

Witness Name: H E B Morrow

Statement No: WITN1411001

Exhibits: WITN1411002

Dated: April 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF HANNAH ELIZABETH BRIGID MORROW

I, Hannah Elizabeth Brigid Morrow, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Hannah Elizabeth Brigid Morrow of GRO-C
GRO-C, My date of birth is GRO-C 1963.
2. I make this statement as an affected daughter of my late father, Norman Michael Macnamara Morrow, who was born on GRO-C 1929 and passed away on 20th April 1994 as a result of receiving contaminated blood products.
3. **This statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my late father's medical records.**

Section 2. How Affected

4. My father had Haemophilia B (of which I am also a carrier) and received Factor IX concentrate.

5. My father predominantly attended the Royal Free Hospital, London. He also attended St Thomas' Hospital, London.
6. I am unsure of the names of his consultants.
7. I am unaware as to whether he was given any advice in relation to the risks of receiving Factor IX concentrate.
8. I do recall my father travelling to the US every now and again and when he did so he always took British Factor IX concentrate with him because he was worried about contracting infections from the US Factor concentrates.
9. My father contracted Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated Factor IX concentrate.
10. My mother advised me that my father was told that he had been infected with Hepatitis C in 1988/1989. However, I do not know how this news was conveyed to my father and I am unsure as to whether he was given adequate information to allow him to manage and understand his infection.

Section 3. Other Infections

11. I am unaware as to whether my father was put at risk of any other infections to include vCJD.

Section 4. Consent

12. I am unaware as to whether my father was tested, treated or used for the purposes of research without his knowledge or consent.

Section 5. Impact

13. My father had very bad arthritis and a number of other health issues as a result of both his Haemophilia and later his Hepatitis C. He used to spend most of his day in bed because he was so poorly.

14. However, despite this, he was an incredibly optimistic, brave and creative person. He did not go to school due to his Haemophilia but he did have home tutors. I felt and feel lucky to have had a father who was so unique in his thinking.
15. My father was also an artist and musician who co-founded the British early music group Musica Reservata in London during the late 1950's. This music group became famous for its ground breaking and vigorous approach to performing medieval and early Renaissance music. **Exhibit WITN1411002** is a newspaper article about my father dated 3rd October 2017 entitled "*Tainted blood scandal: Someone murdered my dad as far as I'm concerned. There should be justice*".
16. My father achieved so much in his life. It was so desperately sad when he had to deal with his Hepatitis C infection on top of his Haemophilia. I think the infection was the last straw for him. Becoming infected with Hepatitis C and knowing that this could potentially kill him was too much for my father to bear.
17. Towards the latter stages of his life, my father used to say that my mother was losing her mind and they started to argue. However, it was not long before I realised that it was actually my father who was losing his mind.
18. I remember my father telephoning me whilst I was at college and he would stress about something and ask me to come and see him straightaway. He became extremely emotional and clingy. This was completely out of character for my father and this process of him telephoning me went on for about a year.
19. Approximately one or two months before his death my father was an in patient in the Royal Free Hospital and I recall that he used to have a number of strange episodes where he would dip in and out of reality.

20. Towards the end of his life, he was very uncomfortable and also very bloated, presumably from the toxins. His liver was in a very bad way as well. I was and am so proud of how he dealt with matters. He did so in such a brave and stoic manner.
21. I remember spending a lot of time with my father at the Royal Free Hospital towards the end of his life. Although some of our interactions became difficult and strained due to his mental state, I am so grateful for the amount of time that I was able to spend with him because it had such a positive effect and resolution on our relationship; I really bonded with my father.
22. I really saw him as he was; both a unique and amazing person. In some ways it meant that something so wonderful emerged from something so tragic. My father was always extremely supportive of my brother and me and particularly of me as a woman. If we had any issues he would always stand up for us and was always on our side. He really was the most fantastic man.
23. The hospital dealt with my father and his care very poorly. I remember attending a meeting at the hospital about one month before my father passed away. I recall that there were a number of social workers present at this meeting and they asked me, in front of my father, whether I had something to tell my father. They put me in a very difficult and awkward position whereby I would be the one telling my father that he was dying. This was wholly unprofessional and extremely upsetting. The social workers were badgering me to tell my father that he was dying. However, I still did not want to do this and at the end of the meeting, my father actually acknowledged this by saying to me *"you didn't do very well"*.
24. Everyone at the meeting was well aware that my father was dying and felt somehow that I should tell him. However, despite the fact that my father had not been formally told that he was dying I do believe that he was acutely aware of this fact.

25. I was deeply affected by my father's passing and the way in which it was brought about and I became very depressed. It took me a very long time, probably about 10 years, to even begin to recover from the stress and grief.
26. Part of the reason I moved to the US was to basically start my life again after all the heartache. What happened to my father has had a long lasting and profound effect on me.
27. I am unsure as to whether my father and mother confided in anyone and therefore as to whether or not they suffered any stigma.
28. Personally I did not suffer from any stigma and I never felt the need to hide the fact of my father's infection. When I confided in or discussed matters with my friends they were all very supportive.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

29. I remember the hospitals being a bit grim and at one point my father was an in patient on a ward where all the other patients had HIV.
30. I do not remember whether my father struggled in relation to accessing dental treatment, however, I am aware that his teeth fell out towards the end of his life and this was very distressing to him.
31. I recall that my father did attend counselling but I don't know whether this was in relation to his infection, I believe not.
32. I was never offered counselling in relation to the loss of my father or regarding the fact of his infection or the way in which he became infected.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

33. As far as I am aware, my father did not receive any financial assistance from any of the trusts.

Section 8. Other Issues

34. I would like the Inquiry to achieve justice for my father and for everyone else who has been infected and affected. It was such a terrible cover up. My father was a vulnerable Haemophiliac who was given contaminated blood products which caused his death.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

35. I do not wish to apply for anonymity. I would be happy to provide oral evidence to the Inquiry, however I reside in California and therefore appropriate arrangements would need to be made.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

5/5/19