

Witness Name: David Scott Ogilvie

Statement No.: WITN2314001

Exhibits: WITN2314002-004

Dated: 7th July 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF DAVID SCOTT OGILVIE

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 3rd December 2018.

I, David Scott Ogilvie, will say as follows: -

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is David Scott Ogilvie. My date of birth is GRO-C 1974 and my address is known to the inquiry. I go by the name of Scott and I am a UX Designer. I intend to speak about my father David Ogilvie. In particular, the nature of his illness, how the illness affected him, the treatment received and the impact it had on him and on our lives together.

Section 2. How affected

2. My mother and father split up when I was ten years old but despite this my father and I maintained a close loving relationship. There was no formal arrangement for access I could see my father whenever I

wanted. We spent a lot of time together particularly in the summer months sailing on his boat.

3. Dad was born with haemophilia also known as Christmas disease. This was quite a severe form of haemophilia.
4. Dad was given Factor IX blood products.
5. I was aware that Dad went regularly to the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal Infirmary for check-ups. The nurse he saw there was Sister Macdonald. The consultant was Professor Lowe.
6. When I was about 14 or 15 years of age I remember Dad said that he had been advised by Professor Lowe that it would be better for him to have his teeth extracted to avoid any future problems. He had told Dad that if he needed extractions in the future, he would have to have Factor IX blood products to ensure he did not bleed heavily. In 1988 or possibly 1989 I cannot be more specific he did have all his teeth removed. I do not know where Dad had his teeth taken out and which consultant he was under. I just remember that he ultimately received a full set of dentures. I do remember he told me that he'd had Factor IX blood products to avoid excessive bleeding during the procedure. I would say that up until that point my father was a fit and active man.
7. Dad did not mention to me that he had been offered advice or information about the risks of being infected with blood products.
8. Dad was infected with hepatitis C. I have identified a letter sent to Dad in his medical records, from Professor Lowe dated the 1st August 2002, which I exhibit as **WITN2314002**. In this letter, Professor Lowe describes how he believes Dad contracted hepatitis C in the 1970s for an ulcer. This is only an estimate date however, as Professor Lowe acknowledges in this letter that Dad's records before 1980 are no

longer in existence. I am unclear as to why his records before 1980 are missing.

9. Sometime between 1990 and 1991 I went to visit Dad at his home address. I could hear he was clearly upset, he was crying and I went into the kitchen to find out what was wrong. My step mother was with him and she told me that he had been told that some people had been given blood products that were infected and this could lead to HIV or hepatitis C. He was very upset and I got the impression that he was waiting for his results to come back. It was only a few weeks after my visit that I spoke to him again and he told me that he had been to the haemophilia clinic for a regular check-up and he'd been spoken to by a female doctor, he did not tell me her name.
10. This doctor had told Dad that he had a liver problem and apparently she did not expand further. Dad then spoke to Professor Lowe and told the Professor what the female doctor had said. Dad was very surprised that Professor Lowe seemed to already know about the liver problem yet Dad did not. Dad told me that Professor Lowe then played his liver problem down and told him it wasn't serious. This took place between 1990 and 1992.
11. Dad told me then that he had hepatitis C. I assume it was Professor Lowe who told him of his diagnosis. I remember at the time feeling relief that he didn't have HIV. Dad played it down. HIV was a terrible thing, but he made out that hepatitis C was not too serious so it was ok. He told me it was nothing to worry about and not to worry because I wouldn't catch it.
12. Dad did not say he had received any information about the infection. The fact that he said that I wouldn't catch it suggests that he must have asked if it was contagious. I do remember he said he had been told by medical professionals at the haemophilia clinic that it was nothing serious. I assume it was Professor Lowe who told him this.

13. I do not know if Dad received adequate information to understand and manage the infection. The fact he said it was nothing serious suggests to me that he wasn't.
14. I do not know if Dad could have been told earlier about his infection. I got the impression from him that Professor Lowe knew about his condition before he was told that he had a liver problem but I cannot be certain of that.
15. The fact that Dad was initially told by a nurse that he had a liver problem and then he had to go and see Professor Lowe to have this confirmed is terrible. To allow Dad to leave thinking it is nothing serious is also terrible.
16. Dad only said to me that I wouldn't get infected. I did not ask him how you get hepatitis C and Dad did not tell me. I am not aware if Dad was told of the risks to others.

Section 3. Other Infections

17. After reviewing Dad's medical records, it has been uncovered that Dad was considered to be a risk for vCJD. I have identified a letter dated the 29th September 2004 and an exposure assessment form dated the 7th September 2004, but signed by RC Tait on the 2nd July 2008, as **WITN2314003**. According to this, Dad was considered "at risk" of vCJD for public health purposes. The letter from Dr CRM Hay, Chairman of the UKHCDO Data Management Group, refers to an extract under "sealed cover", however I am unclear what this extract is as it was not included in his records.

Section 4. Consent

18. Dad clearly took the advice of Professor Lowe and had all his teeth taken out. This procedure was done with my father's knowledge.
19. Dad trusted Professor Lowe and gave his consent to have his teeth removed.
20. Dad cannot have been given adequate or full information when he was given the infected blood. He cannot have been told that there was a risk of getting hepatitis C, otherwise I'm sure he would have thought twice about having the procedure if this was the source of his infection. I would apply this to any other procedures he had as well. I don't know if he was given that information so he could have an option.
21. I do not know if any of Dad's blood has been used for research.

Section 5. Impact

22. The mental and physical effects of being infected with hepatitis C on Dad were profound. He lost a lot of weight and became very frail. The infection affected his mobility. He had to walk with a walking stick and eventually became bed-bound. His ankles were very swollen. He complained of back pain particularly in his lower back. When taking interferon he complained of being hot and his skin being itchy. Dad was very confused and I believe he was hallucinating. I remember an incident in 2010 when he was driving, he told me that he saw a hoop in the road and he needed to drive through it. I was quite concerned and told him that he should not be driving. From 2011 Dad was pretty much bed bound and he was very depressed. He threatened to commit suicide on many occasions. He became very aggressive and had severe mood swings.

23. I do not know of any further complications or conditions that Dad had as a result of his infection.
24. In December 2011, Dad was admitted to the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow, a few days before Christmas. I saw Doctor Al-Shamma who told me that Dad had about six months to live. He said that Dad had cirrhosis of the liver and myeloma. I remember this well because I didn't know what myeloma was. Dad was very confused and agitated and discharged himself from hospital. In Dad's medical records there is a letter to his GP from Dr Catherine Bagot dated the 12th January 2012 discussing Dad's declining health from the hepatitis C and what he was going through at the time, which I exhibit as **WITN2314004**.
25. Dad admitted himself into the Vale of Leven Hospital, Alexandria. This would have been around April 2012. He discharged himself on the 21st June, 2012 and passed away at home on the 23rd June, 2012.
26. Dad was given interferon as treatment for his hepatitis C. I know he would self-inject the interferon, but I am unclear on how often he would do this.
27. I do not know if Dad faced any difficulties or obstacles in accessing the interferon.
28. I do not know whether there were other treatments available to my father.
29. When Dad was taking interferon he became a different man. He was verbally aggressive and suffered with terrible mood swings. He would isolate himself and refuse to leave the house. He became clinically depressed and would often talk about taking his own life. Physically he lost a lot of weight and was very tired. His skin broke out in red spots and he complained about being itchy.

30. I do not know if Dad's infected status impacted upon his treatment for any other conditions in relation to medical or dental care.
31. As a result of being infected with hepatitis C Dad lost everything. His marriage to my step mother broke down. He had built up a successful business as a graphic designer. Due to his illness he was unable to work and his business went under. As a result he had to sell his house as he could no longer afford the mortgage. He spent months on end practically homeless.
32. When Dad was ill I was under tremendous stress as he would often call me telling me he was going to take his own life. I moved in with him for over a month as I was so worried about his mental health. When he told me he had hepatitis C I didn't really know what it was or that it had a stigma associated with it.
33. Despite my parents being divorced Mum would still visit Dad to help and assist him when he was ill. She has been left devastated at my Dad's demise.
34. Dad had built up a successful business as a graphic designer and we were financially secure. As a result of his illness he could not work. His business went under and as a result he had to sell his house as he could no longer afford the mortgage.
35. I had to take time off college to look after Dad. This impacted on my education. It was a very stressful time trying to catch up on my studies.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

36. Dad did not have any support throughout his illness. I am not aware if he was offered counselling but I know he would have told me if he had gone to counselling.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

37. I am aware that Dad received a one off payment of £20,000. I am not sure when he received that.
38. I do not know when Dad found out he could receive financial assistance but it was Doctor Forrester at the Haemophilia Clinic that told him about the funds.
39. Dad received a one off payment of £20,000 but I do not remember when he received that. I know that Dad was receiving monthly payments of £100 but this had only started a few months before he died. I believe these payments were from the Skipton Fund.
40. Dad lost everything due to his illness. He lost his wife, his home, his job and ultimately his life. £20,000 is an insult to the devastation caused by him being infected with contaminated blood.
41. I have not received any financial assistance from any trust or fund.

Section 8. Other Issues

42. I have no other matters to raise for the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed:

GRO-C

Dated Jul 16, 2020