

Witness Name: ANN-MARIE HUTCHINSON

Statement No: WITN5239001

Exhibits: 0

Dated: December 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ANN-MARIE HUTCHINSON

I, Ann-Marie Hutchinson, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Ann-Marie Hutchinson. I was born on GRO-C 1972 and I live at GRO-C.
2. My ex-husband, Terence James Lee Greer (born on GRO-C 1968), was co-infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) through contaminated blood products. He died after advancing to AIDS Related Complex (ARC) on 9th August 2006, aged 38.
3. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to Terence's full medical records.
4. Our daughter, Shannon Greer, has provided her own Witness Statement to the Inquiry (WITN5233001)

Section 2. How Affected

5. Terence (Terry) had severe Haemophilia A. He was treated with Cryoprecipitate initially and then Factor VIII (FVIII) Concentrate. He was under the care of Dr Brian Colvin at the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal London Hospital.
6. Terry was infected with HIV at aged 12 and found out about it when he was 18 years old.
7. I met Terry in the late 1990s at a pub I was working at. It was a few months before he told me that he was infected with HIV. He got very upset one day and came out with it. I became very upset. He told me that he was also infected with HCV but was not specific as to when it was diagnosed or when he was told.
8. I do not think that Terry was given very much information or advice to help him to understand and manage his infections. He said he was given no information at all. He was very angry, upset and bitter. He was only told that he had HIV after becoming very ill and ending up in hospital at aged 18. He wasn't aware of any risk of infection before finding out that he was infected. We knew that there was a risk of me becoming infected through unprotected sex but that was it. He tried to wipe it all from his mind.

Section 3. Other Infections

9. I do not think Terence was infected with anything other than HIV and HCV.

Section 4. Consent.

10. I am unable to comment on the issue of consent to treatment and testing.

Section 5. Impact

11. When Terry first told me that he was infected with HIV, I was shocked and needed some space, but we decided to stay together. I spent a day on my own just thinking. I still loved him. He was the same person I had fallen in love with and so nothing much changed for me.
12. It was heart wrenching to learn just how ill Terry really was. A simple cold would turn into PCP pneumonia (he had three or four bouts of it in total). We didn't talk about Terry's infections much. Apart from when I literally dragged Terry to his haemophilia appointment early into our relationship, he wouldn't see a doctor, unless he was really ill. He didn't want to talk about being infected. He just wanted to forget about it all. We married and I fell pregnant with Shannon four months later.
13. When I found out that I was pregnant, I told them at the hospital and had to take anti-HIV drugs. It was a horrible, stressful pregnancy. The drugs made me really really ill to the point where I could barely even keep water down. I had to be tested for HIV at three monthly intervals and right up until a year after Shannon was born. I spent most of the time in a very high state of anxiety, worried that I would contract HIV and pass it onto the baby. I was vaccinated against hepatitis. I was also very lonely throughout my pregnancy. Terry buried his head in the sand and let me get on with it and attend appointments on my own.
14. Terry had treatment for a while (for around six months into our relationship) but the side effects of the drugs were too much for him. He got so sick from them that he stopped taking them. We were ostracised by people we thought were friends. They found out that Terry had HIV and distanced themselves from us. This compounded our loneliness and isolation. Terry gave up and turned to alcohol because he couldn't cope with any of it. He really was a tortured soul and, after

we split up, he just sat alone in the pub all day drinking. It really did destroy him. He didn't care about himself any more and said he wanted to die.

15. I had an 8 year old son from a previous relationship and he experienced it all with me. When the relationship ended through the stress of it all, my son lost the father Terry had become to him. I was left with two children to bring up on my own. I suffered with anxiety and struggled with my mental health. I was on tablets for many years thereafter.

16. Terry and I divorced. The day before I was due to move to Kent with the children, I took a phone call from Terry's sister informing me that he had passed away. He had fallen ill whilst in the pub a week or two earlier and someone there had called his mother. She had driven from Kent to London to pick him up and had looked after him until Terry passed away at her home, surrounded by his mother and sisters.

17. Shannon has had it hard in growing up without a father. His death really affected her. When she had her first baby, she was very upset that her father would never get to meet his granddaughter.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

18. We were offered no support or counselling whatsoever. Terry being infected and the lack of support available to us broke us up. I truly believe that had Terry received the right support or been given more information, then he would still be here and that we would still be married, a happy and loving couple raising our family together

Section 7. Financial Assistance

19. Terry had monthly payments through the MacFarlane Trust and I am not aware of any problems. I too received a dependent's income from them until Shannon reached the age of 16.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

20. I do not wish to apply for anonymity.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed.....Ann Marie Hutchinson.....

Dated.....08/12/2020.....