

Witness Name: DW Millard
Statement No: WITN1393001
Exhibits: WITN1393002-3
Dated: February 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF DANIEL WAYNE MILLARD

I, Daniel Wayne Millard, will say as follows: -

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Daniel Wayne Millard of GRO-C
GRO-C My date of birth is GRO-C 1989. I have recently injured my back so currently I am only able to work part time at Tesco. I used to be a landscape gardener and a pub manager. I have three children who are GRO-C aged 7, GRO-C aged 4 and GRO-C aged 2. My partner is called Keira and she is a brilliant mother and supports me unconditionally.
2. I am an affected person in relation to my late father Russell Wayne Millard, my late uncle Robert Paul Millard and my late great grandfather Douglas Alfred Howton; all of whom were infected with HIV and Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated Factor VIII. Douglas died on 15th June 1989, Russell on 5th October 1990 and Robert on 14th November 2012.
3. **This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to Douglas', Russell's or Robert's full medical records. I confirm that there are a large proportion of medical records which have gone "missing".**

Section 2. How Affected

In relation to Russell:

4. Russell had severe Haemophilia A and received Factor VIII from the age of approximately 18 months until his death. He received treatment at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford and his consultants were Dr Rizza and Dr Matthews.
5. Russell was infected with HIV and Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated Factor VIII.
6. In or around the mid 1980's, I understand that my grandmother accidentally found out about my father's HIV positive status. She was standing outside his hospital room and overheard one of the consultants, who was briefing a group of trainee doctors, say "*he should be on AZT*", whilst pointing to Russell's room.
7. Ironically, a short time after this, I believe that my father also found out about his HIV infection by chance. He too overheard a conversation between medical professionals. Following this, my father told his mother that he was HIV positive, not knowing that she was already aware of this.
8. I also remember that Russell and my mother attended the Churchill Hospital for a routine appointment when my mother was pregnant with Samantha, which was in 1986. My mother recalls that Mary Fletcher, who was one of the nurses, told Russell and me that he was HIV positive. My mother and father had no idea what HIV was and they received no further information in this regard.
9. Sometime after Russell found out about his HIV, he discovered that he had Hepatitis C. Dr Rizza told Russell that he would have to be careful with his liver but rather worryingly he was not given any further information about how to manage Hepatitis C or about the risks of transmission.

10. Russell never received any information in relation to the risks of receiving Factor VIII. After he had been infected, he did not receive any adequate information in relation to how to manage his infections or regarding the risk of transmission.
11. **Exhibit WITN1393003** contains extracts from Russell's medical records which clearly demonstrate that medical staff had redacted copious amounts of information.

In relation to Robert:

12. Robert had mild Haemophilia A and received Factor VIII on an intermittent and "as and when required" basis. He was treated at the Churchill Hospital and his consultants were Dr Rizza and Dr Matthews.
13. Robert was told that he had HIV by Dr Rizza at the Churchill Hospital in the latter part of 1986, which was when GRO-C Robert attended a routine appointment and did not expect to be told this devastating news but to some extent he had suspected that he may have been HIV positive because both his brother (Russell) and grandfather (Douglas) had been infected with HIV.
14. Robert was never given any information about the risks of receiving Factor VIII.
15. I do not know how Robert found out about having been infected with Hepatitis C but I do know that he was told at some point.
16. Robert was not given adequate information about how to manage his infections or regarding the risk of transmission.

In relation to Douglas:

17. My great grandfather had severe Haemophilia A and was infected with HIV and Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated Factor VIII throughout the later stages of his life. **Exhibit WITN1393002** is a copy of my great

grandfather's death certificate which lists the causes of death as pneumocystic pneumonia and acquired immune deficiency syndrome and confirms that he *"contracted virus through treatment for Haemophilia"*.

18. My great grandfather was never given any information or advice regarding the risks of receiving Factor VIII.
19. He received treatment at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford and his consultants were Dr Rizza and Dr Matthews.
20. I do not know when my great grandfather was infected with HIV or Hepatitis C.
21. My great grandmother opened a letter from the Churchill Hospital which was addressed to my great grandfather and was dated in or around November/December 1985. This letter advised that my great grandfather was HIV positive. It also enclosed raffle tickets for purchase.
22. My great grandmother did not advise my great grandfather about the contents of this letter but she did tell her children and asked them not to tell anyone; least of all my great grandfather. My great grandmother wanted to protect my great grandfather because she knew that he would worry about such a diagnosis.
23. In any event, some months later my great grandfather also found out about his HIV diagnosis purely by chance. He attended his GP to obtain the results of a chest x-ray which had been undertaken following a recent chest infection. The GP said to my great grandfather *"Your chest is clear but you have HIV"*. The news was conveyed in a very matter of fact manner. This was a terrible way to find out such devastating news; however, the GP of course thought that my great grandfather was already aware of his diagnosis. My great grandfather returned from this appointment and did not tell my great grandmother; not realising that she already knew.

24. My great grandfather was not given any information about how to manage the infection and he was not provided with any information regarding the risks of transmission.

25. My great grandfather was also infected with Hepatitis C but he was never told that he had this infection.

Section 3. Other Infections

26. I believe that my great grandfather, my father and my uncle were definitely put at risk of vCJD and I believe that they all developed vCJD and I set out below why I believe this.

27. In relation to my great grandfather, I know that his coordination deteriorated towards the latter stages of his life. Sometimes he would "read" the newspaper upside down.

28. In relation to Russell, I know that he moved like a 'rag doll' towards the end of his life. His muscles had gone totally limp and he was unable to hold himself up. He had no coordination and it was shocking for the family to witness.

29. Russell's death certificate records that he passed away due to encephalopathy and this further persuades me to think that he definitely had vCJD.

30. In relation to Robert, I recall that he walked as though he could not feel the ground under his feet. His walk was both laboured and disjointed.

Section 4. Consent

31. I strongly believe that my great grandfather, my father and my uncle were all tested and treated without their knowledge and therefore impliedly without their consent.

32. Russell had a test conducted on his "stored blood" after he passed away and I believe that this was a test for Hepatitis C which had clearly been undertaken without his knowledge or consent.

33. Both Russell and Robert received Hepatitis B vaccines without their knowledge and therefore impliedly without their consent.

Section 5. Impact

In relation to Russell:

34. The impact of my father passing away, as a result of his HIV infection, caused by him being administered contaminated blood products, when I was aged only 10 months old has had a disastrous effect on my life.

35. I do not have any memories of my father. To some extent, I feel glad because of course I heard some horrific stories of when my father was ill and I don't have these awful memories. However, at the same time I miss him dearly but he is someone whom I was never fortunate enough to get the chance to get to know. I will never be able to have a relationship with him and I was therefore different from all the other boys who grew up with a father figure.

36. It is extremely poignant when I take my little GRO-C out to play football at the park as it reminds me that this was something that I was never able to do with my father and it serves as a further reminder of the fact that he is not here today to enjoy my growing family.

37. I always make sure that I put my children to bed and kiss and cuddle them at night because I want to ensure that they know how much they are loved. I also want to be the last person they see before they fall asleep and my children are my absolute world.

38. When I was younger, other children at school would laugh at me because I did not have a father. I got myself into several scraps as a result of their horrible

comments. Children can be cruel; they would say *"I'll go get my dad, you go get yours, but oh wait – he's dead"*.

39. I behaved fairly horrifically throughout my secondary school years. I had no father or male role model figure in my life and I developed a number of anger management issues. I was so angry and I did not know then how to channel or direct this anger without ending up in yet another fight. Fighting alleviated the anger and it gave me a form of escape. However my mother stood by me, no matter how horrific my behaviour.
40. Despite my difficulties, I always had a fantastic support network from both my uncles and my amazing grandfather, Wayne, who I affectionately refer to as *"My Pap"*.
41. The impact that my father's passing had on my mother was awful. I witnessed all of this and it was so sad to see my mother enter into relationships with abusive men. My mother had a number of abusive partners and one of these used to beat me up when I was a little boy. He was a horrid alcoholic.
42. When my mother finally mustered up the courage to leave him she took up with another horrid man. This man used to treat my mother horrifically and he ignored Samantha and I. My mother was so unhappy but I believe she was so scared of being alone that she put up with it.
43. Despite everything that my mother has had to go through being left a widow at such a young age with a baby and a young child, she has done a phenomenal job of being a mother to me. She would always take on extra shifts so that my sister and I were able to afford the best trainers and for many many years she worked 3 jobs just to keep our heads above water.
44. From mine and Samantha's point of view, we have never really come to terms with it. We both really struggled with depression and anger. Although I have never really been massively depressed to the point of not wanting to be here, it

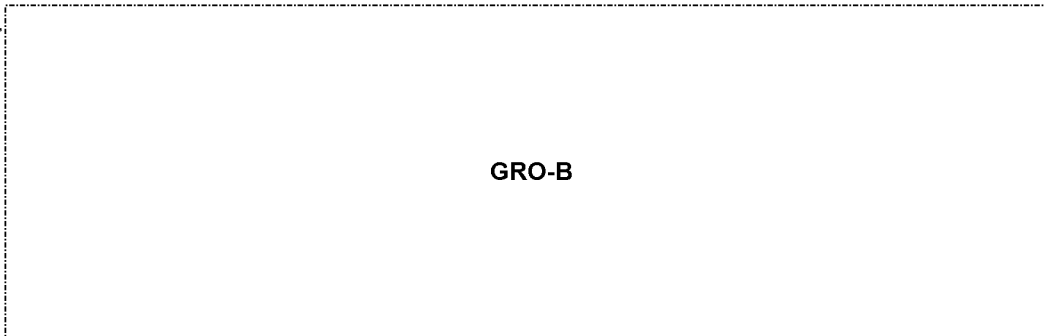
affects me more than I can describe. I do not want my children to go through what I went through. They give me the strength to keep going.


45. I was never told about what happened to my family until I was 18, I remember being angry; but it was not until Theresa May's announcement about the Inquiry that I started asking questions and started researching into the topic extensively. Realistically, I am still trying to process what has happened; but I do have a family of my own and I am trying my best to be strong for them. I don't want them to see me crumble. It is hard. The opening of the Inquiry really hit me emotionally. I remember sitting and thinking of all of the infected and affected people who had congregated there. I remember thinking that hundreds more people would die before the end of the Inquiry. I want to do more to help.
46. I talk to my partner and she knows what is going on, but I do not go into things. She is very supportive. However, I have not told any of my friends, and none of them know about my connection to the Infected Blood Inquiry. Recently, I wanted to put a post up on Facebook; my generation tends to not watch the news and we do not read the newspapers and instead we tend to research things on Facebook that interest us. I felt that I needed to put something on Facebook to make people aware of what has happened because I feel that people would take an interest if it is an issue relating somebody they know. My sister said it was a good idea, but after conferring with other family members, they thought that it was a bad idea and therefore I was back in the "*forced silence*" era.
47. My grandmother told me that when I was little and I just started to walk, I apparently had walked up to my father for a kiss and a cuddle. He had burst into tears and had asked my grandmother if he was going to die. My grandmother was forced to lie to bolster his spirits.
48. I am deeply saddened, shocked and angry to learn that the funeral directors placed my father in a bag prior to his burial. This was the most inhumane

behaviour I have ever heard about. I feel desperately sorry for my mother who had to deal with the ramifications of my father's death.

49. I think overall, my whole family has been affected in a way that those unaffected could never understand. I see the pain within them every time I see them. I think everyone needs some closure and some answers as to why this truly horrific course of events was ever allowed to take place.

In relation to Robert:

50. 
GRO-B

51. When my uncle passed away, it was devastating. Prior to his passing, I used to spend every weekend at their house because he  were like second parents to me. I knew he had HIV but I was unable to discuss this fact with anyone and I had to lie about his condition.

52. Russell and Robert's deaths have also significantly affected the rest of the family. We used to be a really close family and everyone who knew the truth felt angry. It tore the family apart because different family members had different ways to cope and not everyone agreed with how others felt with it; for example my Pap turned to drink after losing his son, his brother, his mum and his father in law all within 2 years.

In relation to Douglas:

53. I refer to Brenda and Dorothy June Metcalfe's statements in this regard.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

54. Russell had appendicitis in or around 1989/1990 and the doctors treated him as though he had the plague. He was admitted to Northampton General Hospital and placed in an isolation ward. The medical staff were fully gloved when dealing with him.

55. Russell was never offered any counselling or psychiatric support.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

56. Russell received financial support from the Macfarlane Trust. I think that he received an initial payment of £20,000 and then a further payment of £40,000.

57. Following Russell's passing, my mother received a widow's allowance which was paid to her on a monthly basis. This was means tested and she had to provide detailed evidence of the state of her financial affairs. She was initially impressed with the Trust but as time went by, her initial impressions changed somewhat. She really struggled financially when Samantha and I were young and she felt that the Trust fell short of what one would have expected in terms of providing some sort of basic care.

Section 8 Other Issues/Conclusion

58. I want answers and I want those persons that authorised these deadly decisions to be brought to justice.

59. I want to shout it from the roof tops and I think everyone should know what these people have done.

60. My family has been forced into keeping a "*veil of silence*" for 30 years. This has to end NOW.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

61. I do not want to apply for anonymity and I would like to give evidence to the Public Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed..

GRO-C

Dated.....

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