Witness Name: Gary Redman
Statement No: WITN1699001
Exhibits: WITN1699002-4
Dated: November 2018

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF GARY REDMAN

I, Gary Redman will say as follows:-

Section 1: Introduction

1. My name is Gary Redman and I live at GRO-C GRO-C I was born on GRO-C 1962.

2. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my full medical records. If and in so far as I have been provided with limited records the relevant entries are set out in the medical chronology at the end of this statement.

Section 2: How Infected

3. I was diagnosed with mild Haemophilia A when I was around 6 years old, and I was one of the first to be diagnosed with this condition (previously people had simply been labelled "bleeders"). I was treated at the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal Free Hospital, London. When I was first treated the Centre was just a caravan in the car park and was run by Katharine Dormandy.

4. As a result of receiving infected blood products, I contracted Hepatitis C (genotype 1).

5. I was treated for an ankle injury in November 1981at the Royal Free under Professor Christine Lee. According to my medical records I was treated with Krybuline. A full copy of my treatment records for 1980 to 1985 is now shown to me marked **"WITN169002"** When I instructed solicitors in or about 1998 I believed that it was this treatment which caused my infection. There is now shown to me marked **"WITN1699003"** a copy of the legal correspondence contained in my medical records. I note that the correspondence is not complete because Professor Lee's letter dated 23 February 1999 refers to an enclosure (a standard letter to notify patients they have Hepatitis C) and there is no copy of this in my records.

6. The letter from Professor Lee dated 23 February 1999 confirms that I was first treated with large pool clotting factor concentrate which was unsterilized on 25 November 1981 which was to cover treatment of the injury to my right ankle.

7. I not given any warnings about the risks involved with using blood products. When I was moved onto Factor VIII I was told that it was a cleaner, more efficient treatment that was better than cryoprecipitate because it could be used in smaller quantities.

8. I remember Deborah, a then a nurse at the Royal Free, visiting me at home in the early 1980s and telling me that I may have Non-A, Non-B Hepatitis and that I would need to attend my local hospital every 2 weeks for blood tests. She told me that it was nothing to worry about and definitely did not tell me it could be dangerous. This was the first time that I had ever been visited at home to have blood taken.

9. For the next 6 months I attended Oldchurch Hospital in Romford every 2 weeks for blood tests. I was advised not to drink for 6 months but otherwise I was not told anything. I was not aware what I was being tested for and never received any information about the results of this testing.

10. I have been unable to find any reference in my medical records to date to Deborah's visit or the subsequent testing at Oldchurch Hospital.

11. I believe Deborah now works in a management position at the Royal Free Hospital.

12. Having seen Professor Lee's letter dated 23 February 1999 it appears that the blood tests taken at Oldchurch Hospital were used for her research paper into non A non B hepatitis.

13. I got home one evening after playing a gig and there was a huge swelling in my groin. I went to hospital and was taken straight through to surgery. When I woke up, my bed was surrounded by doctors, social workers and a psychiatrist, who questioned why I was drinking alcohol when I had been diagnosed with Hepatitis C. I believe this was in January 1991.

14. This was the first time since 1980 that I had heard anything about Hepatitis, which made me extremely angry. Other than questioning why I was drinking and telling me it wouldn't be cured with antibiotics, they gave me absolutely no information regarding the disease, why I had it and no warning as to the risk or routes of transmission.

15. A few days after leaving the Royal Free I called them to ask some questions about the disease. I was then told that it was 'highly unlikely but possible' that Hepatitis C could be spread through sexual intercourse, and that there was a chance the disease could turn into HIV, although I was one of the 'lucky ones' as I didn't yet have it.

16. At this stage, I had never been told or consented to being tested for Hepatitis C or HIV.

17. Apparently the reason it took around 10 years between being diagnosed and told about my diagnosis is because everyone had assumed that someone else had told me about it. The doctors accepted that my Hepatitis C diagnosis

was recorded in my notes but they all thought that someone else had told me about it. I believe that my doctors deliberately delayed telling me my diagnosis. I recall seeing Christine Lee being interviewed on television years later and her admitting that she had been told not to tell people about their infections.

18. I can also recall at least 3 occasions when I attended the Royal Free and found that my notes (which used to be given to me for appointments) were getting smaller and smaller. When I questioned this staff admitted that some of my medical notes had been lost.

19. I am disgusted that it took them so many years to tell me about my diagnosis, as if I had been told the information that the doctors knew about me I could have taken steps to look after myself. At this stage I was drinking heavily as I was in a band, and had I been made aware of my disease and what it was doing to me body I would have been able to drink less and look after my liver.

Section 3: Other Infections

20. In or about 2004 I received a letter from Christine Lee which said that I had been treated with a batch of Factor VIII which put me at risk of vCJD.

Section 4: Consent

21. I was not properly consented for the testing done at Oldchurch Hospital. I was not told what it was for nor were the results communicated to me. It appears now that this testing was done for the purposes of research. This was not discussed with me.

22. When I attended the Royal Free for my annual reviews blood was always taken for "tests". I was never told what was being tested for. I was not aware that I was being tested for HIV or Non A Non B Hepatitis/Hepatitis C prior to 1991.

Section 5: Impact

23. Before I was told about my diagnosis, I had been feeling tired and fatigued for years and I had no idea why I was feeling that way.

24. Although I am now clear of the Hepatitis C virus (following treatment on a clinical trial which is discussed further below), I suffer from cirrhosis, I have irreversible liver damage and an increased chance of stomach cancer which I have tests for every few months. Not only has this taken a huge physical toll on my body, it also continues to affect me mentally. I am scared of the risk of cancer that I now face, and knowing there has been at least one death from vCJD from a batch of blood products that I was treated with is daunting.

25. I also have neuropathy in my feet and the back of my hands so I cannot do simply tasks like taking change out of my pockets. This is a symptom of my hepatitis.

26. In 2013 I suffered from hepatic portal hypertension. My blood pressure was extremely low and I was told by the doctor that I was extremely close to death. They had to put 6 pints of blood in me to keep me alive.

27. I am also extremely wary and distrusting of doctors now, having been infected and lied to for so many years. I self treat my injuries as much as possible at home, for example using compression bandages that I keep in my freezer which help to reduce swelling and bruising. This is because I no longer trust doctors. One of my friends is a nurse practitioner and I have her read everything that doctors write about me so she can tell me in plain English and confirm they are not doing anything they shouldn't be. Earlier this year I had paramedics come to my house 4 nights in a row when I was close to death with a diabetic episode, but I refused to be taken to hospital as they would not take me to the Royal Free which is the only place I am willing to be seen.

28. When the link between haemophilia, Hepatitis C and HIV became more apparent in the public eye, people would often assume I was suffering with

HIV. This meant that I also suffered from the stigma that those suffering from HIV endured. When I worked for a short time as a taxi driver, I would routinely share coffee and cigarettes with a co-worker in the office whilst waiting for jobs. I recall on one occasion a different co-worker acting disgusted at this and warning him not to share cigarettes with someone with Aids.

29. This type of stigma has subsided more recently as I tend to surround myself with a small group of friends who I keep well-informed on my condition and the details of what I have been subjected to. However having an infection such as Hepatitis C means that people often don't understand how unwell I am feeling because I look normal on the outside. This problem continues today because of my liver damage even though I have cleared the virus.

30. My son was born in 1994 and his mother left when he was still a baby. I had been told in the late 1980's that I would have 15 years to live, so I spent the first few years of his life trying to work out what he would do and where he would go when I died. I gave up work when his mother left to be a full time dad.

31. When I told the obstetrician about my condition he said that they would take a blood test from my son to check whether he was infected. He was tested as soon as he was born and, to my great relief, was found not to have haemophilia or Hepatitis C.

32. Being a single father with Hepatitis C was extremely difficult for both of us. I didn't have the energy to do all of the things I would have loved to do, like play football and teach him to ride a bike. My fatigue would not allow me to take him for exciting day trips in the summer holidays which must have been tough as he was a child who loved the outdoors. He never knew what it was like to have a healthy Dad and I remember lots of times when I said to him "leave me alone, I'm tired".

33. The inability to engage in physical activities with my son has continued now that I am a grandfather, and I remain unable to do things with my grandson that I would love to do.

34. I have played the guitar since I was a child and always used to play in bands. This was always my main source of income; however I had to leave my band when my girlfriend was pregnant. I sold all of my guitars when it became clear I would be raising my son alone whilst suffering with Hepatitis C, and I did not start playing again until he was 10 years old. My career as a guitarist was on the up before this and I will never know what I could have gone on to achieve; the singer of the band went on to bigger things whereas I have had to rely on benefits over the years.

35. It has been difficult to cope financially following my infection. It was tough for me going from earning good money, playing in bands and working as a head chef, to resorting to claiming benefits as I was unable to work and care for my son. Even today my infection has a huge impact on my financial position. As I was diagnosed with Hepatitis C I am unable to get life insurance, and as a result I cannot get a mortgage. This means I am only able to rent property. I am currently paying £1100 rent each month for a house that I would be paying £500 a month if I were able to have a mortgage.

Section 6: Treatment/Care/Support

36. In 1996/1997 I was treated with Ribavirin and Interferon in an attempt to cure my Hepatitis C. This was supposed to be a year long course of treatment but it was stopped after 40 weeks. I had all the side effects I had been warned of and they were horrendous. I had headaches, nausea, tremors, joint aches, a complete loss of appetite and was unable to sleep. I also had jaundice. I was told that the treatment only had a 50:50 chance of success. Initially the results looked positive but I subsequently relapsed.

37. In August 2000 they attempted the treatment again, but with Pegylated Interferon and Ribavirin. On this occasion, I suffered from the same symptoms as before although this time they were much more aggressive. On one occasion my son had to go downstairs and ask our neighbour for breakfast before school as he was unable to move me. When my neighbours checked

on me they thought that I was dead. This treatment saw me fall into a deep depression where I didn't want to get out of bed. I also felt paranoid and I was advised by my GP to stop the medication. I only managed to last 17 weeks on this treatment. I was seen regularly by the Royal Free throughout this period and was referred to a psychiatrist in 2001 for my depression. There is now shown to me marked **"WITN1699004"** a copy of his letter to the Haemophilia Centre following my appointment.

38. In or about 2015/2016 I was part of a clinical trial which the Americans put through. The trial came over here with a 96% success rate and was offered to 50 people, including me. Dr Patch told me that it was my only option. I was worried about the side effects because I had suffered so much during the previous treatment attempts but he advised me to have a go and if it was too much for me to manage at home I could be admitted to the hospital.

39. I had to take a 1g tablet every day for 3 months. The treatment was quite aggressive and exacerbated my neuropathy. My eyes had a yellow tint, my eyelashes and some of my hair fell out and I had awful night sweats that I still occasionally get. I couldn't eat, felt lethargic and had diarrhoea.

40. This treatment was only a trial and although I have been clear for nearly 3 years they continue to monitor me and take tests, as it is still unclear if there will be any long term side effects. They recently found some anomalies in my blood, they are unsure whether this is related to my treatment. I am on 2 month reviews now because of this. The damage to my liver cannot be reversed and I also have an enlarged spleen.

41. I try not to go to the Royal Free unless I have to because going there scares me. I try to keep my visits to a minimum.

42. I have not had difficulty accessing treatment.

43. I do not recall being offered any counselling either at the time of my diagnosis or during my various treatments.

Section 7: Financial Assistance

44. I have received both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 payments from the Skipton Fund. It was the Royal Free who informed me about the Fund. I also started to receive monthly payments of around £1,215, which have increased by £200 and is now paid by the EIBSS.

45. Although these payments help, I am upset that I am given less than I would earn in a year working a 40 hour week on minimum wage. I also fail to understand why the payments in England are capped whilst the payments received in Scotland are almost twice as high. This does not seem remotely fair to me.

46. I am also angered by the use of the term 'compensation' when referring to the ex-gratia payments that have been received by those infected and affected. 'Compensation' implies that the Department of Health and others involved have accepted full responsibility for what happened. This is not the case.

47. I was involved in the American Litigation which resulted in a payment of around $9,000 in settlement of my claim and no admission of liability. I was told that if 95% of the claimants did not accept the settlement offer we would all get nothing. I signed the waiver because I felt there was no choice. During this action I was asked what I thought would be a fair value to receive. I told them that I thought it would be fair if I was paid an amount equivalent to what the CEO of the pharmaceutical company's life was insured for. My life is no less valuable and has been ruined by these events. I cannot even get life insurance for myself.

Section 8: Other Issues

48. No one should have to go through what I have been through and what others in my community have been through. When my girlfriend at the time found out she was pregnant with a baby girl I insisted that she have an abortion because I knew that if I had a daughter she would carry the gene for

haemophilia. I want the haemophilia line to die with me. I do not want anyone to have to go through the hell that I have had to endure.

Anonymity

49. 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. I would like to give oral evidence at the Inquiry hearings if possible.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed..

Dated

Signed. GRO-C ....

Dated 29 November 2018

MEDICAL SUMMARY

(This summary is not intended to be exhaustive but sets out key points in the records relevant to the Statement)

07.03.1962	Hospital records. Referred to as having mild Haemophilia A.
27.10.1972	Mild haemophilia.
27.10.1972	Letter from North Middlesex Hospital – wondered if he suffered from Von Willibrand's disease.
1980	Surgical removal of wisdom teeth NEC x 4 under GA
26.11.1981	Factor VIII given for bleed into right ankle.
14.11.1985	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
12.12.1985	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
13.01.1986	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
08.04.1986	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
03.07.1986	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
08.10.1986	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
21.11.1986	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
23.02.1987	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
09.02.1988	Tested for Hepatitis B – low level of antibody Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.

23.02.1988	Letter from Royal Free to GP confirming remains negative to human immune-deficiency virus. Started course of Hepatitis B immunization.
16.02.1989	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA.
12.04.1989	Form from Guardian Royal Exchange (Life Insurer) completed by Professor Lee.
	HIV tests done/results: performed six monthly since February 1982. Last result 15.02.89. All anti-HIV negative.
12.04.1989	Form from Guardian Royal Exchange (Life Insurer) completed by N Jackson.
	HIV negative tested regularly (last on 15.2.89). Very rarely treated with blood products (last 1986). Very mildly abnormal liver function tests.
20.06.1989	Letter from Royal Free to Guardian Royal Exchange (Life Insurer). I enclose copies of his biochemical profiles over the last four years. As you can see, his liver enzymes have been consistently, but very minimally raised. The significance of these results is uncertain and in patients with bleeding disorders, it is our policy not to perform liver biopsies unless absolutely indicated. It probably indicated mild chronic non-A non-B hepatitis acquired from factor VIII treatment before heat treatment of concentrate was undertaken.
15.03.1990	Virology. Anti HIV negative by ELISA. Anti HBcore negative
Jan 1991	Admitted to hospital for an infected cyst in the groin.

13.02.1991	Tested for Hepatitis B – low level of antibody
13.02.1991	Annual review. HBC – agrees to test.
13.02.1991	Virology results. Hepatitis C antibodies positive
20.01.1992	Clinic notes. Annual review. Discussed HIV/HB – neg. Booster for Hep B. HCV, transmission/prognosis discussed.
07.05.1992	Letter from Royal Free to patient.....we are trying to find out more about the Hepatitis C virus which many of our patients acquired during the late 70s and early 80s before clotting factor concentrates were sterilized. Many of our patients have been asking at their reviews if there is a risk of transmitting the virus sexually to their partners. We think that this risk is very small but do not have enough evidence to give definitive advice at present. We are hoping to test as many of the partners of our hepatitis C positive patients as possible to evaluate the risk. I wonder whether you could discuss with your partner if he/she would be willing to come for a hepatitis blood test and to answer a confidential questionnaire.....
04.03.1993	Letter from Royal Free to GP. He is Hepatitis B and HIV negative, but Hepatitis C positive. His last set out liver function tests were abnormal...I explained to him today that we do not know the consequences of long term infection with Hepatitis C and also discussed routes of transmission as he has a regular sexual partner......I spoke to his girlfriend and counselled her regarding Hepatitis C and tested her today to see if she was Hepatitis C positive. She is slightly more concerned than Gary himself about the transmission of this and other agents....
1996/7	First found of treatment – interferon therapy

19.03.1998	Counselling – general
29.12.1998	Letter from Professor Lee to GP. He had treatment for hepatitis C with combination therapy, initially for 7 months and he then continued interferon for the 12 months. It is now 15 months since he stopped this treatment and although he became PCR negative for hepatitis C whilst on treatment, he has now relapsed.
23.02.1999	Letter from Professor Lee to Chief Exec regarding patient's legal claim.
Aug 2000	17 weeks pegylated interferon plus ribavirin
Dec 2000	Anxiety with depression
31.01.2001	Depressive episode secondary to interferon therapy…O'Connor
13.07.2001	Biopsy of liver NEC – chronic hepatitis with mild inflammatory activity and mild fibrosis secondary to HCV infection…Prof Lee
26.11.2002	Hepatitis C status +ve
20.09.2004	vCJD letter from Haemophilia Centre & Haemostasis Unit.
July 2007	Acute appendicectomy (complicated by inhibitor development)
July 2010	Coronary artery graft bypass
2011	Colonoscopy showed diverticular disease
Jan 2011	FibroScan 10.8
Feb 2011	Diagnosed with diabetes

08.04.2011	Hepatology hospital record. HCV genotype 1 – poorly tolerated theray x 2including peg interferon + Ribravin (non responder) Hep C from blood transfusion 1979. Known to Dr Patch. Last fibroscan 10.8 (Jan 2011)
08.04.2011	Trans-jugular liver biopsy.
19.10.2011	Hospital records. Mild haemophilia A – history of inhibitor.
2013	Endoscopy shows left sided colonic polyp.
20.07.2017	Letter from Royal Free….portal hypertension with varices, recently diagnosed….he had a recent endoscopy that was performed at Enfield. He was told that he has varices….