

Witness Name: Jonathan Cattley

Statement No: WITN7277001

Exhibits: NIL

Dated: October 2022

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JONATHAN CATTLEY

I, Jonathan Cattley, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Jonathan Cattley and I am married. I was born on GRO-C 1985, and I live at GRO-C Wakefield, GRO-C

2. I make this statement as the son of Dennis Cattley, (born on GRO-C 1949) and who was infected with the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) as a result of receiving contaminated blood products (FVIII). He died on the GRO-C 1999 during the post-operative period of surgery to treat his liver cancer.

3. My father left behind 3 children and a wife. I have two brothers: an older brother, Andrew and a twin brother, Richard. Both of my brothers have been

diagnosed with mild Von Willebrand's disease but have never had treatment.

4. This witness statement has been prepared with the benefit of access to some of my late father's medical records, which were received after my mother provided her witness statement (WITN1433001) to the Infected Blood Inquiry. My brother, Andrew, makes a number of comments on these records which are exhibited to his statement (WITN7276001).

Section 2. How Affected

5. My father had severe Von Willebrand's disease and was prone to regular bleeding.
6. I believe the blood product that infected him was the clotting agent, FVIII.
7. My dad was, to the best of my knowledge, primarily treated at St James's University Hospital in Leeds. I have no knowledge of who regularly consulted or treated him for his blood disorder. I know that my mother also administered treatment to him at home.
8. I do not know how long my father received these blood products. I refer the Inquiry to paragraphs 6-19 of my mother's statement dated 14 October 2019 (WITN1433001) which provides information in relation to my dad's medical background

9. I have memories of my mum treating my father by a table. She would inject him with blood product every time he had a bleed; there would be little vials of blood product on the table with the names of the product plastered onto the side of each one, just out of reach of my younger brothers and me.
10. My mum told me that she thought that dad was infected in St James's University Hospital. I was only told recently that my father had HCV. The Infected Blood Inquiry had made the television news and my mum told me that that was what dad had had. She told me that he had been infected by a clotting agent and that he had been infected at St James's University Hospital.
11. He would have been given contaminated product in response to one of his bleeds. Although he was treated at home, he did have to go the hospital sometimes, which would have been St James's Hospital, Leeds.
12. I was thirteen at the time of my father's passing and I only knew that my dad had a bleeding disorder back then. All the information about my dad's infection has come from my Mum.

Section 3. Other Infections

13. I do not know if he had any infections other than HCV and HBV.

Section 4. Consent

14. I do not know if my dad was tested without his knowledge, consent or being given adequate information and would refer the Inquiry to paragraphs 23 to 24 of my Mother's Statement.

Section 5. Impact

15. It would be hard to describe the full physical impact that my dad's HCV had on him. He was tired in the evenings, but that is hardly surprising as he held down two jobs; he was a welder by day and then would work at a call centre at night. When I did ever see him come back from work, he would sink into his chair exhausted. I do not think any of my brothers suspected any illness based on his constant fatigue.

16. In 1999, my dad developed a tumour on his liver and was admitted to hospital for an operation to treat it. Whilst we were never really told how serious the operation was, we were told once it had been carried out he would recover fully and that everything was going to be fine.

17. His death, following his operation, came as a huge shock to us all. None of us were prepared for that happening or considered that it was going to happen at all.

18. I was at school with my brother Richard when Andrew came and picked us up to take us to the hospital and I had been told that we had to go and see our dad at the Hospital. When we got there, the doctors told us (my mum was already there) that my dad was going to die. Something had gone

wrong after the operation and that he wouldn't survive. His life support machine was turned off and he passed away on GRO-C 1999.

19. My mum was really vulnerable after that. The shock of my dad's passing had left her rattled. It did not help that she was now a single mum of three kids and still had to work. I do not recollect her being offered any help with dealing with this trauma, which is a shame because I know now that she would have benefited from having someone to talk her through her grief.

20. It felt like mum cried day and night after dad's passing and this intense feeling of sadness lingered in the house for months and months. Performing well with my schoolwork was out of the question in this environment. When I was at school, I could not focus on any of my work, which resulted in me barely scraping through my exams, which is a shame because I feel I could have performed so much better. The whole experience affected my drive and ambition. At the time, I was not really interested in performing well. I had other things on my mind. I did not realise at the time that my lack of performance at school would have a negative effect on me financially. I feel as though I would have gone into a more financially rewarding sector of employment had I not been feeling such pain and grief. I was angry at everything and would bunk off school and even when I was there, I didn't pay attention to any of the work. I didn't care that all of this was to my detriment.

21. I was upset and distraught throughout my teenage years, which was noticeable as in year 11 the school allocated me a councillor and we had

sessions for a period of about 12 months. Truth be told, the sessions did not help me too much, although I took some solace from being able to chat about what had happened to my dad with someone outside of my family. I do not think either of my brothers were offered these services.

22. I think there was an element of bitterness when I was younger, as everyone else was able to grow up with their dads and enjoy a relationship, something I was not fortunate enough to have. I still feel like I missed out on him being with us. He was not there to take me for my first drink, he was not there to meet my wife and he will not be there to meet my children. My kids will be robbed of the experience of having a grandad.

23. When I was younger, I dealt with a lot of my feelings

GRO-B

GRO-B

That is behind me now, but I have had to grow up without a father figure; I feel I would not have gone off the rails when I was younger if my father had still been alive.

24. I remember our family life being a struggle at the beginning. Our mum still had to work. We were not exactly hand-to-mouth, but we did not have the luxury of being financially secure. We could not go and buy what we wanted, and we never went abroad for a holiday or anything like that.

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

25. I do not believe that my dad received any treatment for his HCV.

26. As I have already mentioned, the only support we received at all was when my school offered me counselling for 12 months. No one else in my family received any support.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

27. I have not received any financial assistance from any of the Trusts and Funds which have been set up. I was, in fact, unaware until very recently that there was any financial assistance available.

Section 8. Other Issues

28. There are lots of things that have remained unanswered which I would like to know. I would like to know how and why my father died. I would like the truth to come out and to find those who were responsible for his infection and his death. Furthermore, both those who have been infected and affected by contaminated blood/blood products should have received compensation by now

29. Everything seems to be taking too long. I know this this has been going on for years and still no one has had any form of justice; from my perspective it looks like successive governments have been passing the buck and refusing to foot the bill for the mistakes that have been made.

30. 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.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

29/10/22

Page 8 of 8