

Witness Name: Peter Ackrill
Statement No.: WITN3452001
Exhibits: NIL
Dated: 2-7-19

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF PETER ACKRILL

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 14 June 2019.

I, Peter Ackrill, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

1. My name is Peter Ackrill. My date of birth is GRO-C 1939. My address is GRO-C GRO-C Cheshire GRO-C My qualifications are MB ChB, Dip[Obst] RCOG, and FRCP.
2. I am a retired Consultant Nephrologist, and previous Clinical Director, Regional Renal Unit, Withington Hospital, University Hospital of South Manchester, Manchester UK.

Section 2: Responses to comments of GRO-B

3. I've written this without access to the medical records save for a copy of my letter to the Coroner dated 8 August 1987.
4. GRO-B suffered from glomerulonephritis which progressed to end stage renal failure and she was started on regular haemodialysis at Withington in 1984.

5. In September 1984, she had a Renal Transplant at Manchester Royal Infirmary with a very well matched kidney from a young donor who was Hepatitis B, and HIV negative, on blood testing.
6. Apart from 1 or 2 rejection episodes, she initially did well and continued on conventional anti-rejection therapy. Later on, she became progressively unwell with recurrent viral and fungal infections without adequate explanation.
7. In May 1986, on review at Withington I noted the low platelet count and on clinical grounds arranged HIV testing at Withington Public Health Laboratory which proved positive. At that time, the natural history of HIV infection in an immuno-suppressed patient was unknown, there was no treatment and no cure. Sadly the situation progressed and **GRO-B** died in **GRO-B** 1987.
8. Unfortunately I cannot recall the details of the discussion I apparently had with Mr **GRO-B** on the day of the inquest and I'm unable to comment.
9. It was some time after confirmation of the diagnosis that I learned the source of the HIV infection was 1 unit of infected blood among 15 or 20 given to the donor during attempted resuscitation three days before his death. I was never made aware of the source of the infected blood and certainly never conceived it may have come from outside the UK.
10. I understood that routine screening of blood donors for HIV had not been introduced in the UK at that time, September 1984. I presumed that the negative HIV blood test on the donor at the time of organ donation was due to dilution and tissue adsorption.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed _____

GRO-C

Dated _____

3-7-2019