

Witness Name: **Helene Hall**

Statement No.: **WITN4038001**

Exhibits: **Nil**

## **INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT OF HELENE HALL**

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 12 March 2020.

I, Helene Hall, will say as follows: -

#### **Section 1. Introduction**

1. My name is Helene Hall and my date of birth is GRO-C 1950. My address is known to the Inquiry. I am retired now, but I previously worked in retail, modelling and fashion. I have a son. My late brother Peter, was infected with HCV (hereafter 'HCV') through blood transfusions. Peter was born on GRO-C GRO-C 1952 and he died on 30th June 2008.
2. I intend to speak about my brother, Peter and 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.

3. My siblings and Peter's partner have already given statements to the Inquiry. My brother Samuel Lloyd (W4037), sisters Mary Lovall (W6400), Sarah Martin (W3689), Martha Charalambous (W3979) and his partner Wendy Campbell (W1848).

## **Section 2. How Affected**

4. My brother Peter and I were both born in Singapore. I am 2 years older than him. We travelled the world with our parents who were in the army. We moved a lot, and when we were in India we attended boarding schools to get a better education.
5. My dad was a Major in the army, and when he left the army he became a Civil Engineer. This is why Peter joined the RAF, and became a Chief technician in Electronics. Peter joined the RAF when he was 16, where he met his first wife [GRO-C]. He had some epileptic fits when he was in the RAF, but not sure what happened. He left the RAF maybe 5 or 6 years later. [GRO-C] and Peter had 2 children, Martin and Victoria. Then he got divorced and lived in Yorkshire with Wendy ever since, where he died in 2008.
6. In 1986, Peter was in an accident. His wife wanted to exchange a nightdress in a shop, and he was driving there. But he hit a tree on the way and crashed. He had to be cut out of the car. His wife had many injuries. Peter and his wife couldn't walk. But he had a worse time than she did.
7. He was admitted to Welwyn Garden City Hospital for 3 weeks and later on transferred to NorthAllerton Hospital to recover. He wasn't capable of doing anything except laying in bed. I don't know if he had surgery, but he had transfusions there.
8. As a result of the accident Peter had a metal plate in his arm to repair the break. He was given a blood transfusion which possibly infected him with HCV.

9. Peter received Interferon for treating the Hepatitis. I think we only found out a few later after his HCV diagnosis. He was a bit secretive and wouldn't worry us. After the blood transfusion, he eventually deteriorated with liver cancer, and eventually passed away in Yorkshire. Peter was only 55 years old when he died. He was buried in Ely, Wales with our parents. The irony is, he had a 10% chance to survive after his car accident which he actually survived.
10. In the early 2000s, he had bowel cancer and then got liver cancer. He was losing his hair towards the end because of the cancer. I think he had an operation for his bowel cancer.
11. Peter was treated for cancer of the liver but because of the location of it they couldn't do removal properly or transplant. I didn't live near him, and I couldn't keep my eye on him.

### **Section 3. Other Infections**

12. I have no awareness that he has any other infections.
13. Peter had no tattoos to my knowledge. He had no other transfusions, no piercings, and he didn't take drugs.

### **Section 4. Consent**

14. Peter didn't talk about how he was told about the HCV or how to look after himself.
15. I am not aware of anything related to consent.

## **Section 5. Impact**

16. There are no mental issues that I was aware of. But towards the end of this life, his memory was incoherent, he had trouble walking, and he couldn't drive.
17. Peter was financially impacted. He couldn't carry on driving or have the car showroom due to health issues. He never complained about anything, he just got on with it.
18. His death has left all the family devastated, we meet up every year on the day or nearest to the day of his passing, in memory of his death.
19. He was a kind loving brother, husband and father, with a good sense of humour. I remember he loved his first car, it was a yellow three wheeler, he was always polishing and cleaning it, and in later years he had his own car showroom in Yorkshire which he was very dedicated to and worked hard at.
20. He used to play tricks on me as a brother, we had some good adventures while travelling.

## **Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support**

21. Peter had no stigma issues or had any issues accessing treatment.
22. He received no counselling to my knowledge.

## **Section 7. Financial Assistance**

23. I don't think Peter was given money.

**Section 8. Other Issues**

24. I feel he has been cheated out his young life because of the hospitals negligence and I think it's as good as murder. Was the blood tested at all, or was it done accurately?

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

15-09-2021

