

Witness Name: P.B. RONAN

Statement No: WITN3029001

Exhibits: WITN3029002 – WITN3029004

Dated: June 2019

INFECTION BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN3029003

Our Ref: DMCK/gd/00014195

Date Dictd: 02/05/2014
Date Typed: 02/05/2014

Salford Royal **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust
University Teaching Trust

safe • clean • personal

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Ronan

GRO-C

Manchester

GRO-C

Secretary: GRO-C
Fax: GRO-C
Email: gillian.duxbury@GRO-C

Department of Neurology
Dr David McKee
Consultant Neurologist

2575

Dear Mr Ronan

Patricia RONAN

GRO-C

GRO-C Manchester GRO-C

D.O.B. GRO-C 949
Hospital No. 00014195
NHS No. 452 884 7086

I have just received back the final result of Mrs Ronan's post-mortem examination which was sent to me by Professor Will in Edinburgh.

The results of the post-mortem confirm without doubt that Mrs Ronan was suffering from the condition known as Sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease. This confirms the diagnosis which was previously suspected.

Sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease is a rare but extremely devastating neurological condition which affects around 1-per-million of the population. We do not really know why this condition starts, and it is believed to be due to some kind of "random mutation" which seems to be a matter of extremely bad luck.

As you know, in Mrs Ronan's case there was the additional complication of her having had multiple blood and blood factor transfusions over many years. For this reason, the Pathologists doing the post-mortem examination examined other tissues as well as the brain. The reason for this would be if they did find evidence of CJD protein in regions of the body outside the brain, it could have led to suspicion that Mrs Ronan could have contracted the disease through blood products.

I am pleased to say that they found absolutely no evidence whatsoever of any CJD protein outside the brain.

This makes it by far most likely that Mrs Ronan was just extremely unlucky in developing CJD and that this had nothing to do with blood transfusions in the past.

I appreciate very much that this is a really difficult situation to deal with and it is distressing to have to wait so long for the final definite result. I am afraid there is really no way round this as the Pathologists doing the post-mortem examination have to follow a very strict protocol and it typically, therefore, takes several months to get a final result.