



Witness Name: Catriona Helen Norval

Statement No.: W2312

Exhibits: WITN0031001

Dated: 21st November 2018

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CATRIONA HELEN NORVAL

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

I, Catriona Helen Norval, will say as follows: -

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Catriona Helen Norval. My date of birth is GRO-C GRO-C 1991. My address is known to the Inquiry. I have just graduated from the University of the Highlands and Islands. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in the Drama Performance. I live at home here, with my mum and dad and brother.. I intend to speak about my father, Bruce Norval. In particular, the nature of his illness, how the illness affected him, the treatment received and the impact it had on him and our lives together.

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Section 2. How Affected

2. I am aware that my father was born with haemophilia. I'm not entirely clear on how severe my father's haemophilia is. He only has to have treatment when he has injured himself or has a bleed. He is treated with the factor IX.
3. I believe that my father was infected with hepatitis C and may have also been infected with hepatitis B.
4. I have no indication of when my father was infected. I do, however, know that this was before I was born.
5. My parents have told me that my dad started to get symptoms just before I was born. I am aware of this because one of my earliest memories of my dad was when he was on interferon. I was not aware at the time but I recall the he would throw up a lot. He lost a lot of weight and ended up on meal replacements. He had to stop work. I believe this would have been in Redbourn in England.
6. I recall that one of the symptoms my father experienced while he was receiving treatment was that he struggled to maintain his blood sugar properly, I remember that he would be shaking and need sugar. I believe the issue was with his blood sugar. He was in a lot of pain and I recall that he suffered from mood swings. There were lots of times where I recall him staying in bed.
7. My father would have been treated in a number of different places as we moved around. When I was younger, we were in Scunthorpe, and he would have been treated somewhere there. I do not know where he would have been treated.
8. When we moved to Fortrose my father would have been treated at Raigmore. I believe that it may have been inferred that my father was

treated at Raigmore when he was young and it could have been there where he was infected. My parents have told me that they lived in London when they met and thereafter at some point moved to Scunthorpe to be closer to my mother's family.

9. From what my father has told me he received most of his haemophilia treatments at Raigmore Hospital when he was younger. He has indicated that that's where he got most of his treatments until he moved to London when he was 17 or 18 years of age.
10. I am aware of what my parents have told me, that my dad was working two jobs before I was born. These two jobs were as a nurse which he was training to be and as a roadie for rock bands. I believe he may have had other odd jobs as well during this time. I believe he had to stop work before I started primary school.
11. I am not aware of the names of any of the doctors who have treated my dad for his haemophilia treatment.

Section 3. Other Infections

12. I believe my dad may have been infected with hepatitis B as well but I am unsure.
13. I am just thankful that my dad was not infected with HIV this as I have heard of some of my dad's friends who have been involved with the campaigning getting HIV or hepatitis C or even cancer from it. No counselling was ever made available.

Section 4. Consent

14. I believe that my dad has had a lot of blood taken throughout his life. As far as I'm aware he was never told of any tests done on him for hepatitis C. He was tested quite regularly and from what my dad has

told me he does believe that they knew earlier than when they told him.

Section 5. Impact

15. My dad has said he was not feeling right for a while. He has told me that before he met my mum, it came out that some haemophiliacs had been infected with HIV which had possibly developed into AIDS. My dad has told me that when an initial news story broke about this, his flatmate at the time threw him out because he thought that my dad would have HIV.
16. I believe, from what my dad has told me, that he was tested for HIV in the 1980s. This would have been in the late 1980s. This came back as a negative. I do not know if he was tested for anything else.
17. My dad has said that when he was 17 or 18 that he was not feeling right. It was not until my mum was pregnant that he really began struggling. This would have been when my mother was pregnant with me. My brother was born six or seven years after me. In terms of the struggle my father faced at this time, I believe that he suffered from tiredness and just being sick a lot. He was not able to gain weight.
18. Interferon treatment was a really bad start. It started when I was about one and I have all these memories of him being on meal replacements when I started primary school.
19. I am not aware of if my father had other treatments. I believe that whatever treatment he did have could have put his hepatitis into remission but he could never go back to work due to the residual effects of the illness and the treatment.
20. I think that my father was infected with hepatitis B and C but I do not know when he would have been infected.

21. In terms of when my father was diagnosed with suffering from hepatitis C, it would have been after I was born or maybe a little earlier. It was around the time I was born.
22. This has taken over my dad's life to some extent, he went into campaigning about the contaminated blood. I recall him getting lots of calls during dinner and these would be from his friends who he campaigned with. I often try to ignore this as I do not want to get too involved deeply with it.
23. My dad does get angry quite a lot and does suffer from mood swings. As much as he says he's not depressed, I think there are moments when he is not pleasant to be around. I recall one time that he got a hip replacement and while he was recovering he was very angry and I remember not wanting to be in the house around him.
24. I do not know if my dad has spoken to doctors about his mood. It was not until very recently that he has acknowledged and spoken about his mood swings. I believe that he is now going to counselling. People he knew were dying and I recall he had this black address book and when people died he would cross out their names. I remember coming home and there was a hallway connected to an office that he would use. I could hear him crying. I would see the black book open and he had the phone and you knew another person had died. At some points it was just one after the other.
25. I recall that my dad even suggested counselling for me. I have had major problems. They started in secondary school and I had to see a child psychologist. This would have been from when I was 15 to when I left school at 18. I did start at Edinburgh University and only managed to be there for a year and a half before I had to drop out. I became so unwell after my grandfather died. This was in terms of my mental health and I spent three or four weeks in hospital because of this.

26. My mum would often be stressed out by her own work. Every 3 years or so my parents would have a major fall out and my mum would leave the house. My mum is not the type to express anger and my dad is more likely to verbally express anger.
27. For me, the boiling point was when I was 16 years old and at school. I started self-harming then. I remember that one day I got to sit a maths exam and I was struggling to keep up. I ended up actually doing fairly well in this exam. I was almost annoyed that there was nothing to show for how I was feeling as I'd still done quite well. I expected to show the struggle and annoyingly the result I had gave the impression that I was doing fine. I wanted someone to know that I wasn't coping and I thought that this exam would be the way that people would see that I was not coping. I remember I ran away for a day and sat on a beach, even in the rain. My GP sent me to a mental health service. There was lots of talking about my issues there.
28. When I was at university in Edinburgh, I was studying biochemistry at Heriot Watt University. It was just before exams that my grandad got very sick.
29. In terms of my performance in school I would say that there was an impact. I remember that in one of our biology classes, haemophilia was used in a sex link demonstration and one of my friends said that I had that.
30. I would come home from school and my dad would be in bed or my dad be throwing up and I could hear it. I could come home my dad would be very angry quite often.
31. The boiling point was right in time for standard grade exams but it did not have any impact on my grades. I still did very well. I think school was almost an escape because I spent a lot of time at school and the

library because I did not want to be at home. School was an escape from everything. The only time my grades were affected by depression was around the time that my grandad died and that would have been in terms of my university results.

32. Last year I struggled when I finishing off my dissertation. I was predicted a First, but got a 2:1. It was a hell of a year.
33. I would say that I have good years and bad years it or even good months.
34. The depression started when I was 14 and I think part of that was just becoming a teenager. I feel that I have never been a particularly normal child. I remember when I was six, my dad drove me to primary school and he had had stop because he threw up en route to school. I thought my dad was going to die, I remember. I got home and he was fine and I almost felt annoyed.
35. It was when I was 14 that I realised what it meant to be a carrier of haemophilia. Lots of people talk about the boys but don't consider the fact that females are the carriers of haemophilia. It's now at the point where I sort of consider my future and whether or not I should have any children. I am worried about any kids I would have, having haemophilia. My parents are open about what it means to be a carrier. We have spoken about what it would mean for any children I would have and it terrifies me. I would worry that any child I would have could be like my dad. We have had conversations about it for a long time but the thought of kids and how it would affect me having kids did not come up until my parents sat me down and gave me the birds and the bees talk before secondary school.
36. I recall that when we first moved back up to Scotland that my dad was better for the first few years and he seemed less depressed. He was in a better mood and it felt for a while as if we were spending less

time walking on eggshells. However, he did get bad again. I believe it was when I was 13 or 14 when my dad started getting bad again.

37. People were still getting sick and dying. My dad was still campaigning and I think that is when I started to talk back to him. I did not want stay at home. I had kept quiet before.
38. My dad's mood swings can be seen if, for example, you knocked over a glass at the dinner table. You can have one of either two reactions. These would be either he would laugh it off or he would explode at you about it. You would know if he was in pain if he was quick to get angry. This would have been if he had a knock leading to a bleed or had done any sort of work that tired him out. He'd do things like mow the lawn and then would be in bed for the day and he would be angry and generally horrible to us.
39. My dad never liked the idea that he could not do anything. He wouldn't go out on trips and he was housebound a lot of the time. He would do cooking or cleaning though. He did not like to go out and would go out quite rarely. He used to go to the cinema with us but he can't do that now because he finds it too uncomfortable. I do feel bad though because he is not always angry. He is great at talking about politics or that kind of thing.
40. I do recall one very good story from my childhood. I was in primary school and mum had come home early so she picked me up. I was obsessed with a Lego at the time and my dad took my Lego and played with me for two hours. I remember my dad making a massive castle and it was a happy moment in the middle of what was a lot of sad times. I did end up spending more time with my dad than friends or anything like that. I'd say that my dad has gotten better in recent years.

41. My dad would only ever shout and would never actually hurt anyone physically. My father only ever used words.
42. My dad has been consistently ill following the interferon treatment and has had issues with his liver I believe.
43. My dad's hip replacement also caused issues. The bleeding around the muscle caused the bone to deteriorate around his hip. This is why he required had replacement.
44. My dad has recurrent health issues such as wounds and things, that don't quite heal properly meaning he gets treatment sometimes. The district nurse was in for a few months. She would not be there constantly but was in quite a lot to help treat his wounds. I recall that when I was in secondary school, my dad had a wound that would not heal.
45. I recall one instance where my dad was sitting and he had a nosebleed. He hadn't had one since his childhood. I was freaking out because my dad's nose was just completely gushing blood. My dad was fully calm. He was on his Factor treatment so this should not have happened.
46. My dad is not keen on going to hospital at all. He has peripheral neuropathy. He had a deep cut from standing on a paint stripper tool and went to hospital. They wanted him to stay overnight. He refused to stay overnight.
47. My dad and mum now live downstairs. His feet cannot feel the steps properly on the stairs due to issues with the nerves in his feet. They have lived downstairs for around five years. It may have been as long as six years ago. They both moved down and got a big king-size bed. My dad had issues because of the lack of sensation in his feet where he would fall down the stairs.

48. I believe that issues with my dad's nerves get worse if he gets cold. He feels the cold very badly and wears big jackets. He used to go to the football but due to the cold he cannot cope with being out in the cold like that. He even used heated gloves and that sort of thing but this did not help.
49. My mum had breast cancer so she's the same with nerve issues in one of her arms.
50. The only treatment that I am certain my dad had was the interferon treatment. I recall he was on morphine at one stage. I think he was taken off of that and put onto diazepam because he was not very well when he took the morphine.
51. I think my dad has been on medication for pain, such as diazepam, since I was around six or seven years old. I believe it would have been prescribed when he had his hip operation. I'm not exactly sure when this happened. I cannot remember large chunks of that time. In terms of my dad's dental care, he has to go to Edinburgh for this. The dentist here would not do a clean or anything like that as they felt it was too dangerous by the fact that his gums may bleed. My dad had to have a procedure on his teeth and was unable to talk for a brief period. He was almost like a grumpy ghost.
52. In terms of our family life I would say that you have to walk on eggshells around my dad. It was worse when I was younger. My mum and I will call him out on it now on more as time goes on. My mum and I occasionally confront him but it's taken a lot for us to get to this point. My brother has always been a bit more prone to fighting with my dad.

53. Everything we do we have to consider if my dad would be able to do it. We have to consider if my dad would be physically able to do activities on holiday.
54. My mum got breast cancer when I started my first degree. Mum has always been the healthy one and I think that Dad was not used to not being the sickest person in the house. My dad did not cope well. I think we all tried to use humour, to sort of, get through this. My mum was always used to being fit and capable of doing things. She was also one supported my dad and was the breadwinner. While she was sick she still had to be the encouraging one as Dad is not like that.
55. Luckily mums cancer wasn't terribly severe. I do recall that at one point she got an infection and this made things difficult. My mum is a sort of person who just keeps going with things.
56. I think my mums cancer made her realise she had to do what she wanted in life. She now does things that allow more time for herself. She has horses and that was something she got after her cancer. She is still recovering from the cancer treatment she had, she is not super healthy anymore. She retired early as she was physiotherapist and had issues with her arm, which I previously mentioned. She was the manager of a unit in Invergordon.
57. I am just thankful that my dad was not infected with HIV this as I have heard of some of my dad's friends who have been involved with the campaigning getting HIV or hepatitis C or even cancer from it. No counselling was ever made available.
58. I believe mum has felt guilty about certain things. I can't remember much in the way of specifics. My mum and dad did not have major problems but I know that they struggled with things like finances. I think that was because they expected that my dad would still be able to

work. His condition got much to debilitating for him to work. I believe that my dad would still be working now, were it not for his condition.

59. My dad is always campaigning and is always busy. He always has to be doing something. He hates the fact that he cannot work and this has added his frustrations and possibly to his anger.
60. My grandad who died was my dad's dad. He worked until he couldn't and retired but was doing a lot of gardening and things like that. His family, I would say are not the sort of people to just rest on their laurels.
61. I think since mum has retired, my dad has almost been a little bit more troublesome. Since mum is home now, he has less to do. I think it is also tricky because mum has more friends and is out and about and because of this he is lonely. I believe he may have expected my mum to be around more when she retired.
62. My dad social life was always based on campaigning. I am only aware of two friends that he has from childhood that are not in any way involved with campaigning. I feel like I know that a lot of voices on the telephone from campaigning. There is a whole network sort of built around these people who are all campaigning in relation to infected blood. Part of that is because my dad believes that he cannot stop until the widows of those who have died have something. I believe that this is his driving force. He wants to know what happened and wants them to be honest. I believe that he may not even really want to campaign, in the long term I think he would just like to have answers and then this could all end.
63. I feel that a lot of my statement boils down to a lot of stories that have all been down to something to do with my dad being sick. I am acutely aware of my dad being sick. It has affected how I deal with people and changed how I deal with people. I feel that socially it has affected

me and that I lost confidence and have struggled with elements of this for my entire life.

64. I have never been relationship. Part of it is because I don't want to rely on other people. I do not want a relationship like my parents. It is not a bad relationship that they have but I do not want that for me.
65. Due to my being wary of passing on haemophilia to any children I have, I do not believe that I want any children.
66. I feel that I get nervous around people when they are ill or sick and I do not want to deal with any confrontation or anger. This is part of why I've taken a step back from all the campaigning and things that my dad has done. I'm worried about relying on other people and other people relying me.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

67. I'm not aware of any support or counselling having been offered to my dad. I believe that my dad was just given medication. This medication was his treatment.
68. In terms of counselling I believe that this would have been helpful for my dad and for the rest of the family. It was like a whole community dying one by one and no one is talking about it, I think that that has made it very difficult. It would have been a great help to my dad and family then if we had had some form of support, perhaps a form of counselling. If my dad had coped better then I think it would have made things a lot easier for the family in general.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

69. In terms of financial assistance that was available, I would say that because I've been trying to step away, I have not involved in any of

this. It took a lot of convincing for me to even be willing to give this statement. I am aware that there are financial things out there but I am not aware of any of the details or anything like that. I am aware that the Caxton Fund knows I exist. I'm sure they said that I could apply for something but I know nothing about this. I don't believe my dad fully understood all this either.

70. I am aware that my dad got a second payment through Skipton but I do not know when and I do not know how much.

Section 8. Other Issues

71. My dad believed that Penrose would be the end but Penrose was a complete waste time. I remember the day Penrose came out and he heard what was going on. All I remember was lots of people calling and being angry and sad generally. One issue was the fact that there was no apology made, not in any real sense anyway.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

4/5/19