

Witness Name: STEVEN ROBERT MARSHALL

Statement No: WITN2774001

Exhibits: WITN2774002

Dated: APRIL 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF STEVEN ROBERT MARSHALL

I, STEVEN ROBERT MARSHALL, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Steven Robert Marshall. I was born on GRO-C 1984 and I live at GRO-C West Yorkshire GRO-C.
2. My father, David William Marshall (born GRO-C 1946), was infected with the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) from contaminated blood products. He died from liver cancer on 27th September 2004, aged 58.
3. My mother and brother have provided their own Witness Statements to the Inquiry: GRO-B
4. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my father's medical records.

Section 2. How Affected

5. My father had mild Haemophilia A.
6. My father was treated at the Leeds Haemophilia Centre at the St James University Hospital, initially under the care of Dr Swinburne and Dr Bernard and, latterly, Dr McVerry.
7. My father was admitted to hospital for a routine hernia operation in May 1983. About a week after discharge from hospital he became unwell with 'hepatitis' (possibly A) and was told in June 1983 that the strain was Non A, Non B (NANB). I refer to **Exhibit WITN2774002** being a copy of my father's UKHCDO Patient Records, stating 'Oxford FVIII' as the Factor VIII (FVIII) treatment product brand used in 1983. My parents were told that NANB was similar to A and once my father was clear of looking yellow, there wouldn't be 'any further problems' in relation to my father's health.
8. I do not believe that my father had any advice in relation to risk of infection before having FVIII treatment. My father was unaware of any issue of concern until in or around October 1995 when he received a letter stating that the NANB my father had contracted in 1983 was in fact HCV and to seek a hospital appointment as soon as possible.
9. I would have been 11 years old when my father was told that he had HCV. I was shielded by my parents about what it meant for my father to have HCV. I was just a kid and thought nothing of it. I thought everything would be fine. I remember that we were not allowed to use my father's towel. We knew what to do as we were told without too much telling. My father would shout at us if we were naughty so we would always listen to him.

Section 3. Other Infections

10. I am not aware of any other infections beside HCV.

Section 4. Consent.

11. I do not know whether or not my father was treated or tested without his consent.

Section 5. Impact

12. I remember my father being tired all the time. He wasn't right and would be laid out on the sofa a lot of the time. My father had Interferon clearing treatment that made him short tempered. He had a couple of clashes with my brother, Daniel. I was more laid back. My father was not a morning person. He would stay up late and get up late the next morning. I would often avoid him until after he had his shower. He never complained to us about his health although he had a lot to endure. Daniel and I were protected by our father from the details.

13. We struggled financially and we had to get rid of Sky TV. I used to enjoy the wrestling, so that stands out in my mind. My father did not like being unable to work. It affected him. I remember that he was building a wall in the garden but had to push himself to try and finish it because he was so unwell and fatigued.

14. My father developed liver cirrhosis. He did not know that he had liver cancer and neither did we until after he was admitted to hospital at the end of August 2004. He had horrendous pain in his back when he was taken to hospital by ambulance. My last memory of him at home was him trying to stand with his arm out on the wardrobe trying to hold himself upright. My mother returned from the hospital and told us that he had cancer and there was nothing they could do for him. We spent as much time with him as we could and he died in hospital a short time later.

15. My father was a home loving, family orientated man. We used to watch a lot of films together. He loved films. He loved Disney films and cartoons. We watched horror films together. I was not scared because my father was there and told me that they weren't real. He just loved movies in general. Superman is one of my favourite films. My love of films has been instilled by my father. I miss his company whilst watching films now. It hurts me that he has gone. I also remember just how proud he was of me when I was "Student of the Year" at College. My father was a Manchester United fan. He loved football but towards the end he lost a lot of interest.

16. The loss of my father really hit home a couple of years later when my uncle died and my relationship with my then girlfriend broke down. My uncle's death brought back the painful memory of losing my father and everything that I had bottled up until then. I had to take time off work for about eight weeks.

17. My father absolutely loved children. He was really good with my cousin's two children. He also loved animals. He was soft with them. He was a very warm man. My father never met my wife and was robbed of the opportunity of a relationship with my two sons. He would have loved them and been proud of them.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

18. I do not believe that my father was offered any counselling or support. We were not offered anything.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

19. My mother received the ex gratia Stage 1 and then Stage 2 payments after my father's death.

Section 8. Other Issues

20. There are no other issues.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

21. I do not wish to apply for anonymity and I understand this statement will be published and disclosed as part of the Inquiry. I do not wish to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed. GRO-C

Dated.....01/05/2019.....