

Witness Name: Margaret McIlwrath
Statement No: WITN1382001
Exhibits: WITN1382002-06
Dated: December 2018

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN1382003

Consultants

PROF. J.M. BRIDGES
DR. ELIZ.E. BUTLER
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EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD
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Department of Haematology

21 December, 1992

Dr GRO-D

GRO-C

Dear Dr GRO-D

re: Mrs Anne M McIlwrath
D.O.B. GRO-C 50

GRO-C

I saw the above patient on 4th December and again at review on the 18th. We had some discussions regarding the possibility of her having past infections with Hepatitis C. I know that you sent a blood test off in October and were unable to obtain a result. I can now let you know that Anne is HCV Positive. She is Hepatitis B Negative and also has no other virological complication of past treatment. You will recall that Anne became jaundiced after her tonsillectomy in 1980. At that time Factor VIII blood products had not undergone heat treatment. This was instituted in 1985. Therefore it was very likely that she would have received infection with Hepatitis C. At the present time she has an ALT of three times the normal level which would be in keeping with her infection. It is our practice to have three separate ALT estimations done during a 6 month period. If throughout that time it remains 2 1/2 times normal one then will consider giving her a course of treatment with Alpha Interferon to see if her liver function tests will revert to normal.

I have explained to Anne that there are several viruses which cause positivity to Hepatitis C. Generally it is thought that it is very unlike Hepatitis B infection and it may not have any serious sequelae for liver function in the future. Presently Professor Eric Preston and other Colleagues in the Haemophilia Centre Directors Organisation are carrying out an assessment of the benefit received by a 6 month course of Alpha Interferon. The results to date are quite promising and if Anne's tests suggest that she should fit into this category I will discuss it further with the patient and with yourself.

J.M. BRIDGES
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Dr **GRO-D**

If you have any queries or questions regarding the positivity
I will be happy to discuss them with you.

Yours sincerely,

E E Mayne
Consultant Haematologist

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