

Witness Name: Prof. Pratima Chowdary

Statement No.: WITN3826036

Exhibits: None

Dated: 19.04.2024

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF PROFESSOR PRATIMA CHOWDARY

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9(1) and (2) of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 3 April 2024.

I, Professor Chowdary, will say as follows: -

**Q1. How many patients at Centre 35 treated as children were diagnosed with HIV: a) by year? b) in total?**

1. Data from the National Haemophilia Database (NHD) submitted to the Infected Blood Inquiry (see Statistics Report **WITN3826020**) include 61 patients with HIV between 1979 and 2000 at Centre 35.
2. Important aspects of the methodology that explain allocation of patients to centres were noted in the Statistics Report (see pages 41, 46 and 49) and summarised below.
  - \* All HIV positive patients were allocated to one unique centre, to prevent double counting.
  - \* Patients were allocated to the centre which reported the first positive HIV result rather than the centre potentially responsible for issuing the contaminated treatment.
  - \* Date of first positive HIV test reflects information reported to the NHD. If stored samples were available at a centre, the date of first positive result predates the first published description of patients with AIDS and the availability of a test for HIV.

- \* Some dates in the database appear to be beyond the expected period of first testing, and as such may not represent the date of first positive result, but may represent date of repeat testing or other confirmatory tests.

3. For this request data in the NHD was reanalysed.

- \* A total of 191 HIV positive patients were seen at Centre 35. Of the 191 patients, 179 had evidence in the NHD of exposure to pooled plasma-derived clotting factor concentrates manufactured before 1988 or a blood component before 1992 at Centre 35 before their HIV diagnosis. Of the 191 patients only 61 were uniquely allocated to Centre 35 in the Statistics Report, based on the methodology described above.
- \* The 191 HIV positive patients have been stratified by age at first HIV positive test result and number of treatment centres at which they were issued with at-risk product.
- \* 169 of the 179 patients were issued at-risk product from an additional centre in the year they tested HIV positive or earlier. In total the 179 patients were known to have been issued at-risk product across at least 87 centres including centre 35.
- \* It is not possible to identify children treated at Treloar. Patients were considered to have been treated as children at Centre 35 if at the time of first positive HIV result they were 25 years old or less. This assumes that most patients would have been diagnosed well within 7 years of their infection. There were 25 patients under the age of 13 years at the time of the sample which first tested positive for HIV, 30 patients between 13 and 17 years and 70 patients between 18 and 25 years inclusive. We assume that these 125 patients with HIV were treated as children at Centre 35, although 12 of these 125 were treated by Centre 35 after diagnosis with HIV.

**Table: HIV positive patients at Centre 35 – stratification by age at diagnosis and number of centres treated**

Age (years) at first HIV positive test result <sup>1</sup>	Year of first HIV positive test result <sup>1</sup>	Number of people with bleeding disorders issued 'at risk' product before HIV positive result					Total
		Centre 35 only	Centre 35 and 1 or 2 additional centres	Centre 35 and 3 or more additional centres	Treated at Centre 35 after diagnosis		
Under 13	1979	0	0	0	0		0
	1980	0	1	0	0		1
	1981	0	1	0	0		1
	1982	0	0	1	0		1
	1983	1	2	0	1		4
	1984	0	5	1	3		9

	1985	1	3	1	2	7
	1986	0	1	0	0	1
	1987	0	0	1	0	1
	1988	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0
	1990	0	0	0	0	0
	1991-2000	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	13	4	6	25
13-17	1979	0	0	0	0	0
	1980	0	0	0	0	0
	1981	0	2	2	0	4
	1982	1	3	2	0	6
	1983	0	6	3	0	9
	1984	0	2	1	2	5
	1985	2	1	3	0	6
	1986	0	0	0	0	0
	1987	0	0	0	0	0
	1988	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0
	1990	0	0	0	0	0
	1991-2000	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	14	11	2	30
18-25	1979	0	0	2	0	2
	1980	0	2	1	0	3
	1981	0	2	4	0	6
	1982	0	0	2	0	2
	1983	0	4	5	0	9
	1984	0	5	9	3	17
	1985	2	7	19	1	29
	1986	0	1	1	0	2
	1987	0	0	0	0	0
	1988	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0
	1990	0	0	0	0	0
	1991-2000	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	21	43	4	70
26 or above	1979	0	0	0	0	0
	1980	0	1	0	0	1
	1981	0	0	1	0	1
	1982	1	2	1	0	4
	1983	0	3	2	0	5
	1984	0	6	8	0	14
	1985	2	23	13	0	38
	1986	0	2	0	0	2

	1987	0	0	0	0	0
	1988	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0
	1990	0	1	0	0	1
	1991-2000	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	38	25	0	66
Total	1979	0	0	2	0	2
	1980	0	4	1	0	5
	1981	0	5	7	0	12
	1982	2	5	6	0	13
	1983	1	15	10	1	27
	1984	0	18	19	8	45
	1985	7	34	36	3	80
	1986	0	4	1	0	5
	1987	0	0	1	0	1
	1988	0	0	0	0	0
	1989	0	0	0	0	0
	1990	0	1	0	0	1
	1991-2000	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	10	86	83	12	191

<sup>1</sup>Date reported to the NHD of first sample to test positive for HIV. For some PwBD, sample dates prior to HIV test availability were provided, reflecting the retrospective testing of stored plasma samples by some centres.

**Q2. If it is possible to identify pupils at Treloar's from your database, how many of them were diagnosed with HIV: a) by year? b) in total?**

4. We are not able to identify pupils at Treloar's from the NHD.

### **Statement of Truth**

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

Signed GRO-C

Dated 20 April 2024