Witness Name: Jane Moore
Statement No.: WITN2221001
Exhibits: NONE
Dated: 24th January 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JANE MOORE

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 5th November 2018.

I, Jane Moore, will say as follows:

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Jane Moore. My date of birth is GRO-C 1957. My address is known to the Inquiry. I am retired as of November 2018. I worked part-time in a British Gas call centre prior to this. I am currently married to my husband Alexander Moore. I intend to speak about my infection of hepatitis C through a blood transfusion. In particular, the nature of my illness, how the illness affected me, the treatment received and the impact it had on my family and our lives together.

Section 2. How Infected

2. I was infected with hepatitis C during a blood transfusion. I received this transfusion in 1979 at the William Smillie maternity hospital. I have two children, I believe this was after my first child. My first child is Clare Russell and she was born on GRO-C 1979. It was two days later I got a transfusion. This was because I have had a forceps delivery and lost a lot of blood. I believe I received 4 pints of blood in my transfusion. I do not recall names of any of the doctors who treated me. My medical records do not mention my transfusion as far as I am aware. This was only time in my life I ever had a transfusion.

3. I was diagnosed with having hepatitis C in 1996. I found out due to having given blood. I was a blood donor and I felt I should pay back for the 4 pints of blood I got. I recall that I went with four friends and I was only one who was taken as they were not able to for different reasons. It was around that time they started testing which was a pure fluke. After I gave blood I got a letter from the transfusion service saying that I should go in for an interview and this was to the Law hospital. The letter said that they had found a virus and I was to attend an interview to find out more.

4. I do not recall the names of any of the doctors who saw me at that interview. They interviewed me about my lifestyle and asked about prostitution and things like that. Eventually they did get the point that it was likely a transfusion. I can't really remember what they said. My sisters were nurses. I have two sisters. They seemed to know more. I believe I was sent, after that, to Gartnavel hospital. I do not think I took in information then, initially, because of the shock of everything. The letter itself was the biggest shock initially.

5. I feel that the people who did deal with me should have been more sensitive I thought they were very quick. There was no empathy and they were very matter-of-fact. I felt very cast adrift after that initial appointment

and there was no follow-up. I believe they gave me a leaflet about cross contamination and infecting others. They advised that my husband and my second child should get tested and they were all negative in the end. I believe they may have said about not sharing toothbrushes and having my own cup at work. They gave me a leaflet to give to my manager at the time.

Section 3. Other Infections

6. I was infected only with hepatitis C.

Section 4. Consent

7. I am unsure if any testing was done without my consent. I had my second daughter in 1980 and I believe I had blood tests during this time and I think I may have had a couple operations over the years that may have involved blood being taken. No doctors said anything to make the think that anything was being withheld or there was anything for them to hide.

Section 5. Impact

8. I do recall having flulike symptoms after the birth of my second daughter. I remember feeling lousy and tired. Over the years, my mum would comment the fact I always felt cold. One day I would feel ill and feel absolutely rotten but the next day I would feel fine. I did have a lot of fatigue and there were times where I had to be off work. I could be offered 10 days at a time. At the time I put this down to everyday living and general family life. In 1980s, it got more and more common for me to have to have time off. I thought I just got the cold a lot as I had bad flu and colds throughout that time. I now realise that this may have been symptoms of hepatitis C.

9. I was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. This was in the neck. They said it was metastatic. They believe it came from my throat. The never found the

source but they did say that it was a secondary cancer they had found. I think my throat was cleared.

10. I believe it was the Interferon treatment that caused me to have an underactive thyroid. I understand that this is a common symptom that results from interferon. I am currently on thyroxine now. I also feel anxious now and have to take anxiety tablets which I had never really had to a level that required medication before. I feel from the 80s onwards, my anxiety got worse. Before treatments I also have a lot of spots on my chin, they were always big and yellow, I do not know if this was related. I understand that if the liver is not working properly then you can get toxins and that may explain the spots and that may be due to my hepatitis C. There were no actual issues with my liver. I believe I had a biopsy before my treatment for interferon and one after and it all seemed fine. Any liver function test have had has come back fine.

11. I received interferon treatment in January of 1997. This was for a period of 48 weeks. That did end up working in the end.

12. There was an issue with me trying to get one of my treatments , the treatment for interferon. I didn't start treatment until January 1997 but I was fighting with them try to and get it from the time I was diagnosed in 1996. There are no treatments I am aware of that I thought I should have got but did not.

13. At the beginning you get taught how to inject yourself with interferon treatment. You get a pack and you get told when to take it. They also say when to take paracetamol so many hours before to alleviate the symptoms. I did suffer from rigors because of this treatment. I had flulike symptoms that continued for the first two or three weeks and then settled down. I felt very tired and by July or June I had put on weight. I was very pale and was always falling asleep. It was around this time I was put on to my daily thyroxine as they had realised that the interferon treatment had affected my thyroid. I was off work for a long period while I received

treatment. I believe I was off from April until July. I was not completely flulike but I was awfully lethargic. I did have brain fog and had problems concentrating and would drift off in conversation. I don't think my then husband understood. I'm not married to my husband from back then anymore. I was not aware at time but anxiety has now played into my life. I was trying to keep everything running. I know my daughter Clare has blamed herself and that has also caused me some anxiety.

14. My status of having hepatitis C has had no effect on any medical treatment I have needed. The stigma has not played into this and my dentist is absolutely fine with me.

15. Prior to my diagnosis, I do feel that in retrospect my family life has been quite badly affected by my symptoms that we now realise were part of hepatitis C. In 1984, we started proceedings to a adopt and foster a 9 year old boy. This added extra pressure and by the time he was 14 it was unbearable in the house. I was anxious all the time. I broke down and the boy then had to go into care. My then husband left to go to Carlisle at that point and not return. He did return but the relationship continued to deteriorate. I do believe this could be partially due to my fatigue and it was very hard to get through this time. I was also trying to keep my daughters happy during that time which added to my worries. My then husband and I didn't split up until 1999.

16. In terms of my social life, I'd say when the kids were young, we were not really one of those couples who went out and socialised. We would rather spend our money on our house. I can't say it really affected my social life.

17. In terms of my family life, I would say that my daughter Clare blamed herself for my infection.

18. I knew I wasn't supposed to drink on interferon and we would occasionally go to the local pub on a Friday but I couldn't drink. I can't blame it but it all on treatment but my husband then was not very understanding. I felt that he did not think anything this was going to change in his life.

19. In terms of the stigma, I would say that people I was friends with were unaffected by my diagnosis. I don't think people understood the seriousness of the condition. I don't think they understood that it was a silent killer. I spent so long being worried about treatment and worry if it wouldn't work and then worrying about my own work. Prior to being diagnosed with hepatitis C I had never really heard of it before.

20. I do not believe that my hepatitis C had any effect on my daughter's school performance.

21. At the time when I was diagnosed and prior to that I was working for Lloyds TSB bank. This did stifle my. ambition. I could not concentrate and at one point I went part-time to manage my health. At that time banking was very different to what is now. There was a very straightforward ladder for people to follow. Back then you would go from teller, to supervisor, to a managerial role. I did have ambitions to maybe be a second-in-commance but did not want to be in charge of everyone. I became a senior personal banking manager and there would be a list that you looked after. I could manage that, being in charge of myself. That was still very tiring though. I recall that one year when there was a big storm the motorway was shut and I walked from Motherwell to Larkhall and we got an email saying "Why hadn't we met our targets for that day". It was ridiculous. I continued with work but could have been doing with doing nothing in the house.

22. I have not tried to get life insurance and this had no effect on me getting a mortgage. I do not believe this has caused issues with me getting travel insurance.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

23. In terms of counselling there was none offered. I do believe I could have benefited. I'm one of those people who doesn't take things on fully and I

generally just went with what they told me. I'm the type of person to take key points and then run with it. I do feel what was offered was inadequate. Although there was occasionally someone there sitting, nodding in front of me when I went to the doctors or hospital, they should have had more understanding of the gravity of what I'd been told.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

24. I did receive some money through the Caxton fund. I received a winter fuel allowance and a grant from my bathroom. I recall when I applied for the bathroom grant, I had to put in my ingoings' and outgoings. I can't remember what my winter fuel was. When we were doing the bathroom we had to put in plans and a receipt and estimates before we could have any work done. I did find it hard getting estimates, just in the sense that it was time-consuming. I am unsure but I believe I may have found out about Caxton through Thompsons.

25. I believe I also found out about Skipton fund through Thompsons. I received my first lump sum in 2004 of £20,000 and a second lump sum of the £30,000 in what may have been 2018. I recall this being an easy process.

26. I am now receiving money through the Scottish infected blood support scheme. This has now enabled me to retire. I am currently at the moderate level. I did not realise that my anxiety was caused by the interferon and I may now be looking to change from moderate to severe. I am currently on £525 per month. This was backdated when I first received it. My change to severe is something that is ongoing. I believe it has been an easy process. The only delay has been I went to my doctor about changing myself to severe on 12th December and only got a letter back on the week beginning 28th of January.

27. I believe that this money has helped me in my life but it's absolutely galling to think of what's happened. You trust doctors when you go through this.

28. I think the funding has got better now. Its great they've done what they have. I was working part-time in order to survive as well as being able to get holidays but now I'm able to do that based on the financial assistance I received.

Section 8. Other Issues

29. I had no involvement with the Penrose Inquiry and I found out more about this over time through other people. I feel that it was just for show and all the opinions that were given were ones that they have said before.

30. I do not wish my statement to be anonymous.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed GRO-C

Dated 8|3|19