

Witness Name: Laurence Alan Ingleby

Statement No: WITN2759001

Exhibits: WITN2759002

Dated: March 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF LAURENCE ALAN INGLEBY

I, Laurence Alan Ingleby will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Laurence Alan Ingleby and I live at [GRO-C], Manchester, [GRO-C]. I was born on [GRO-C] 1946. I am married with two children and four grandchildren. I was a pharmacist for about 47 years before I retired.
2. I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006.
3. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to late mother's full medical records.

Section 2. How Affected

4. I am providing this statement in relation to my late mother, Mrs Annetta Ingleby, who was known as Anita, who passed away on [GRO-C] 1983 aged 66.

5. In or around early 1980 my mother began suffering from stomach trouble and constant nausea and it was thought that she needed a gall bladder operation. The operation was booked, and when they looked inside they saw it was not the gall bladder. She was referred to Dr **GRO-D** who was a general physician, at the North Manchester General Hospital at Crumpsall. Dr **GRO-D** carried out many tests over a period of a few months, before coming to the conclusion that my mother had an extremely rare blood condition called mastocytosis. Dr **GRO-D** did not know how to treat the condition and carried out lots of research.
6. At one stage the hospital decided that my mother's body was either not producing red blood cells; or that they were being destroyed, and so it was decided that my mother would require regular blood transfusions. From 1980 until her death in 1983, she was given these monthly blood transfusions before the hospital also decided to use chemotherapy as '*an idea to try and treat the bone marrow*'. This treatment did not work and the hospital did not know how to treat the condition as there had only been six other cases in the United Kingdom. My mother suffered from all the side effects of undergoing chemotherapy. She had to continue having monthly blood transfusions and her blood was not clotting.
7. At one stage, I believe during a blood transfusion where my sister, Lillian Venet was present, my mother was told that there was a problem with the blood and so the hospital had to put a filter between the IV drip and my mother, to filter out a '*contamination issue*'.
8. Over the following years, my mother developed lesions on her face which my sister remembers as red longish lines. My mother was then subjected to research in the form of a doctors' symposium at the North Manchester General Hospital where she was sat on a platform in from of an audience of many doctors, while these lesions were discussed. My sister took her to the symposium but was forced to wait outside.

9. Before my mother died she had become very thin and frail, suffering from loose motion and a lack of appetite. She also had frequent bleeds in the mucosa area in her throat. All these symptoms have given me strong reason to believe that AIDS could have been a factor in her death.
10. I rang Dr **GRO-D** as I was worried about my mother. He sent an ambulance to bring my mother in to hospital and this is where she died. I remember hearing her screaming as I was approaching the ward. Her throat had to be cauterised as it would not stop bleeding and my mother and I had asked for this procedure not to be carried out. This is why she was screaming from the pain when she died.
11. We have since been told the cause of her death was a combination of mastocytosis and pneumonia and attach a copy of her death certificate at Exhibit WITN2759002. After my mother died I spoke to Dr **GRO-D**, I told him that I thought her death was due to HIV as I had seen the results of people with HIV in my job as a pharmacist, to which I remember he replied '*I cannot disagree*'.
12. My mother has numerous blood transfusions and I believe that the blood she received was infected. I believe that my mother was given a clotting factor. People with AIDS have lesions which I suspected she had AIDS. I have formed an opinion since that my mother could have been infected with HIV from blood from America. I have never been given any answers and have always wondered about this.
13. The condition that my mother suffered from was so rare that I would assume they would keep her medical records for research into the disease, however they did not.
14. In or around June 2018 I found Dr **GRO-D**'s personal telephone number that he had given to me back when he was treating my mother. I phoned him but he did not remember my mother. I thought this to be very strange given that we were so close and my mother's condition was so rare.

15. I am not aware of my mother being told of any risks of infecting others.

Section 3. Other Infections

16. She had no other infections that I knew of.

Section 4. Consent

17. My mother wanted to live and get better. Whatever the doctors recommended, she accepted.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

18. My mother was a widow at the time and I spoke to her everyday. I took my children to see her every weekend. We were very close. My children only have photographs of their grandmother. She was taken too early, through no fault of her own.

19. My mother was a brilliant seamstress and played the piano very well. She was a hugely sociable person and had many friends before her illness. She was vivacious and a very outgoing lady, however, after her illness she became the opposite; isolated and introverted.

20. She was around 63 years old when she first had problems with nausea.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

21. I am not aware of my mother facing any obstacles to getting treatment.

22. Neither I nor my mother were ever offered any counselling. The only counselling my mother ever had was after her husband died when she also started taking an anti depressant called Prothiaden. This improved her

condition and is how I know that having counselling or anti depressants at the time of the onset of her condition would have benefitted her.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

23. My mother passed away long before any trust was set up and so she received no funding and assistance from anywhere.

Section 8. Other Issues

24. My sister and I would like clarity and information about my mother's death as we never feel that we have received this.

Anonymity

25. I do not wish to remain anonymous.

26. I do not want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed... GRO-C

Dated..... 15/3/19