

Statement by **GRO-B** on behalf of **GRO-B** Job **GRO-B** 960

I have been married to **GRO-B** since **GRO-B**

GRO-B prior to the treatment for Hepatitis C in 2002, was a bright, fun loving, outgoing person who lived for her family and job.

Whilst I am sure that if **GRO-B** had not received the hepatitis C treatment she would not still be with us, the treatment has led to a massive change in her physical and most definitely mental well being.

In a gradual deterioration over the last 20 odd years my beloved wife has become a shadow of her former self.

No longer the fun loving bright outgoing person **GRO-B** has retreated into a dark world of constant depression with a dependency on antidepressant drugs to get her through the day.

I admit that I have struggled to see the full impact of the treatment and what 20 odd years of antidepressants have done. The antidepressants were first prescribed by Dr **GRO-B** in 2002 and apart from a couple of short periods where my wife has tried to come off of them, she has taken them ever since.

After the initial treatment my wife lost her job, we lost our house which was tied to her job.

I did not realise the severity and impact of the initial hepatitis c treatment and left our 13 year old daughter to care for her mother whilst I went off working around the world.

In the past we would walk our dogs before breakfast but now **GRO-B** will not go. She barely leaves the house, has a fear crowd spaces so she hardly come shopping anymore

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and when she does it is late evening when the shops are quiet.

Since the hepatitis c treatment **GRO-B** has great difficulty getting out of bed and need constant encouragement to face the day. Many times, I have left the house only to find **GRO-B** has gone back to bed on my return. I would say on an average day that **GRO-B** probably spends about 18 hours in bed, which is not normal.

Our social life now is non existent, **GRO-B** will not sit in a restaurant or attend friends or family gatherings without getting distressed after a short period, as you can imagine this causes issues as our family just doesn't understand how ill my wife has become.

Hepatitis C and the subsequent treatment has destroyed my wife's chance of leading a normal life. It cost her the career she loved. **GRO-B** has not been able to hold down any form of independent employment for any length of time since 2005

GRO-B

13/01/22