

Witness Name: Suzanne Rankin
Statement No.: WITN4665024
Exhibits: WITN0929001
Dated: 15.08.2023

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF SUZANNE RANKIN

I provide this statement on behalf of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board ("the Health Board") in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 06 July 2022.

I, Suzanne Rankin, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

1. My name is Suzanne Rankin, my professional address is Woodland House, Maes y Coed Road, Cardiff, CF14 4HH. My date of birth is GRO-C1967. My professional qualifications are as follows:

Master of Arts Defence Studies (Merit) Kings College London	2006
ENB 219 Orthopaedic Nursing Certificate	1994
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing in Clinical Practice	1993
Registered General Nurse (Not currently on the register)	1990

2. I am the current Chief Executive Officer at the Health Board.

Section 2: Response to Criticisms by inquiry witness W 0929

3. Since 2016 the Health Board has placed six core values at the heart of all that it does; Trust, Respect, Integrity, Care, Kindness and Personal Responsibility. It is clear at paragraph 102 of W0929's statement that she was not made to feel as though she was treated with Respect or Kindness whilst under the care of the Health Board and for this I would like to provide my apologies to W0929.
4. I have sought advice from clinical colleagues who have confirmed that during the period within which W0929 received treatment at Cardiff Royal Infirmary, it was standard practice across the UK for HIV care to be provided within Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) Clinics.

5. Whilst I accept that W0929 no longer receives treatment within the Health Board I would like to provide reassurance that treatment practices have moved on since W 0929 received treatment at Cardiff Royal Infirmary.
6. Treatment of patients with HIV is now undertaken within the Blood Borne Virus Service at the University Hospital of Wales which provides expert advice based on national and international guidance and works with partnership agencies to provide optimum support to patients and their significant others.
7. It is clear from her statement that W0929 continues to suffer psychologically and physically. In Wales support is provided to people who have been infected with Hepatitis C and/or HIV as a result of NHS treatment with blood, blood products or tissue by the Wales Infected Blood Support Scheme (WIBSS). I understand that similar support is provided in England via the England Infected Blood Support Scheme (EIBSS), and that W 9029 has been in touch with EIBSS in relation to financial support. EIBSS also provide 'Talking Therapy Support' for those infected with HIV from blood or blood products. Further details in relation to this support can be found at the following websites: <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/england-infected-blood-support-scheme> and <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/talking-therapy-support>.
8. If W0929 has not reached out to the EIBSS in relation to this additional support and would like to do so, I can confirm that the Health Board will provide W0929 with support in securing this support.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated 15.08.2023

Table of exhibits:

Date	Notes/ Description	Exhibit number
13/09/2019	Witness Statement	WITN0929001