

ANONYMOUS

Witness Name: **GRO-B**
Statement No. WITN2502001
Dated: 11th March 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF **GRO-B**

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 12 December 2018. I adopt the paragraph numbers in the Rule 9 request for ease of reference.

I, **GRO-B**, will say as follows:

1.Introduction

1. My name is **GRO-B**. My date of birth is **GRO-B** 1981 and my address is known to the Inquiry.
2. My Dad, **GRO-B:F** was infected with hepatitis C (HCV) after receiving contaminated blood products.

2.How Affected

1. My Dad was infected through Factor VIII treatment and I don't really know how it has affected him as he is quite a private person. My Dad has severe haemophilia A. I believe that he was infected at [GRO-B] hospital and I don't remember the exact date but it was in the early [GRO-B]s, I think. My Dad was just having his treatments for haemophilia and obviously the treatment and blood was infected. That's all I understand.
2. I have no idea whether any information or advice was provided to my Dad beforehand about the risk of being exposed to infection. My Father is infected with hepatitis C (HCV). I know that it is hepatitis C (HCV), but I'm not sure of the B.
3. The information that I have been told was provided to me by my Father, who made me aware of it when I was a teenager. I don't know if the information was adequate to be understood and manage his infection. I don't know whether he considered if the information should have been provided earlier. My Father has kept a lot of the information to himself and has only told his children the basic information and I would imagine that's his way of protecting us.

3.Other Infections

1. I don't believe that my Dad has received any infection or infections other than hepatitis C (HCV) as a result of being given infected blood products but again he is quite private so may just not have told me.

4.Consent

1. I don't know whether my Dad was treated or tested without his knowledge, without his consent, without being given adequate or full information, or for the purposes of research. I'm sure his statement will provide this information.

5.Impact

1. My Father physically struggles and he has tried his best to carry on with life which has impacted his life as he can't physically do all the things he was able to do before he was infected which I'm sure is difficult for him.
2. I've always worried about my dad, but it hasn't really impacted on me too much. The biggest impact was when I had my and he has haemophilia like Dad has. I worried that my would be treated with the same products that my Dad was or that my would become ill like Dad. It is a worry for me at times.
3. Dad being infected was just kept private and we didn't tell anyone in our Community so people's thoughts and opinions of hepatitis C (HCV) haven't massively affected me as the family kept the information as private as possible.
4. I don't know if my Dad had any education effects, work-related effects, and financial effects of the infection but it has had no affect on me.

6.Treatment/Care/Support

1. I don't know whether my Father faced difficulties or obstacles in obtaining treatment, care, and support in consequence of being infected with hepatitis C

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(HCV). If he has then this is not something he has told me about but it is possible that he has experienced difficulties.

2. I don't know if my Dad was offered any counseling or psychological support, but I never have been.

7. Financial Assistance

1. My Dad's statement will discuss the financial assistance as this is not something I have any information regarding. I can imagine it is very difficult to obtain assistance, but I don't know.

8. Other Issues

1. I have no other issues in relation to what I consider as evidence which could be relevant to the Inquiry's investigation of the matters set out in its Terms of Reference and I have no documents that I may be relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.

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Statement of Truth

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

Signed... **GRO-B**

Dated... 11/3/19