

5. He was receiving treatment at Royal Derby Hospital at the relevant time. He was under the care of Dr Mitchell, a consultant haematologist.
6. He received the treatment during the period 1985 to 1988, as far as I am aware.
7. I was not born until GRO-C 1988, so I am not able to describe what happened when my father was given the infected product. However, I now know that my father underwent two tests for HIV in 1985. The result of the first test was "equivocal". The result of the second was "positive". In 1988, my father was informed that he had developed AIDS. It subsequently transpired that the result of the first test was "negative". It therefore seems likely that he was infected after the first test but before the second.
8. I do not know what information or advice was provided to my parents about my father's infection. However, I was aware as a child that my father had his own bathroom and that my brother was not allowed to use my father's razors.
9. My father had HIV, and I understand that he also had Hepatitis C and CJD.
10. The test results were conveyed to my father by letter. I consider this to be a horrific way to provide such information; it could have fallen into the wrong hands and it was a cold and impersonal way to impart something so serious.
11. I believe the test results were provided by Dr Mitchell after the tests were carried out at the Royal Derby Hospital.
12. My father was not provided with adequate information about the results. My mother says he felt let down and there was no information about how the situation would be managed.
13. I believe the information should have been provided to my father earlier. The healthcare providers knew about the infected blood products. If they had any

suspicion that my father had been infected, they should have told him as soon as possible.

14. I believe it was wrong to inform my father of the test results by letter. This was far too impersonal.

15. My father had his own bathroom and medicine cabinet and he received hospital visits at home. I was a child at the time and can only say that my parents went out of their way to protect me and my brother from any risk of infection from my father's illnesses.

Section 3. Other Infections

16. My father had Hepatitis C and, towards the end of his life, he had CJD.

Section 4. Consent

17. I believe my father was treated with infected Factor VIII without his knowledge, and that he was tested for HIV without his knowledge.

18. I believe that my father was treated with infected Factor VIII without his consent, and that he was tested for HIV without his consent.

19. I believe my father was treated and tested without any adequate or full information.

20. I believe my father was treated for the purposes of research. He was used as a lab rat and my mother always had to speak for him.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

21. The mental effect on my father of having HIV was very significant. When I was young, my brother and I were the centre of his world, and he always had a smile on his face. I now know that he was, in fact, angry and worried, and scared for his future. The physical effects were more evident, as the treatment

took its toll on him. I remember that he was always tired. He slept a lot and my mother would tell us we could not to play with him.

22. My father lost weight and was gaunt in the face. He had thin arms and struggled with walking. He would roll himself around in an office chair and sometimes ate upstairs.

23. The course of my father's illness was a very slow decline. One day, I realized how poorly he was. It was last birthday, and I noticed how thin and tired he looked. He had some birthday cake and went back to bed. I was left with the harrowing image of a man who was a shadow of his former self.

24. I do not know about my father's treatment for HIV but I understand that he had stomach ulcers and that he underwent endoscopies as part of the investigations into his abdominal problems.

25. My father had difficulties with Dr Mitchell and I have described above how she dealt with him. At some point, Dr Angela McKernan, another consultant haematologist, took over his care. She was much nicer than Dr Mitchell and his care improved. I was under her care when I had a my gall bladder removed. I am a haemophilia carrier and she had to ascertain the level of my Factor VIII before I had surgery. I therefore know from first-hand that she is a phenomenal doctor and I believe that she helped to prolong my father's life.

26. I cannot say whether other treatments should have been made available to my father.

27. The mental and physical effects of the treatment on my father were as I have described. It was all very tiring for him and there were times when he struggled to keep going.

28. My father's infected status had some impact on the way he was treated when he underwent medical and dental care. When he went to the hospital, he was restricted to certain parts of the building and the medical staff wore hazard

suits with masks and gloves. I do not know how he was treated by his GP. He was very fortunate with his dental care, as the dentist made home visits, for which my mother was very grateful.

29. The impact of HIV on my father's private and social life was that he was very isolated. My mother protected him and if he was too tired to see anyone she would make excuses, keeping the real reason from them.

30. The impact of my father's infection on me was catastrophic. My brother and I knew that he was a haemophiliac. I therefore believed that the treatment he was receiving was for haemophilia. When I was 12, my mother and brother decided that it was time for me to know that my father had HIV and they told me everything I needed to know about it. I recall that I felt angry and confused and did not know whether to blame my mother or my father. I now know that my mother was battling the world single-handedly on my father's behalf. When the family wanted to see us, she would make excuses for him. The family knew that he was a haemophiliac, but she would mask what was really happening, and there was only a small, tight-knit circle who knew the truth about my father. The situation has had a long term impact on me and, to this day, I struggle with self-harm and low mental health. There is still a very scared, isolated child inside of me and I constantly try to live the life that my father would have wanted for me.

31. There is a stigma attached to HIV because you cannot talk about it. It is a dirty, guilty secret. When I attended the hearing for this inquiry in September 2018, I discovered that there were still people "coming out" about HIV. The impact of being involved with an infected person has serious consequences, and can mean the loss of a job or career.

32. My father's HIV had an impact on our wider family, because they did not see us when we were young. My mother protected my father by keeping the truth from the wider family. I now know that my cousins were deeply affected by my father's death. They did not know that he had HIV, as my mother did not think it was necessary to tell them. They then discovered that he had died of AIDS and it was very confusing and scary for them.

33. My father went to Lord Mayor Treloar College, which was a state of the art place for haemophiliacs. He enjoyed himself there and was able to do sport. As far as work is concerned, I believe he had a clerical job with Derby Council, working in their benefits office. He was asked to leave because he had so much time off due to his health. My parents were upset about this, but did not take any legal action. He had two choices at that stage: take legal action or stay at home to be with his children. He chose the latter and turned the situation into something positive. My mother also worked for Derby Council. She was the breadwinner. The roles were reversed in our family, with Mum out at work and Dad at home, playing with us. My Gran lived with us and did the cooking and cleaning.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

34. The only difficulties my father encountered with treatment were with Dr Mitchell, as I have described above.

35. I do not believe my father was offered counselling. I believe my mother had counselling after my father's death. I think it was offered to me and my brother, but we did not want it and my mother now regrets that she did not force to have it.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

36. I do not know whether my father had any financial assistance from Trusts or Funds. That is something my mother would know about. I know that my father received a financial settlement and that he had to sign a disclaimer to the effect that he would not make any further claims. I believe my mother received some financial assistance as his widow.

37. I have not received any financial assistance as a result of my father's infection, but my brother and I benefited from holidays which our parents provided for us. We would go away as a family and my mother would take my

father's Factor VIII so that he could inject himself in the hotel bedroom. This was quite normal for us. We did not query what he was doing.

Section 8. Other Issues

38. My final word on this is a personal one. My father was treated like a lab rat and the only joy we had as a family came from the strength and tenacity of our parents and their determination to make the best of the situation. The healthcare professionals did not care one iota about my father. He was killed by something which should have saved his life. As an adult, I completely understand how my mother dealt with the situation. As a child, I felt angry and let down. My Dad was murdered and my mother masked this for us. As I now know, we were on borrowed time with him.

Anonymity

39. I do not wish to remain anonymous.

40. I do wish 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

Katie Jayne Walford

Dated.....

7/6/2019