



Witness Name: Jade Foxwell

Statement No.: WITN0942001

Exhibits: **WITN0942002-07**

Dated:

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JADE FOXWELL

1. I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 30 August 2019.
2. I, Jade Foxwell, will say as follows: -

Section 1. Introduction

3. My name is Jade Foxwell. My date of birth is GRO-C 1985 and my address is known to the Inquiry. I intend to speak about my mother's blood transfusions which infected her with Hepatitis C.
4. I will speak about the nature of her illness, how the illness affected her, the treatment received and the impact it had on her and our lives together.
5. My Mum's full name is Karen Margaret Foxwell. Karen was born on GRO-C GRO-C 1963. She was infected with Hepatitis C, but also suffered from Liver Cancer and Bowel Cancer.

6. She died on 25 February 2019 following four years of fighting cancer. Hepatitis C is listed as a cause of death on her death certificate. A photograph of this is labelled as exhibit **WITN0942007**.
7. Some exhibited papers are listed with the body of this statement but other are listed in a table at the end.
8. My Dad, Dean is present with me today. He was born [GRO-C] 1960 and married my Mum in 1989. I also have a sister, Jasmine who was born [GRO-C] 1989.

Section 2: How affected

9. Until the last few years, my Mum was in quite good health. However my Mum struggled with issues with her ovaries and had anaemia. She would take iron supplements for her deficiency.
10. She worked for 'News Printers International' as a Supervisor. She would work twelve hour shifts, and even night shifts. [GRO-C] ten years ago, she became the breadwinner.
11. She looked after the family financially and emotionally. She took care of us.
12. My Mum had several blood transfusions in the 1980s. In Bishop Stortford Hospital, she had operations on her ovaries as she suffered from polycystic ovaries. This is where my Mum had her first blood transfusion.
13. In Harlow Hospital, she gave birth to my sister, Jasmine on [GRO-C] 1989. Due to complications with the pregnancy my Mum had to be sterilised. She had to have a blood transfusion during this operation.
14. Finally, she had her wisdom teeth removed in Epping Hospital with another blood transfusion in the 1980s.

15. My family and I believe she was infected during one of these blood transfusions.
16. She has never had a tattoo, or had taken any recreational drugs. She didn't even have a passport to get any treatment or operations abroad.
17. I am not aware that my mum was given any information for her blood transfusions during the 1980s about the risks associated.
18. In 2014, she was diagnosed with primary Liver Cancer and primary Bowel Cancer. My Mum was put on a clinical trial in 2018 to help cure her Cancers. As part of the clinical trial, she had blood tests taken. This was how she found out she had Hepatitis C.
19. The nurse called her and said, "all bloods fine. Nothing has come up except for your Hepatitis C.' The nurse assumed that my Mum knew about the infection. My Mum was told over the phone, as if she had known this whole time. She was very upset.
20. When my Mum found out she was infected with Hepatitis C, she went to speak to Professor Tim Meyer. He worked at the University of College London, but also worked under Royal Free Hospital. She spoke to him as he was treating her Cancers. Professor Meyer said that the Hepatitis C explained the Cirrhosis.
21. Professor Meyer made an appointment for my mother with the Haematology Department in the Royal Free. In the Royal Free, we met Dr McDonald. They did not offer her any treatment for Hepatitis C, perhaps because of the primary Cancers. But I am not aware that this was explicitly explained to my Mum.
22. Dr McDonald advised that we as a family all get checked for Hepatitis C. He said it would be an easy 12-week treatment if any of us were positive.
23. Dr McDonald also gave my Mum the contact number for England Infected Blood Support Scheme (EIBBS) to try to claim financial support.

From my understanding, there wasn't much information given to my Mum about treating the Hepatitis C.

Section 3. Other Infections

24. In 2014, my Mum was diagnosed with primary Liver Cancer and primary Bowel Cancer. They told it was rare to have two primary Cancers. She was not eligible for Chemotherapy as the Cancers were too advanced.
25. When she found out she had Cirrhosis she stopped drinking and smoking. She didn't drink excessively, but she would have wine with food.
26. Over the last four years, she had many experimental drugs and trials. Her first treatment was transarterial embolisations. My Mum had to go into hospital for one day, and then take one to two weeks sick leave due to the flu like symptoms.
27. She had five embolisations during the years. But the treatment stopped working and they stopped using the treatment.
28. The second treatment she had for Cancer was called 'Blue 455' or the 'Blue Print' trial. She had three treatments, but they too stopped working.
29. Finally, she took 'Sorafenib' whereby the medicine attacks the blood vessels. But she had side effects from this treatment. She was itchy all the time, as the blood vessels were not supplying blood to the skin properly.
30. A third of her hair fell out. She had broken veins, sore feet and suffered from extreme fatigue. At this point she could not work, and she completed this course of treatments for a few months. This too was unsuccessful.
31. After this treatment, she had spouts of steroids. But the steroids made her stomach swell and she had puffiness of the face known as 'moon

face'. Her body swelled up from being on the steroids as her courses were few weeks at a time. She didn't like the steroids as they upset her immune system.

32. Exhibit labelled **WITN0942004** shows that my Mum was offered the BeiGene Immunotherapy trial. Mum was complaining about swelling of her left leg to Dr David Krell. But she started the screening phase for the Adaptimmune trial.

33. In September 2018, she was due to start a new trial called Adaptimmune trial ('ADP-0033-001'). This was due to start in October 2018. The trial was funded from America, but it was held in the Royal Free Hospital. This can be shown in exhibit labelled as **WITN0942005**.

34. My Mum would have been the second person in the world to complete the trial. However, on the day of the trial, she was on her way to the hospital and she broke her wrist on the journey. It got infected and it did not heal properly.

35. She had an open wound and had surgery on her wrist. She never really recovered after this.

36. The trial would have gone forward, as they did not mind that she had Hepatitis C. But after she broke her wrist, she did not properly bounce back. She was not able to participate in the trial.

Section 4: Consent

37. I am not aware if my Mum consented to having blood transfusions, and if she was given information about the risks associated with blood transfusions.

Section 5. Impact

Physical and Mental Impact

38. My family is greatly affected by the health issues that my Mum has suffered.
39. When she found out she had Hepatitis C, she was so upset. My Mum felt like she should have known, since she was ill for such a long time.
40. In addition to her major health issues she was also taking antidepressants. She suffered from headaches and very heavy periods.
41. Professor Meyer said the Hepatitis C was probably the reason for her Cirrhosis. He advised that they shouldn't share toothbrushes and general common-sense advice. She was so angry and felt bad that she had not been careful enough because she did not know.
42. When she was on Sorafenib, she was losing so much blood through nose bleeds. She would be wearing t-shirts drenched in blood. She did not know to be careful. There was so much risk.
43. It was a major shock to find out she had two primary Cancers, and then find out you have Hepatitis C on top of that? It was too much. It was so upsetting, she just felt so bad and said it was 'like a death sentence'.
44. She was upset as she felt she could have been treated for Hepatitis C. She worried that she could have given it to her family and her grandchildren.
45. She would get upset and shout, 'don't touch my toothbrush'. She always had bleeding gums. This was another area in her life where she would bleed, and felt guilty that she could have given her family Hepatitis C.
46. My Mum had to give up work a year ago as her health was too weak.

47.

GRO-C

48.

GRO-C

49.

GRO-C

50.

GRO-C

51. My Mum had six grandchildren and she was completely devoted to her grandchildren.

Stigma

52. She was not happy with her medical records and the doctors she encountered as they always questioned that her Liver Cancer was due to drinking. In the Exhibit labelled **WITN0942005**, it says that her Liver Cancer is likely due to alcohol. This document is from August 2018.

53. She was not entitled to a liver transplant.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

54. My Mum had no treatments for Hepatitis C. The only test she had regarding Hepatitis C was for the American funded trial. I think because she had two primary Cancers, they didn't see the need to treat the Hepatitis C.

55. Our family did not receive any counselling or emotional support.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

56. GRO-C My Mum supported the family emotionally and financially.

57. Dr McDonald gave my Mum the phone number and contact information for EIBSS (England Infected Blood Support Scheme). She did send an application in, but they wanted proof that her Hepatitis C was contracted via a blood transfusion. We are still looking for this proof.

58. My Mum had worried that getting medical records from the GP would cost money. But I assured her that given the situation, we would not be charged.

59. We did receive medical records from Harlow Hospital for a number of years. She had records of when she had her wisdom teeth removed and the birth of my sister, Jasmine. She then got too ill to pursue the claim.

60. My family have not received any payments.

Section 8. Other Issues

I have given some other papers that I have to the Inquiry Investigators these are listed here:

Exhibit	Date	Comment
WITN0942002	Not dated	University of London Hospital: Consent for protocol ADP-0033-001 Page 36 of 38
WITN0942003	17.7.2018	Royal Free Hospital, Joint Hepatocellular Carcinoma Clinic to GP 3 diagnosis found: 2x cancer 2014 1x stable disease continue treatment
WITN0942004	As above	Page 2 of above

		Treatments between 2015 & 2017 Additional treatment July 2018 being screened for Adaptimmune trial and BeiGene immunotherapy
WITN0942005	16.8.2018	University of London Hospital (UCLH) to GP: 'Diagnosis of moderately differentiated hepatocellular carcinoma 2014 on the background of cirrhosis likely secondary to alcohol'. Then the treatments is listed
WITN0942006	As above	Page 2 of above Copies to: Karen Foxwell 2 Professors (1 at UCLH & 1 at Royal Free Hospital) Bone Marrow Transplant Team UCLH
WITN0942007	25.2.2019	Death Certificate of Karen Margret Foxwell Died in St Clare Hospice, Hazelwood

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

20.4.22