

Witness Name: KARIN PAPPENHEIM
Statement No.: WITN4504012
Exhibits: None
Dated: 21 May 2021

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF KARIN PAPPENHEIM

I provide this statement in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 10 May 2021.

I, Karin Pappenheim, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

Question 1: Please set out your name, address, date of birth and professional qualifications.

1. My name is Karin Pappenheim of [GRO-C], London [GRO-C]. I was born on [GRO-C] 1954. My professional qualifications are set out in my CV attached at **WITN4504002**.

Question 2: Please set out the positions you have held at the Haemophilia Society, and any other relevant organisations, and your role and responsibilities in these positions.

2. I was the CEO of the Haemophilia Society from 30 March 1998 to April 2004.

Question 3: Please set out your membership, past or present, of any committees or groups relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference which can be found on the Inquiry's website at www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk.

3. As employee of the Society, in my capacity as CEO, I attended board meetings, committee meetings, and external meetings as required in performing my role. See my detailed witness statement.

Section 2: Responses to criticism

Criticism by witness WITN1055

Question 9: At paragraph 223 of Witness W1055's third written statement, the witness states that there was an occasion where you made it clear that she was not welcome at a debate in London, due to the witness' partner having both HIV and HCV. The witness states that you commented that her partner "had had his money", despite the witness commenting that her partner never received any money for their hepatitis C, only for their HIV. Please comment on this.

4. I note that witness W1055 states in her evidence that I made her feel unwelcome and that I told her that her partner 'had had his money'. This is not my recollection, and I do not recognise those words as mine.
5. People with HIV and HCV were members of the Society during my tenure, and we provided services through our specialist HIV and HCV workers to support them. There were board members with HIV and HCV at that time. In this context, I cannot see why there would have been any suggestion that coinfecting individuals were not welcome.

Question 10: At paragraph 414 of Witness W1055's third written statement, the witness states that she and others attended the Haemophilia Society AGM in June 2001. She states that they tried to raise questions about the HIV litigation waiver, testing without permission and the seriousness of HCV. The witness states that they were ignored in workshops and that you blocked them. Additionally, she states that she overheard you telling doctors to avoid them and not to answer their questions at the AGM. Please comment on this.

6. In her evidence, witness WITN1055 refers to the Society's AGM in June 2001. I do not recognise the words she attributes to me. Questions were often raised about the topics on which the witness claims that I blocked them: HIV litigation waiver, testing without permission and the seriousness of HCV. These were not new questions or discussion topics, so it is hard to understand why the witness believes I would have tried to block them. Much had been written and said about these matters over many years, I believe,

and there were many strong views and feelings about these questions. As CEO at the time, I was aware of this context, and had no particular reason to seek to block discussion, as far as I can recall.

7. There may be minutes of the AGM in the Society's archives if the inquiry team wishes to delve further into what happened on that date.

Section 3: Other Issues

8. There are no other issues I wish to raise.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

21 May 2021