

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FOURTH WRITTEN STATEMENT OF MR CHARLES HAMILTON MASSEY

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 3 April 2020.

I, Charles Hamilton Massey, will say as follows: -

- 1** My name is Charles Hamilton Massey. My date of birth is GRO-C 1970 and my address is known to the Inquiry. I am the Chief Executive and Registrar of the General Medical Council, and I have held this role since 1 November 2016.
- 2** This is my fourth witness statement for the Infected Blood Inquiry. My previous statements (WITN3365001, WITN3365011 and WITN3365032 respectively) are dated 17 July 2019, 30 August 2019 and 10 February 2020.
- 3** On 3 March 2020, the Inquiry brought a complaint to our attention that had been made to us in November 2019. The Inquiry asked us why the complaint had not been communicated to them and whether there were any more recent complaints we had not disclosed.
- 4** After a thorough search of our current central case management system, we established there were three key results. Firstly, we found the complaint the Inquiry drew to our attention and two further press cuttings (one of which named a doctor that we were unable to identify). All three have been provided here. None of the enquiries led to full investigations and were closed in the months that followed.
- 5** Colleagues from the GMC subsequently met with the Inquiry team and their solicitors to reassure them that whilst our staff flagged the case as being relevant to the Inquiry, human error meant the appropriate team was not notified to communicate this to the Inquiry. We sincerely apologise for this mistake and explained to the Inquiry that our systems consider fitness to practise complaints against identified registered doctors. We are therefore reliant on the staff who work in our fitness to practise triage team manually flagging a new concern that relates to infected or contaminated blood. With this complaint, that happened,

and the human error was in it not being passed on to our team who are dealing with the Inquiry.

- 6 All documents were cross-checked against the previous disclosures we have made to the Infected Blood Inquiry to remove any duplicate material. The following exhibits to this statement are the complaint file and the further two enquiries from the press cuttings.

Complaint file exhibits

- 7 WITN3365036 - Exhibit: Documents from complaint enquiry (E1-2441147501)
- 8 WITN3365037 – Exhibit: Documents from complaint enquiry (E1-1644200174)
- 9 WITN3365038 – Exhibit: Documents from complaint enquiry (E1-2480937669)

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated: 29 April 2020