

Witness Name: BM Jordan
Statement No: WITN2919001
Exhibits: 0
Dated: March 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF BRED A MARY JORDAN

I, Bred A Mary Jordan, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Bred A Mary Jordan of GRO-C Manchester, GRO-C. My date of birth is GRO-C 1959. I currently work part time at the Co-operative as I underwent a bypass surgery in 2017 and suffered with cancer prior to that.
2. I prepare this statement as an affected partner of Ian GRO-B who passed away on 4th November 1993 as a result of receiving contaminated blood products.
3. This statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to Ian's medical records.

Section 2. How Affected

4. Ian suffered with severe Haemophilia A.

5. He was treated at the Manchester Royal Infirmary Hospital and I do not recall the name of his consultants.
6. Ian received both Factor VIII and whole blood transfusions throughout his life up until his death at the age of 37. Ian was infected with both HIV and Hepatitis C following such treatments.
7. I do not know whether Ian was given any information or advice in relation to whether there were risks attached to receiving Factor VIII or whole blood transfusions.

Section 3. Other Infections

8. I do not know whether Ian was exposed to any other infections as a result of receiving contaminated blood and blood products.

Section 4. Consent

9. I do not know whether Ian was tested or treated without his knowledge or consent.

Section 5. Impact

10. Ian and I were in a relationship from 1978 GRO-B I did not know that Ian had been infected with HIV and Hepatitis C because Ian kept everything secret. Eventually, Ian turned his back on the doctors and stopped attending his hospital appointments.
11. I recall that Ian started acting strangely with me in or around early 1985 and I believe that this was as a result of his knowledge that he had been infected with both HIV and Hepatitis C. He left me in 1985 and I was utterly devastated. I was in shock as I had not expected this and my family unit shattered overnight.

12. I found out that he had gone to live with another woman. He used to come back to my house on a regular basis. [GRO-B]

[GRO-B]

[GRO-B]

13. After Ian moved out, I received letters from the hospital because Ian had never provided them with any forwarding address. The letters were urgent in nature and stated that the doctors needed to speak with Ian urgently about the blood products which he had been treated with. I told Ian about these letters but he ignored them. At this time, I still did not know about his infections and he had still had not told me. In retrospect, I believe he might have been in denial about everything and tried to block it out from his life.

14. Ian passed away in November 1993 and I did not find out the truth about his infections until after his death. There was an inquest into his death and an article was published in the Manchester Evening News, approximately a year after his death entitled "*Man who kept secret from wife who had HIV*".

15. My mother saw the article and neither of us were even aware that he had passed away. [GRO-B]

[GRO-B]

16. I took it upon myself to visit the hospital and speak to somebody about Ian's death. I spoke with the doctor, whose name I do not recall, who was with him at the time of his death. She said he had suffered tremendously in the lead up to his death.

17. She said that she had begged him to make a will as she was aware that he had children. She also told me how much he loved me and that he considered us to be his proper family and that Ian's leaving me was his own warped way of protecting me.

18. She advised me to get tested for HIV which thankfully was negative. She said that if I was negative there was no point putting the children through the

testing rigmarole as they would also be negative. This was in approximately 1994.

19. The news about Ian's death was utterly devastating and affected me badly.

At the time, we did not even know where he was buried. **GRO-B**

GRO-B

GRO-B

20. **GRO-B**

21. At the time, there was a horrendous stigma in relation to HIV and therefore apart from telling my mother and my sisters, I kept it to myself. I could not speak to anybody else about what had happened. I did not even think I could go to my GP about it.

22. Looking back, I recall that Ian was physically poorly all the time. He was always drawn and pale and I recall one night **GRO-B**
GRO-B, I went upstairs and Ian was rolling around the bed in agony. I stated that he needed to go hospital but he refused.

23. He also suffered with a persistent cough and had a very low immune system. He had chest infections, pneumonia, skin rashes, lesions and suffered weight loss.

24. In hindsight, I think that he knew he had AIDS and it terrified him. It was a terrible way for him to live. He used to drink heavily; and now I believe it was to block it all out.

25. He could never hold a job down due to his fatigue and exhaustion. He used to do a lot of decorating for our family and friends but could never work on a full time basis.

26. Such was Ian's secretive way that I only found out he had Haemophilia when he collapsed in front of me in the early days of our relationship. In his usual way, he even kept that a secret.

27. His mother left him when he was aged only 3. He was brought up by his father. I think as a result of his childhood, Ian already suffered with his mental health. He had gone through a lot of stress and I think that finding out about his infections was the last straw and he could not cope with it. He said things like "*I might have to go away and you wont see me again*" so I think he thought he would die at a young age.

28.

GRO-B

My whole family loved him. We were all very close. Therefore, when he left me, nobody could understand it. But afterwards, we did understand it.

29. I also found out that Ian had never told the woman he moved in with about his infected status. He then went on to marry her and she was blissfully unaware.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

30. I do not know whether Ian suffered any obstacles in relation to accessing treatment or services.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

31. One of Ian's doctors told me that she had been advised by Ian that he had come into some money. The doctor therefore advised Ian to make a will as she knew that he had children. Apparently Ian refused and his wife therefore received about £60,000 on his death. I do not know where this money came from and I can confirm that I received no financial assistance or compensation payment.

Section 8. Other Issues

32. I do not have any other issues to comment on.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

33. I do not wish to be anonymous and I do not want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness state

Signed.....

GRO-C

Dated.....

21-3-19