

Witness Name: Sajid Ibrahim

Statement No: WITN6896001

Exhibits: 0

Dated: October 2021

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF SAJID IBRAHIM

I, Sajid Ibrahim, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Sajid Ibrahim. I was born on GRO-C 1977 and I live at GRO-C
GRO-C GRO-C
2. My mother, Nazira Begum (born on GRO-C 1948), was infected with the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) through a contaminated blood transfusion. She died on 3rd October 2020, aged 72.
3. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my mother's medical records.

Section 2. How Affected

4. My mother (Mum) had a blood transfusion whilst undergoing a hysterectomy at the Singleton Hospital in Swansea, South Wales in the mid to late 1980s. I am the youngest child of four siblings, two girls and two boys and I believe that I was around the age of 10 when Mum had the contaminated transfusion.
5. Mum wasn't told that she had been infected with HCV for many years later (in the early 2000s) and by then she had become unwell. She subsequently needed a liver transplant and had to wait a substantial period of time before she had one. Approximately three years after the liver transplant Mum developed drug-induced Parkinson's Disease leading to her death last year.

Section 3. Other Infections

6. I do not believe that my mother was infected with anything other than HCV.

Section 4. Consent

7. I do not think my mother was not pre-warned about the risk of infection through a blood transfusion prior to the hysterectomy.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

8. Mum started to become unwell after the hysterectomy, but she wasn't told that she had been infected with HCV for something in the region of 15 years. By the time she was told that she had HCV, the damage was already done. She had pains in her legs and feet and all over her body. She was sick and she felt weak. She ultimately needed a liver transplant.
9. My parents' marriage broke down after Mum was diagnosed with HCV and my siblings had left home. It was just Mum and me left at home and Mum's care

mostly fell to me. I was there with her through good days and bad days and both.

10. Mum had a course of HCV clearing treatment in the early to mid-2000s. We then had to fight for a liver transplant for her. Mum was called to come in for a transplant three times because the first two donor livers weren't good enough and the surgeries were aborted. It was really stressful for all of us.
11. Mum developed Parkinson's Disease around three years after the transplant. We were told that the Parkinson's Disease was probably drug induced through the medications that Mum needed to take because of the transplant. She had to take so much medication. She was on medication for the liver transplant and medication for the Parkinson's Disease.
12. Mum's mental state was terrible. I knew it was going to be hard, but it was really hard. Mum was always calling me out and she would tell me to call my brother, call my sisters, get the ambulance out, take me to A&E, call the doctor, call my nephew. She was very demanding, and she wanted everyone's attention, but I just got on with it and did what I could reasonably do. She was my mother and that is what a son does for his mother. She used to say to me 'you will miss me when I am gone, you will be lonely' and she is right.
13. Mum's health issues have had a huge impact on my mental health. I have been diagnosed with schizophrenia. I am also diabetic.
14. Mum wasn't able to eat for many weeks before her death. The muscles in her throat and her neck went and she could only have soup and drops of water. We were told that she wouldn't survive, and they could only offer end of life care. We were also told that she had a blood clot in her legs.

15. I continue to live in the same house, and I remember Mum all the time. She was hard work towards the end, but the house is so quiet now and I cry when I think of her. She shouldn't have been taken from us so soon and I miss her.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

16. Mum had HCV clearing treatment. No-one was offered care and support.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

17. Mum received a lump sum payment from one of the dedicated trusts, I presume to be the Skipton Fund.

Anonymity

18. I do not seek anonymity and I understand that this Statement will be disclosed for publication to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed.....

GRO-C

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Dated.....11/11/2021.....