

Witness Name: Michael Mason

Statement No: WITN1377001

Exhibits: WITN1377002-5

Dated: April 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN1377004



University Hospital Birmingham

NHS TRUST
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Ref: JTW/AG

Dear

RE: NEW VARIANT CJD AND BPL FACTOR CONCENTRATES

As you are probably aware new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (nvCJD) is a progressive and ultimately fatal disorder of the brain. It is believed to be caused by the virus like agent called a prion which is responsible for the cattle brain disease called Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). So far approximately 80 people in the UK have been diagnosed as having nvCJD. However there is no evidence that this condition is transmissible by blood or blood products. No patient with haemophilia has been reported as having developed variant CJD.

We have recently been informed by the UK Bio Products Laboratory (BPL) that some batches of Factor VIII and Factor IX concentrate made by them in 1996 and 1997 contained plasma from a blood donor who has recently developed new variant CJD. I am writing to inform you that having checked through our records it would appear that you have received product from one of the implicated batches.

Whilst we recognise that this news may generate anxiety, we feel that our patients are entitled to be informed of all the facts about their treatment. However we sincerely hope that you will be reassured by the fact that there is currently no evidence that variant CJD can be transmitted through plasma derived factor concentrates. I have enclosed an information sheet about variant CJD for you to read and also a statement recently distributed by the Haemophilia Society which you may or may not have previously received.

Should you require any further information about new variant CJD then please do not hesitate to contact either myself or one of the nurses at the centre.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Jonathan Wilde
Consultant Haematologist
Haemophilia Centre Director

Enc Information sheet - Some Facts About vCJD
Haemophilia Society letter - Jan 2001