

Witness Name: Heather McNair
Statement No.: WITN5670001
Exhibits: None
Dated: 01.04.2021

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF HEATHER MCNAIR

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 17 March 2021.

I, Heather McNair, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

1. *Heather McNair, York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, GRO-C 1964, NMC Registered (Pin: 83F1471E)*

Please set out the positions you have held as a Chief Nurse, the organisations in which you held these positions and your role and responsibilities in these positions:

*Director of Nursing and Quality at Barnsley NHS Foundation Trust from 2011 – 2019
Chief Nurse at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust from 2019 – present
Responsible for professional nursing leadership and quality*

Section 2: Responses to criticism of W4211

2. At paragraph 47 of his statement, witness W4211 states that in 2013, after attempting to locate the records of his surgery at Scarborough Hospital on 16 September 1975, he was told that the records had been destroyed.
3. At paragraph 48, witness W4211 states that he was shocked that the records were destroyed, and that “it is just not something that should ever be done, especially without the patient’s consent.” At paragraph 49, the witness also describes the destruction of his medical records as “truly horrifying”.
4. The Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care sets out the standards required for the management of records for organisations who work within, or under contract to the NHS in England. It is based on current legal requirements and professional best practice and York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust destroys records in line with the national retention schedule.
5. We are sorry to hear that the destruction of his records caused witness W4211 such distress and very much regret that he has not been able to ascertain if he had a blood transfusion in 1975 at Scarborough Hospital.

6. The Operational Manager for the Blood Transfusion service has reviewed our blood transfusion legacy systems but our records do not go back as far as 1975 and we have been unable to locate any records for witness W4211.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed:

GRO-C

Dated: 01.04.2021