Witness Name:Professor Jane EddlestonStatement No:WITN7041098Exhibits:WITN7041099Dated:05/09/2022

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

SECOND WRITTEN STATEMENT OF PROFESSOR JANE EDDLESTON, ON BEHALF OF MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

I provide this statement on behalf of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 20 May 2022.

I, Professor Jane Eddleston, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

- My address for professional purposes is Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9WL.
- 2. My date of birth is **GRO-C** 1957.
- 3. My professional qualifications are MB ChB 1981 University of Dundee and FRCAnaes, FICM. My GMC number is **GRO-C**
- 4. I am the Joint Group Executive Medical Director. Within my role as Joint Group Executive Medical Director I have the following responsibilities within my portfolio:
 - Research and Innovation;

- Clinical oversight of Strategy;
- Clinical oversight of Informatics;
- Provide Board oversight of hosted networks (Greater Manchester Critical Care and Major Trauma Operational Delivery Network, North West Genomic Alliance);
- Shared responsibility for Quality and Safety with the other Joint Group Executive Medical Director; and
- Provide clinical leadership and oversight to the work of our Group Associate Medical Directors and Medical Directors of the MFT Hospitals.
- I also hold roles outside MFT. These are: Chair of NHS England Adult Critical Care Clinical Reference Group; member of the Faculty Board for Intensive Care Medicine and Interim Executive Medical Director (one of 5) for GM Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 6. I also have maintained my clinical practice in Intensive Care Medicine as a Consultant within the Trust.

Section 2: Was there a flood, or any other event, at Manchester Royal Infirmary which caused the destruction of records at some stage before 1986?

- 7. Despite enquiries made with Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI)'s senior management team, Clinical Governance team, Estates & Facilities team, Subject Access Request team and Medical Records team, we have been unable to verify whether such an event occurred. This is due to the passage of time since the alleged event and the present day.
- 8. We can confirm that no records in relation to such an event appear to exist from that period of time. In line with our policy on the retention of records, it is not expected that the Trust would have records from this time either patient case notes or other records that would reference a flood or similar event.

9. Enquiries have also been made with long-standing staff members from MRI who began working for the hospital in the 1980s. We have been unable to obtain much detail however one staff member did recall that there were a series of floods at MRI that affected the medical records library, which used to be in the basement of the building. Again, due to the passage of time, this member of staff cannot recall exactly when the floods occurred but does believe they were around the time in question (mid-1980s).

Section 3: If so;

- 1. Please provide details of:
 - a. the nature of the incident(s), and identified cause(s) of the incident/s;
 - b. the time and date(s) when the incident(s) occurred;
 - c. the extent of the damage to medical records (i.e. percentage of records damaged/destroyed);
- 2. Please provide any documentation in relation to the incident and give details of the records that were damaged/destroyed (where that exists);
- 3. Were there any archives which backed-up the records which were subsequently destroyed? If so, where are these held?
- 4. Were there any applicable policies or guidelines that recommended or discussed how an incident of this nature should be dealt with? If so: please provide us with the relevant policies or guidelines that were applicable at the time of the incident/s.
 - a. Did relevant policies/guidelines stipulate that a record of incidents causing damage/destruction to medical records should be kept? If so, was this followed by your Trust?
 - b. How often were the relevant policies/guidelines reviewed and who was responsible for reviewing and updating these policies/guidelines?
 - c. Were the policies/guidelines governing storage of medical records subject to review following any incidents so as to prevent any recurrences?

- 10. In line with the response provided in Section 2, we are unfortunately not able to answer items 1, 2, 3 and 4 above. We are very sorry for this.
- 5. Following the destruction of records at some stage before 1986, have any policies or guidelines that recommended or discussed specifically how to prevent an incident of this mature in the future been put in place? If so, please provide us with the relevant policies or guidelines that were established after the incident/s occurred.
- 11. Given it has not been possible to identify the event in question (sometime before 1986) we cannot confirm whether we have specific policies in place to address such an event.

Section 4: For Inquiry record-keeping purposes we would require details of the searches conducted, including document retention and destruction policies of relevance

12. As detailed above in Section 2, paragraph 8, no searches of records have been conducted as no records exist. In relation to relevant policies regarding the retention and destruction of records, please see WITN7041099.

Section 5: Other Issues

13. Personally, and as an organisation, I wish to pay tribute to those infected and affected and who are trying to understand the events of the past. We will do our best to support the Inquiry in any way we can.

Statement of Truth

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

GRO-C

Dated 05 September 2022

Table of exhibits:

Date	Notes/Description	Exhibit number
15/06/2021	MFT Health Records Management	WITN7041099
	Policy V3.0	