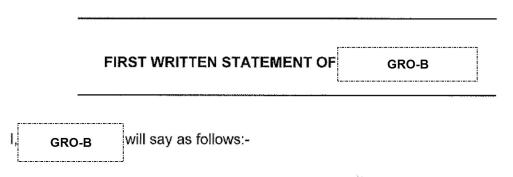
Witness Name: GRO-B
Statement No: WITN0168001

statement No. WITNU 100001

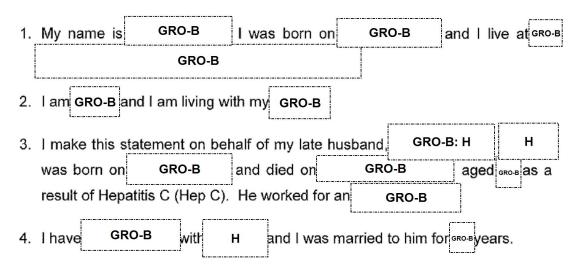
Dated: April 2019

Exhibits: 0

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY



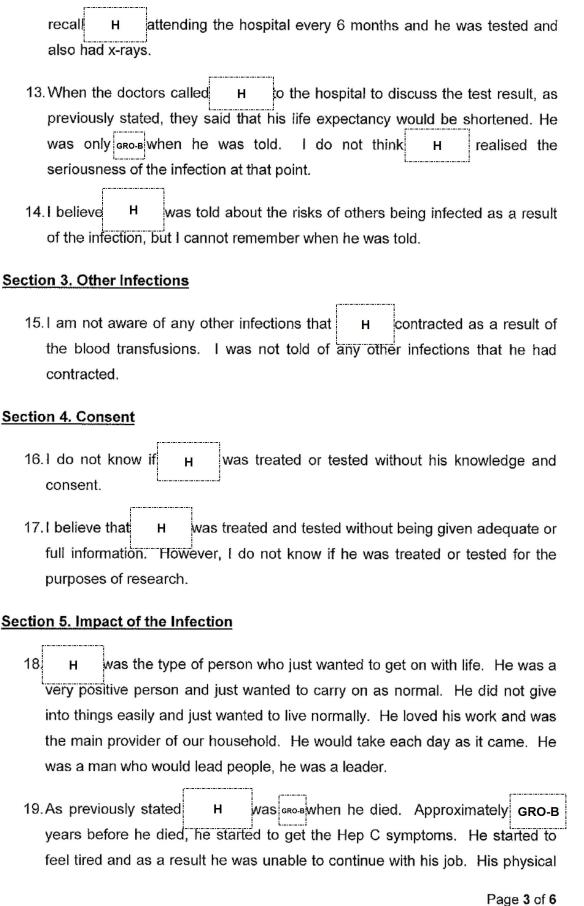
### Section 1. Introduction



5. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my late husband's 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 Affected

6.	In GRO-B H required a blood transfusion because he had a GRO-B
	GRO-в He had the blood transfusion at GRO-в He
	had another blood transfusion a few years later for GRO-B but I believe
	it was the first blood transfusion that infected him with Hep C.
7.	In GRO-B the GRO-B contacted him to tell him that
	there was a possibility that he contracted an infection because of the blood
	transfusions that he had. He received another letter on the GRO-B
	from the GRO-B stating that he is needed to go to his local blood centre for a
	blood test, which he did. On the GRO-B he went to the blood
	centre and was told that he had Hep C. He was also told that he would have
	a short life expectancy. I believe he was also told to be careful with his
	alcohol intake.
8.	I do not believe H was given any information or advice beforehand
Ο.	about the risk of being exposed to the infection through the blood transfusion.
9.	I believe that H was not provided with any information about the
	infection and the GRO-B did not keep in contact with him until he went back to
	the GRO-B in GRO-B
10	On the GRO-B H went for a liver biopsy, he was given no
	explanation as to why he was having the biopsy until he attended the hospital.
	He was told by the doctor that it was to check the effect of the Hep C on his
	liver. After that appointment he was informed that he would be contacted in
	the near future for further tests. H lid not receive any information about
	the biopsy test and so, he thought everything was fine and therefore went
	back to work as normal.
11	I do not believe that adequate information was provided to H to help him understand and manage the infection.
12	.I believe that information should have been provided to Hearlier.  However, I do not think the doctors knew much about Hep C themselves. I



appearance changed and he went yellow. I believe he had a tinge of
jaundice. He gradually deteriorated. The infection shortened his life and I
believe it was the last GRO-B years when H realised the seriousness of the
infection and it really started to affect him mentally and physically.
20 H developed water on the lungs as a result of the Hep C. He started
bleeding internally and was very poorly for quite a while. He lost a lot of
weight as a result.
21. We had to wait overnight in the hospital while he had a massive bleed and
was given lots of blood transfusions. He died a week later in hospital. It was
traumatic.
ļ
22.I recall on the GRO-B a day before H died, that a doctor
asked me it H was an alcoholic. I was shocked and angry when he told
me because I believe they clearly knew he was infected with Hep C as a
result of the blood transfusion and it was no fault of H
23. In or about GRO-B H was advised that there were treatments available.
However, he was told that it would cost the NHS approximately £2,000 and
that they were unable to fund it at the time. I recall H receiving a letter
from the hospital which stated that the doctors were not telling people about
their infected status until the treatment was made available. This upset me as
I believe that treatment should have been made available at whatever cost
receive any treatment as a result. He was told that he would have priority for a
liver transplant.
24 H was very careful around the children so they would not use his
personal hygiene things such as a razor. The infection affected our
relationship; our sex life was non-existent. He had to change his way of living
at home changed.
25 and I kent the infected status to surrely as . Her Course an arrangement
25 H and I kept the infected status to ourselves. Hep C was an unknown
infection back then and a lot of people were more concerned and worried
about HIV/AIDS at the time than the Hep C.

26. The GRO-B were not aware of H infections until he became very
роогly gro-в was more affected as he used to work with н
27 H was a GRO-B As previously stated in
the last ско-в years, he was unable to go to work because of the infection. This
impacted him massively as he loved his job. He was gutted that he could not
work because his health was deteriorating and he was physically unable to.
After he died, it had a financial effect on us as he was the main breadwinner
in the house. Wher H was sick, GRO-B came from GRO-B to be with me and GRO-B father and as a result GRO-B lost GRO-B ob.
Section 6. Treatment/care/support
[ <del></del> ]
28. As previously stated H was not given any treatment because he was
told that it would cost the NHS a lot of money. As a result, he did not receive
any treatment but was monitored.
29.1 do not believe that counselling or psychological support was ever made
available to H I was not offered any treatments in this regard.
Section 7. Financial Assistance
30.I received GRO-в payments in the sum of GRO-в and GRO-в from the Skipton
Fund. I do not know the exact date, but it was a few years after H died.
I had only found out about the Skipton Fund when the doctor told me. I had
no problems with the application form; it was pretty straight forward applying
for the financial assistance.
31.I also received a lump sum payment of <b>GRO-В</b> from the EIBSS.
32.I currently receive a monthly payment of GRO-B which I started to receive a
couple of years ago. I had to reapply this year and do not know if I will
continue to receive it.

## Section 8. Other Issues

33 H was going to pursue a court case against the blood transfusion or NHS, only to be told that no one knew about Hep C and so the case was dropped.

- 34. It was the haemophiliacs who were affected the most by this scandal. It was a big loss for me when H died. I was devastated. I was married to H for GRO-B and I had been with him for GRO-B
- 35. The government owes us all an apology for the way they dealt with everything, especially when H was told that he was infected and left to deal with it himself. I want justice for everything that has happened.
- 36. We were told that the government paid people from America to give blood and they took it from anyone who would give it without testing it for any infections.
  I do not know why it had to come from there and why the blood was not tested.

## Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

- 37.1 wish to remain anonymous.
- 38.I do not want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

### Statement of Truth

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

