

Witness Name: Patricia Mary Hall

Statement No: WITN1262001

Exhibits: 0

Dated: 7 June 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF PATRICIA MARY HALL

I, Patricia Mary Hall will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

I, Patricia Mary Hall will say as follows:

1. My name is Patricia Mary Hall. My date of birth is the GRO-C 1954 and I live at GRO-C Manchester GRO-C. I have been married to Alan Hall for 15 years. I have two grown up children, Trevor Graham who was born in 1977 and Clare Foster (nee Graham) who was born in 1981. I used to be a carer for mentally ill people but I no longer work.
2. I make this statement in relation to my late husband, Trevor Frederick Graham (Trevor) who was born on the GRO-C 1953 and sadly died on the 21st July 1991 at the age of 38 as a result of receiving contaminated blood.
3. I am also aware that my son, Trevor also intends to provide a statement to the Inquiry.

4. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to Trevor's medical records.

Section 2. How Affected

5. Trevor was diagnosed with severe Haemophilia A when he was about three months old. He was the third child of six in his family. Both Trevor and his younger brother, Roy, had Haemophilia.
6. When I met Trevor in about 1968/69 I was about 15 years old and we married in 1975. When we met, he was being treated with cryoprecipitate and later he was treated with Factor VIII. Trevor's dad had previously told me that before Trevor was treated with cryoprecipitate, he had been treated with plasma by way of blood transfusions, to make his blood clot.
7. I remember when Trevor was about 17 years old; he told me that the hospital wanted him to have a liver biopsy as some Haemophiliacs were contracting Hepatitis. It was a big operation. The hospital wanted to know why Haemophiliacs were having trouble with Hepatitis so they wanted to use him as a guinea pig. He refused to have the biopsy point blank, it was a lot to go through and he did not want to do it. The conversation has always stuck in my mind.
8. I used to have a lot of Trevor's handwritten notes that he made over the years detailing the batch numbers of the blood products he had received. I assumed I would not need them and unfortunately threw them away. His brother Roy died from AIDS and I assume that he would have received the same or similar batch numbers of blood as Trevor was treated with.
9. Trevor received treatment from Dr I W. Delamore, a Consultant at the Department of Clinical Haematology at Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI).

10. Trevor was treated with Factor VIII concentrate from the 1970s, when he was about 17/18 years old, until he died.
11. I requested Trevor be tested for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) which he attended at the MRI. I have retained the letter from Mrs Olive Redding the Haemophilia Coordinator dated the 21st April 1987 stating: 'We have now received the results of your blood test and you will be pleased to hear that it is negative'. He was repeatedly told that he did not have HIV.
12. As far as I am aware no information or advice was given to Trevor prior to receiving blood products about the risk of being exposed to infection.
13. When Roy started experiencing symptoms of HIV, he started looking into why he had the symptoms. He said to Trevor that there was something not right and that the MRI was not telling them everything. He told Trevor to be wary but no answers were given to him by the MRI. Trevor started to have similar symptoms to Roy in 1983 and became ill with suspected HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV); however he was just told that he was borderline for both infections.
14. Roy was diagnosed with HIV but Trevor was only ever told he was border line, even though they both had the same symptoms. The hospital knew Trevor did not drink as they kept asking him if he was an alcoholic, but he said no. All Trevor's symptoms pointed to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) as Roy had, but the diagnosis was never confirmed.
15. Trevor did not receive any information about the infection to help him manage it or understand it. The MRI merely said he was borderline HIV and Hepatitis.

Section 3. Other Infections

16. As far as I am aware Trevor did not receive any other infections as a result of being given infected blood products.

Section 4. Consent

17. I definitely believe Trevor was tested and treated without his consent or knowledge as I did not feel MRI were being open with us so I consider this to be highly likely. The MRI was always taking blood from him to test, but they did not explain what he was being tested for.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

18. Trevor was worried; he was out of his mind with worry. Roy was told not to have any children due to risk of infection, but we already had children before Trevor started showing symptoms of HIV and HCV. This caused him to worry and he said he would never forgive himself if he had infected me and the children.

19. He also never recovered from losing Roy in 1988. He thought he was going through the same diagnosis as Roy and so he thought he would suffer in the same way.

20. The symptoms Trevor had were eczema; it was a rash that was more like ulcers, as well as chest infections. The hospital said that the infections were caused by the asthma he had had as a child. He also had thrush in his mouth and stomach ulcers. He had a number of chest x rays. Twelve months before he died he was diagnosed with pneumonia and he really went downhill.

21. Trevor looked yellow a few days before he died. He was not well at all. The last time he was in hospital he was having horrendous nosebleeds of the type I had never seen before. He kept complaining of headaches, and was ignored by the medical staff. He had a fit and he was taken for a brain scan but the machine

- was not working. When he returned to the ward he was unconscious and I was told that he had had a brain haemorrhage. A neurosurgeon said to me that he would not operate on Trevor as he would just be used as a Guinea pig and that I should let Trevor go peacefully.
22. Another doctor (not a neurosurgeon) wanted Trevor to have the operation but I refused to let them operate. Trevor never spoke to me again. He had been admitted to hospital on the Thursday and he died on the Sunday.
23. Trevor's death certificate states that he died of:
- (a) Intervascular Haemorrhage (brain haemorrhage);
 - (b) Thrombocytopenia;
 - (c) Haemophilia A; and
 - (d) Chronic liver disease (he was never a heavy drinker).
24. My daughter, Clare, has requested Trevor's medical records but we are yet to receive them.
25. Trevor was treated with antibiotics and some capsules. Trevor was told the medication was for his immune system. Roy told him that he was receiving the same treatment as he was for HIV.
26. Trevor was not told he had HIV and I believe he was lied to by the hospital and especially as to his cause of death as stated on his death certificate.
27. I could not work as I was suffering from anxiety due to the effect Trevor's illness had on me. Also, I had to look after Trevor and two small children. We were in receipt of benefits as Trevor was not always able to work due to his Haemophilia. If he was considered for a position, the employer would say the insurance cover for Trevor as an employee was too high and any medical examination would show Trevor's infection.

28. I have a large, close family and they helped me to get through life at that time. I am grateful I had my family; I am one of nine plus I have a number of nieces and nephews. I did not have to rely on friends as I have a big family and Trevor's parents helped as well.
29. I have friends but I never actively relied on them as I always had my family to help me. I spoke to my family about Trevor's condition though I did not tell many friends due to the stigma attached to HIV and HCV. I was made to feel unclean and like a leper.
30. I recall I refused to have a kidney operation. The Consultant asked if there was anyone in my family who had AIDS. I explained Trevor's condition and that he had been told that he was borderline HCV and HIV. As a result I was told that I would be in an isolation ward before and after the operation. Therefore I refused to have the operation as I was to be treated like a leper through no fault of my own. The stigma associated with HIV and HCV was huge and I can only imagine the affect on those infected and how they felt.
31. It was recommended by the hospital that I have an HIV test which fortunately was negative. However, I do not understand why it was necessary for me to be tested if the hospital were insisting that Trevor did not have HIV.
32. We had to tell the funeral director about Trevor's infection and many refused to bury him but a family friend was able to help.
33. I used to constantly worry about our children and the backlash to them created by Trevor's illness; I was very protective of them. Trevor (junior) said he was bullied at school but did not want to say anything as I was struggling with Trevor's death. Children would taunt Trevor (junior) by saying that his dad is gay and that Trevor (junior) must have HIV too. It was assumed at the time that all Haemophiliacs had AIDS. There was no knowledge of the true position.

34. After Trevor died, my GP said I needed to see someone and I was treated by a psychiatrist for 18 months. I still suffer from anxiety as a result of all of this and I have seen different psychiatrists over the years though I am not seeing anyone at the moment. The last time was three years ago when I saw a counsellor. However I am prescribed medication to help me because of what happened.

35. I have now developed cancer on my tongue and I was sedated just to calm me down prior to receiving treatment as I have a phobia of hospitals that comes from everything I have been through; I feel I cannot trust doctors and hospitals.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

36. No support was ever offered to Trevor at the time, there was no one we could go to and talk to about it or even get any answers, although my GP was helpful and said Trevor could go and talk to him at any time. It was very hard for Trevor to talk, particularly after Roy died. He closed up about it and did not like talking about it all.

37. When Roy was in hospital, Trevor went to visit him each evening. He passed away in his sleep ten minutes before Trevor arrived there. The hospital said they did not expect it to happen so quickly and even said he was improving and he would be coming home.

38. Trevor had trouble receiving treatment for his chest infection; for 12 months before he died he struggled to breathe. He needed a nebuliser but they were like gold dust to obtain in the 1990s. He died before he was given one.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

39. Trevor applied to the MacFarlane Trust for financial assistance; he dealt with the process of the application. I understand though that there was a lot of discussion and debate and Trevor said to me, "I agree with what Roy said about there being

a conspiracy going on". This was because they said either accept the payment and sign the waiver, or get a private solicitor and sue; there was no choice.

40. The first payment Trevor received was in 1988 in the sum of £20,000. The second payment was received in May 1991 in the sum of £65,000 as he was married with two children. The second payment was termed as an ex gratia payment.

41. For a year after Trevor died I received £100 a month into my bank account and the Trust also paid for Trevor's funeral.

Section 8. Other Issues

42. I want the Inquiry to find out the truth about what happened.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

43. I confirm that I do not wish to apply for anonymity and that I understand this statement will be published and disclosed as part of the Inquiry.

44. I do wish to be called to give oral evidence if I can assist the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed.. GRO-C

Patricia Mary Hall

Dated: 7- 6 - 2019