Witness Name: JULIAN ALEXANDER JAMES GATRICK
Statement No: WITN1231001
Exhibits: WITN1231002-4
Dated: DECEMBER 2018

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JULIAN ALEXANDER JAMES GATRICK

I, JULIAN ALEXANDER JAMES GATRICK will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Julian Alexander James Gatrick. I was born on the GRO-C 1972 and I live at GRO-C Berkshire GRO-C with my wife and our daughter.

2. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my full medical records. If and in so far as I have been provided with limited records the relevant entries are set out in the medical chronology at the end of this statement.

Section 2. How infected

3. I have severe Haemophilia A with inhibitor. I was diagnosed at 18 months old. I am an only child. There is no record of anyone in the family having had haemophilia. GRO-C GRO-C

4. I been treated with a variety of blood products to include Cryoprecipitate, Factor VIII (FVIII) and Factor IX (FIX). I was also occasionally given whole blood. I have developed a high level of antibodies to clotting factor and now use FEIBA. I refer to **Exhibit WITN1231002** being my Patient annual treatment record from The National Haemophilia Database. I am uncertain as to its accuracy. I was given Cryoprecipitate prior to 1978.

5. When I was born I was treated at the Pendlebury Children's Hospital under the care of Dr Evans until I was 8 years old. I then attended Lord Mayor Treloar College, Haemophilia Centre in Hampshire under the care of Dr Wassef and Dr Aromstan. I boarded there with a large cohort of fellow haemophilia patients from the age of 8 until I was 16. I received treatment at Pendlebury during the school holidays. When I left Treloars College, I was treated at the Manchester Royal Infirmary for a couple of years under Dr Charles Hay. I then transferred to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary under the care of Dr GRO-D and when I moved to live in Nottinghamshire, I attended the Nottingham Haemophilia Centre under the care of Dr GRO-D I then transferred back to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. I am currently treated at Basingstoke Hospital under the care of Dr Mangles, having transferred there in 2002. When I first transferred to Basingstoke I was treated by Dr Mainwaring and then Dr Rangarajan, before Dr Mangles.

6. I am co-infected with the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as a result of being given contaminated blood products. My parents were informed that I had contracted HBV by Dr Evans at Pendlebury in or around 1979. They were also told that I had the Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) at that time. I have since developed antibodies and am clear of both HBV and HAV. I was not aware that I had HCV until 2002 when I was told by Nurse Yvonne Stebbings at Basingstoke Hospital. Yvonne believes it likely that I was infected with HCV in the late 1970s or early 1980s through treatment at Pendlebury Children's Hospital or Treloars Haemophilia Centre.

7. No advice was given to my parents about the risk to me of being infected from blood product treatments. My parents were told that without treatment I might die, that I would bleed to death. Risk of infection was never discussed with me. In the mid to late 1980s, whilst at Treloars College, my fellow pupils and I were told that there was an issue with some of the product given. The issue was that of HIV/AIDS. Yvonne Stebbings was at that time the Head Nurse at Treloars. She told me that as I had been mostly treated with FIX and FEIBA I should by okay and not to worry. Whilst the school did not elaborate about the risk of HIV, I was at that time very aware of the risk of HIV/AIDS. There was a television compaign about it. There was a lot of uncertainty as to how it was passed on. At school, we were segregated from the general population. The school enforced a '6 inch rule' in terms of teachers and others keeping at least that distance from those thought to be infected. We used paper sheets, paper plates, glasses and plastic cutlery to be burned after use. If we were in a classroom we had to wear plastic gloves and some people wore face masks. Blood samples taken from me came back on two occasions with a (false) positive result.

8. Yvonne told me that I had HCV as a passing comment to me at Basingstoke Hospital when I transferred there in 2002. She said that there were payments to be claimed for people who had been infected with HCV through contaminated blood and that I should apply. When Yvonne realised I did not know that I had HCV, she was mortified. Yvonne explained that the viral load and the antibodies built up therein revealed that I had been infected with HCV for a long period of time. She went to get Dr Mainwaring and he too was gobsmacked that I was not previously aware. Dr Hay would have known but had never mentioned it to me. Dr Mainwaring said he would obtain my medical notes and records from Manchester straight away. I refer to **Exhibit WITNXXXX003** being a copy of a letter dated 19th November 2002, marked 'unauthorised' sent to Dr Mainwaring by Dr Hay's Registrar as a response. No medical notes and records have ever been provided despite two further requests.

9. The medical notes I have received from my GP indicate that Dr GRO-D at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary discussed my HCV diagnosis with me in 1996 and that I had treatment to clear the infection at that time. I do not remember this. If I was told of the diagnosis at that time, I do not believe the implications of the diagnosis were properly explained to me. At that time, I started to have real problems with my knees and ankles and pain management was at the forefront of my mind.

10. I did not have a good relationship with Dr Hay. I found him to be arrogant, dismissive and condescending in his attitude to me. Whilst under his care at Manchester I asked to be transferred to Lancashire. That request was refused, but Dr Hay did facilitate a transfer to Liverpool. I understand Dr Hay to have connections and a close working relationship with Dr GRO-D Doctors Hay, GRO-D and GRO-D would suggested that I take an extra tablet to relieve my joint pain. That heralded the start of my dihydrocodeine dependency.

11. Yvonne, with input from Dr Mainwaring, spent a significant period of time (around 3 hours as I recall) in providing me with the relevant information to help me understand and manage the infection when I was told by her in 2002. I did not know that I had been putting people at risk without even knowing. This scared me so much. I had to contact those I had been intimate with including GRO-A and get them to have blood tests. I believe information should have been provided to me earlier. If Dr Hay knew I was HCV positive, he should have told me and given me advice about it.

12. The manner in which the information and HIV test results were provided to the pupils at Treloars was terrible. They would pull us into meetings in groups of up to 5 students at a time and announce the HIV results in front of everyone. I was given a false positive for HIV twice. I then had to wait 6 weeks each time to see if the positive result was correct. This was an awful time. This lasted for about 6 months until the testing became more reliable.

13. Children were told before their parents knew and without their parents being present. My parents should have been present when I was informed so they could have supported me. They were only ever told about one positive result by Treloars. I told them the results of all the other tests I was told of.

Section 3. Other Infections

14. I have been infected with several different forms of hepatitis to include Hepatitis D, in addition to HCV. I have twice tested positive for HCV and then informed that the test result is wrong.

15. I was notified that I was at risk of vCJD in September 2004 but I have since been reassured on that issue.

Section 4. Consent

16. I was tested at Treloars College without my parent's knowledge and consent and without them being given adequate information. I had to relay some of my test results to my parents. Treloars would take seven vials of blood, with colour coded lids for the purpose of five specific tests. Two vials with yellow lids were always taken in addition to the five with different colours. I would ask the nurse what the yellow ones were for. I was told 'genetic testing' but they could never say what that meant. They did not know.

17. Vials of blood have been taken from me on many occasions without adequate explanation. I recall that when Dr Hay stopped my home treatment, he said he needed to take blood tests every couple of weeks to keep an eye on my platelets. I do not know what that meant, as I had no feedback.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

18. HCV has left me with osteoporosis, liver function and bile duct issues. I have had HCV clearing treatment twice. My first attempt was horrendous. I had Interferon injections three times a week. My body completely rejected the

treatment and it was stopped at 8 months. I could not do anything during that time. I had flu-like symptoms with a streaming nose, heart palpitations, head aches and no energy. I had no choice but to give up after 8 months.

19. I got married in 2004. GRO-C When I found out that I was HCV positive I was worried that I would never become a father. My wife wanted to have a child and we had to have IUI sperm washing treatment in London. We had just one chance on the NHS because of the expense but luckily we conceived on the first attempt. The process created a lot of stress and anxiety for us.

20. A few years ago a new treatment became available, tailored to individuals with milder side effects and better results. I had the treatment this year. It consisted of Zepatier tablets and the virus cleared after two doses. I had the same flu side effects but they have lessened over time and I am now left with a runny nose. I have just had the final test at the end of November 2018 and they have given me the final 'all clear'.

21. My experience at Treloars College and being erroneously informed there that I am HIV positive (and coming to terms with my HCV diagnosis) has had a monumental psychological impact on me. When we were called into the school office at Treloars in groups, some of us were told we were infected with HIV in the presence of other pupils who had been tested negative. I was told I was positive and then at a subsequent meeting, I was told that I was negative after all. I was pulled in and out of quarantine. I was removed from a dormitory I shared with my close school friend James and sent to sleep in a cubby-hole on my own. I could not touch anyone or be touched. Those of us thought to be infected were treated like lepers. This period of uncertainty lasted for what I believe to be something around 6 months, a very long time for a boy in his early teenage years. The segregation and pigeon holing I experienced at that time and the stigma of the time has stayed with me throughout my life.

22. I remember the confusion and disarray my parents experienced in the aftermath of being told I had been infected. They argued about whether or not I should be sent back to Treloars after a holiday break. Ultimately it destroyed their marriage and they divorced. After I left Treloars, I suffered from night terrors and would wake up short of breath. The dreams were all about feeling helpless. The stress at Treloars was enough to break anybody. For a while I could not leave the house because I was so worried, anxious and nervous, this lasted for about 4 months. My parents sent me for counselling. I lost my confidence. I told no-one I was a haemophiliac at that time as they then assumed that you had HIV. I have been left with a very short temper which I never use to have before I went to Treloars. My own (first) marriage subsequently failed.

23. I have not worked since the mid 1990s. I have severe arthritis in my joints and walking is an issue for me due to muscle wastage. Before that, I was in and out of jobs, not really able to stick at anything because of my poor mental state and lack of confidence. I took on jobs below my capability because I did not want to put myself under unnecessary stress. I did not have coping mechanisms at the time. I worked on market stalls and as a waiter on a number of occasions. This has had a detrimental financial impact on me.

24. My HCV diagnosis has created problems for me in terms of accessing health and life insurance.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

25. My recent clearing treatment was apparently expensive and the doctors had to apply for funding. I had to sign a waiver saying I would attend every appointment and I would not stop the treatment.

26. I have had problems with my teeth since my early twenties. They have died one by one over a period of several years leaving me with unsightly black teeth. Dr Hay refused to agree to their removal telling me I needed to wait for them all to die so they could be removed in one go. When I transferred to

Basingstoke, my dead teeth were extracted within 6 weeks. Referring again to **Exhibit WITN1231003**, I feel aggrieved that Dr Hay appears to blame me for his refusal to proceed with treatment. Dr Hay also refused to treat me on two occasions for my elbows because he said I was using too much blood product.

27. I also developed a dependency on dihydrocodeine (medium strength morphine) under Dr Hay due to inadequate monitoring of my intake.

28. I was not offered counselling or psychological support until very recently. When I left Treloars my parents arranged and paid for counselling sessions every couple of weeks. The counselling included hypnotherapy to help with the night terrors I suffered with.

29. I was finally referred for psychological support by Hampshire in January 2016 and was discharged this year. I have learned more about coping strategies and have been taught how to meditate which has helped me.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

30. I received the Stage 1 payment of £20,000 from the Skipton Fund in 2004. I receive monthly payments with EIBSS of £333 and an addition top up payment of approximately £500.

Section 8. Other Issues

31. As stated, Basingstoke Hospital has sought my medical notes and records on three occasions since 2002 without success. I refer to **Exhibit WITN1231004** being a response from Manchester NHS Trust to my own requested dated 27th November 2018. My medical notes and records have been destroyed. **GRO-C**.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

32. I confirm that I do not wish to apply for anonymity and that I understand this Statement will be published and disclosed as part of the Inquiry. I would like to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed...... GRO-C ....

Dated 17-1-2018

MEDICAL SUMMARY

(This summary is not intended to be exhaustive but sets out key points in the records relevant to the Statement)

This Summary has been prepared without the benefit of access to full medical records (limited GP records only)

1988/89	'HIV positive' record (Record of Treatment LMTC)
11.04.1994	'Chronic Hepatitis C infection'. (Dr Dolan to GP, Nottingham) 'Hepatitis C antibody test positive' (GP Patient Summary and Manchester Medical Summary Card)
08.01.1996	"Hepatitis C antibody positive with raised transaminators – I have indicated once again that this is a major issue, which we will need to think about this year. He knows of the existence of Interferon therapy, but was not keen on it last year due to his Dihydrocodeine problem." (Dr GRO-D LRI to GP in Bolton)
13.051996	"Julian attended today to start his viraferon treatment for Hepatitis C. He has been given a prescription at 3 mega units, 3 times a week for 6 months. (D GRO-D LRI to GP in Bolton)
05.08.1996	"I intend to continue this for at least another month and if there is no obvious response ...." (D GRO-D LRI to GP in Bolton)
23.09.1996	"... continuing with Alpha-interferon" (Dr Pratt, LRI to GP in Bolton)
11.11.1996	"6 months of Interferon therapy which unfortunately, has not been extremely successful. I have therefore asked him to stop ...." (Dr GRO-D LRI to GP in Bolton)
14.30.2001	"withdrawn from home therapy" (Dr Hay, MRI to GP, Manchester)
23.02.2002	"Dependence on high-dose codeine based pain-killers for the last decade before of severe joint damage." (Dr Mainwairing to GP)
17.04.2003	"His care transferred from the Manchester down to North Hamptonshire Haemophilia Centre in September of last year and we have gradually been trying to wean Julian off Dihydrocodeine." (Dr Mainwairing to Dr Hettiaratchy, Consultant Psychiatrist).
21.07.2003	Extraction of 17 teeth
20.09.2004	Notification of vCJD risk Dr Mainwairing to GP.

25.09.2006	Confirmation of IVF referral to Reading Infertility Clinic
18.09.2008	"previous cleared Hepatitis B infection" (Dr Brooks to GP)
26.06.2017	"recent bone density scan showed evidence of osteoporosis. He is known to have reduced bone density previously." (Dr Shawe, Consultant Rheumatologist to GP)
20.03.2018	Patient commences 16 week clearing treatment with Zepatier taken once daily.
05.09.2018	Subject to results of blood tests taken 30.10.18 .... "we can safely say he has cleared the virus. I have arranged to see him again early in November with these results." (Jean Prosser, Hepatitis Specialist Nurse to GP)