

Witness Name: Nick Hulme
Statement No.: WITN5682001
Dated: 28 April 2021

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF NICK HULME

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006, dated 14 February 2020.

I, NICK HULME, will say as follows: -

Please note in July 2018, Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust merged with Colchester Hospital University Foundation NHS Trust to form East Suffolk and North Essex Foundation Trust. Therefore, our response is on behalf of both these sites.

Section: Searches

1. Ipswich Hospital

The Transfusion Practitioners review the paperwork and medical notes for terms including haemophilia, infected blood, infection, HIV and Hepatitis. All paperwork was reviewed by eye by a trained healthcare professional. When searching old files, they were all searched by eye, using the above search terms.

2. Colchester Hospital

At the time of the search Colchester Hospital did not have any notes scanned onto an electric system. Haemophilia patients' notes were stored in the haematology office. The Transfusion Practitioner looked through all

the notes searching for any communication relating to HIV, Hep C & infected blood.

Section 2: Repositories

3. Ipswich Hospital

At Ipswich, paper medical records that were stored on site until the Trust implemented Evolve in 2008, this is where medical records are scanned to and all patient notes are recorded in this electronic system. No records are kept off site for the relevant patients / the data management of the haemophilia service. No records were sent to The National Archive.

4. In addition to patient notes at Ipswich Hospital, we have a filing cabinet with paper files pertaining to the data management and clinical care of bleeding disorder patients. In regards to national information, we also have oversight of the national haemophilia database in which we add patient details and relevant medical information.

5. Colchester Hospital

At Colchester Hospital, paper medical records are held on site. The Evolve system was implemented at Colchester in 2018. Not all notes are scanned onto Evolve, but since the Inquiry we have requested that all patient haematology records be scanned onto Evolve. At present, there are two Haematology Consultants and one Haematology Nurse who have access to the National Haemophilia database.

Section 3: List of repositories & archives searched

6. Ipswich Hospital

At the Ipswich site, all areas of the laboratory and Haematology Department were checked as well as the computers and local drives, in case any old information was still stored. We searched for haemophilia, infection, infected blood, HIV and Hepatitis. Ipswich contacted the senior of blood transfusion at the time to confirm where else we could check, and

so have checked the previous Transfusion Laboratory Managers (TLM) files.

7. At Ipswich we also reviewed the evolve notes from the patient who was not infected at our trust, to see if there are any general papers, policies, or guidelines attached which did not have patient identifiable data from this time.
8. Ipswich transfusion practitioners contacted our main centre, Addenbrookes, to see if they could let us know the type of documents they had been able to find regarding this time. They have sent back a response back to the inquiry that they have no relevant documents.
9. We were not able to find any correspondence, notes, instructions, advice, reports, briefings, policies, guidance, reviews or meeting minutes that are relevant.
10. Colchester Hospital
In September 2018, we provided all the documentation we found in relation to the inquiry. At the time of the request the records were not scanned onto a system and stored on site at Colchester Hospital Medical Records Library.

Section 4: Records destroyed

11. Ipswich Hospital

Nothing has been destroyed

12. Colchester Hospital

Nothing has been destroyed

Statement of Truth

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

Signed _____

GRO-C

Dated

13.5.2021