out, they distanced themselves.
34. Andrew really liked to help others. On one occasion, through the church, he asked to sign up to help out with the Meals on Wheels program. The vicar just looked at him with pure contempt and said 'I don't think so do you?' I know there was a lot of gossip in the village. People at one stage thought Andrew and his step brother were gay as they bought a house together.
35. Andrew used to work for my dad as a heating engineer. My dad then got a water softener company. Andrew bought it out with another friend. When his business partner found out about him being HIV positive, he ostracised Andrew from the business. My brother had to resort to taking him to court. I gave my brother £500 towards solicitor fees. Eventually, Andrew became too unwell to work.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

36. In hindsight, I think there was counselling available for me. But at the time, I just wanted to continue life as normally as possible. I just dedicated my time to my family. However, attending the haemophilia society's memorial last year, together with Inquiry has brought back all the emotions I felt as a result of Andrew's illness and death.

37. Andrew regularly visited a counsellor in Cambridge when Tina was very unwell and following her death. Professionally, they were very close. However, I am not sure as to the source of this support. It may have been provided through the haemophilia society.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

38. I do believe that Andrew received some financial assistance from Trusts or Funds to support him through his illness although I am not sure as to the source or how much he received.

Section 8. Other Issues

In terms of what I would want from the Inquiry. I would wish to see all those that knew about the contaminated blood and the likelihood of infection held accountable and if necessary go to jail. I would also like to see evidence of what actually happened and those pharmaceutical companies responsible for this disaster made to pay and again, if necessary go to jail

It was a terrible experience seeing someone you love die from HIV, given that the medical profession had known for all those years the consequences of this contamination.

