

Witness Name: NEIL WELLER

Statement No: WITN1598005

Exhibits: WITN1598006-13

Dated: JANUARY 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN1598006

MRN Number: 532588
Your NHS Number: 4929326532
Our Ref: PLFG/so

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19 April 2011

Dear Dr Holdsworth

Neil WELLER dob GRO-C 1971

GRO-C

This 42 year old man with severe haemophilia A came to see me on April 19th, accompanied by his wife (Hayley). The issue he wanted to discuss was nothing specifically to do with haemophilia and I would like to share the problem with you as it falls outside my expertise as a haematologist and clearly Neil and his wife would benefit from your input.

Neil and his wife report that he has been affected by significant mood swings in recent months which have made life at home very difficult. There has been absolutely no violence, but things have reached the stage when the possibility of divorce has been contemplated by the couple. They have three children aged 12, 9 and 3.

GRO-C

Neil underwent a course of interferon and ribavirin therapy some eight years ago to treat his HCV infection. This was indeed successful and he cleared the virus. It is, of course, well known that interferon can cause psychiatric problems during therapy and Neil asked me whether this could have been responsible for causing a change to his personality. I told him that I do not believe this to be the case and I have certainly never encountered such a case among the considerable number of patients with haemophilia and hepatitis C who have been treated here.

Neil is under considerable pressure running his own business which entails long hours and tight financial margins. On top of this, he has to cope with his haemophilia and significant orthopaedic disabilities. It is for these problems he has been prescribed analgesia for a significant period, including drugs like dihydrocodeine and Oramorph. I have invited him to make an appointment to see you in the near future. I would be most grateful for your assessment of the problem and the way forward. Do you think that the problem is perhaps simply related to his on-going analgesia? Would he benefit from an assessment with a psychiatrist or therapist. I have known Neil for many years now and have great admiration for the way in which he has coped with his condition. It has clearly taken significant courage to come and see me and discuss this personal subject with me and I would very much like to try and help him. He has at least recognised that there is a significant problem and I know that he is keen to explore every avenue to try and resolve this.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Dr PLF Giangrande
Consultant Haematologist
BSc MD FRCP FRCPATH FRCPCH

Copy to: Mr Neil Weller

GRO-C