

# ANONYMOUS

Witness Name: **GRO-B**  
Statement No: WITN2475006  
Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

---

### SUPPLEMENTAL WRITTEN STATEMENT OF **GRO-B**

---

I, **GRO-B** will say as follows: -

1. I provide this supplemental statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry rules 2006 dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018. I wish to add the following to my previous Statement Number WITN2475001.
2. On completion of my first witness statement, unfortunately I didn't have full medical record confirmation of my two initial hepatitis C viral load readings following very late hepatitis C diagnosis in January 2010. Due to my hepatitis C legacy brain condition of Mild Cognitive Disorder (HC MCD), which is more pronounced under stress, I just had a vague memory that the two readings were wildly different. With time pressing for completion of my statement, rather than give mis-information I just left the whole reference out altogether. However shortly after, I re-contacted medical records for my own peace of mind and on receiving the new information, I realised the important

## ANONYMOUS

significance of the two different readings and that they should have been included in my statement.

3. This new information gives a direct picture of what my body was going through as a result of receiving biological drugs without my previously having been hepatitis C tested, and therefore if seen in conjunction with my consultant's documented letter-of-evidence, I think it would show that he is right to routinely pre-test all his patients for hepatitis C prior to giving biological drugs. If my statement were to go on-line without this validated key information I would know that a vital piece of evidence in support of what my consultant believes, and which I feel should be shared for other doctors and patients to be aware of, was missing from the overall picture.
4. I wish the lines in bold below to be added to my evidence as I feel that placed in the right context they are amongst the most important of any facts I have written about. Currently, Points 11-15 at 2. How Affected, cover in chronological order: my cumulative treatment with RTX biological drugs providing a positive impact on my rheumatoid arthritis by October 2009; unfortunate subsequent reaction of raised ALT, November/December leading to a test for hepatitis C; positive confirmation of hepatitis C in Jan 2010 and (points 14/15) opinions in January/February from both my Rheumatology Consultant and Gastroenterology Hep C therapy Consultant that biological drugs such as anti-TNF and RTX aggravate and re-activate hepatitis C. This new information could form a new point here following on chronologically to cover March/July of 2010 then it would have greatly improved the strength of my statement and it strongly supports and evidences the opinion stated in the consultant letter-of-evidence document referred to at the preceding point 15 of my first witness statement.
5. Significantly, on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 following-on from January's still-raised ALT at 126, my initial hepatitis C viral load was 8,693,848 but had fallen by half to 4,068,845 on 29<sup>th</sup> July, a month before my 48 week course of hepatitis C therapy began. I believe this evidenced, and dramatic, viral load fall following a post-RTX viral load high, would support consultant opinion given in my

## ANONYMOUS

document evidenced letter of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010 that biological drugs can aggravate and re-activate underlying hepatitis C, and therefore that all patients should be pre-tested for hepatitis C prior to receiving biological drugs.

6. I have thanked my solicitors who patiently enabled me to complete my statement. Some of the traits caused by hepatitis C legacy damage to my brain, especially memory loss, indecision and over-anxiety re detail, are precisely responsible for all the extra work I have caused them, and I wish it could have been otherwise. I am upset and disappointed at myself. I never imagined the statement process would cause me so much emotional turmoil and I've been very grateful for the Inquiry's provision of a counselling helpline which I'll continue to use throughout the rest of this process.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed...

GRO-B

Dated...

23-04-2019