

Witness Name: Royal Free Hospital (Debra Anne Pollard)
Statement No. WITN3094003

EXHIBIT "WITN30940017"

This is the exhibit marked "WITN30940017" referred to in the third witness statement
of Debra Anne Pollard

RE: Regarding Frozen sections

Pollard Debra (ROYAL FREE HAMPSTEAD NHS TRUST)

Sent: 02 February 2012 10:13

To: Hill-Stewart

GRO-C

Subel Barbara

GRO-C

Thanks Angus

I had an email late yesterday from the Consultant Haematologist who told me that you had been rescheduled. I am very sorry that it came down to this late decision about the frozen section although that I do believe is standard advice about histopathology samples for those considered "at risk" and I had informed Mr Lim on 28th December by email as I was unable to get hold of him by telephone. So they had been aware of the relevant information for at least 4 weeks.

I do hope all proceeds next week as planned, keep in touch.

Debra Pollard

Clinical Nurse Specialist in Haemophilia

Haemophilia Centre & Thrombosis Unit

Royal Free Hospital

Pond Street

London NW3 2QG

Tel: +

Fax: +

email:

GRO-C

From: Hill-Stewart

GRO-C

Sent: 02 February 2012 08:35

To: Pollard Debra (ROYAL FREE HAMPSTEAD NHS TRUST); Subel Barbara (ROYAL FREE HAMPSTEAD NHS TRUST)

Subject: FW: Regarding Frozen sections

Dear Debra

Please see below the response from the pathologist to Eric.

I am still having the operation next Tuesday, as this is the right route for me. I must say Debra I am now finding the whole thing rather hard to swallow at the moment.

Regards

Angus

From: Lim Eric

GRO-C

Sent: 02 February 2012 08:17

To: GRO-C

Subject: FW: Regarding Frozen sections

Dear Angus,

Please find the official response by our pathologists...

Kind regards,

Eric

Eric Lim, MB ChB MD MSc FRCS(C-Th)

Consultant Thoracic Surgeon, Royal Brompton Hospital

Senior Lecturer, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College

Royal Brompton Hospital | Sydney Street | London SW3 6NP | United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)207 351 8591 | Fax: +44 (0)207 351 8560 | Web profile:

NOT RELEVANT

Copy made on: 20/09/2019
02/02/2012

www.rbht.nhs.uk/elim

From: **GRO-D**
Sent: 01 February 2012 17:28
To: Lim Eric
Cc: Florio Richard; Nicholson Andrew
Subject: Regarding Frozen sections

Dear Eric

Thank you for your recent email regarding yesterdays frozen section in this complex case. I completely understand and am sorry for the distress delaying this procedure has caused the patient, however this situation is extremely unusual and outside the experience of our laboratory. Given the risks of infection to members of our staff associated with performing frozen sections, we had to ensure we made an informed decision as to whether or not we could perform a frozen section on this patients' tissue in our laboratory. The preliminary advice we obtained in the time available yesterday morning was that a frozen section should not be performed.

Today I have been able to make further enquiries in relation to processing the tissue from this patient which I hope will answer the queries raised by the patient.

I understand the patients status as at risk of vCJD has been provided by his Haemophilia centre, and I presume this is as outlined in the 2010 HPA document re vCJD which categorises patients having been treated with certain blood products between 1980 and 2001 as at risk of vCJD without further distinction.

I have spoken today to the pathologists in the Neuropathology department at Queens Square – they would categorically not perform a frozen section on any patient with or at risk of vCJD and this was the policy at other hospitals at which they had worked (e.g. Sheffield).

I have also spoken with our Consultant Haematologist, Dr Tiller, who contacted Dr David Bevan, the Director of the Haemophilia centre at St Thomas's. He informed her that the official guidance is that frozen sections should not be performed in these cases (regardless of the tissue type) and that within the "at risk" group, no distinction is made between low and high risk patients based on whether they received blood products from a donor known to have vCJD or not.

On the basis of all of this information, we are unable to perform a frozen section in this case. However we can process the tissue to paraffin blocks and sections to provide diagnostic material, and have obtained the specific processing protocol from Queens Square. The fixation process is prolonged to 48hrs followed by further treatment in formic acid for 1hr after which sections can be cut. Please be aware therefore that the final diagnosis will be delayed by approx. 24-36 hours compared to usual.

I do appreciate how difficult this is for yourself and the patient and the inconvenience caused, but I hope you can understand the reasons why we cannot offer a frozen section service in this case.

Best wishes

GRO-D

GRO-D

Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Trust

DISCLAIMER:

The information contained in this email may be subject to public disclosure under the NHS Code of Openness or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Unless the information is legally exempt from disclosure, the confidentiality of this email, and your reply cannot be guaranteed.

NOT RELEVANT

Copy made on 20/09/2019
02/02/2012

WITN3094017_0003