

Witness Name: Ms Judith Paget

Statement No.: WITN5712001

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF MS JUDITH PAGET

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I, Ms Judith Paget am writing this statement on behalf of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, in my capacity as the Chief Executive, in response to the Rule 9 request dated 18 February 2020. I can confirm that these searches were carried out by appropriate staff members and therefore I, Ms Judith Paget will say as follows: -

#### **1. Search Terms:**

1.1. Response: The Health Board used the following terms to search its ICT environment:

1.1.1. Haemophilia (Haemophiliac)

1.1.2. Haemaphilia (Haemaphiliac)

1.1.3. "Blood Inquiry" ("Infected Blood Inquiry")

1.1.4. "Infected Blood" ("Infected Blood Test")

1.1.5. "Blood Transfusion"

1.1.6. Coagulant

1.1.7. Plasma ("Frozen Plasma", "Fresh Plasma")

**2. A list of the Board's information repositories and archives:**

**3. A list of the Board's repositories and archives searched:**

- 3.1. Response to 2 and 3: The following criteria was used by the Health Board to determine the return for this stage of the Inquiry i.e. production of "documents and information relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference and/or List of Issues" in any form (paper, digital, microfiche etc.) including but not limited to the following (including the Health Board's interpretation of what was required – in italic):
- 3.1.1. *1) A schedule of all documents and information within the Health Board's Department and Services, in particular, but not limited to: Haematology, Infection Prevention & control, Organ & tissue Foundation Service and Medicines & Therapeutics Committee.*
- 3.1.2. *This is a list or register of all documents (patient records, committee or sub-group minutes, reports, standard operating operations) that may be relevant to the Inquiry.*
- 3.2. Due to the constraints of resource and time it was impossible to search all areas and the following can be considered an estimate of the volume and type of records found. It is unknown whether these records include information relevant to the Inquiry (especially patient records) as there has not been an exhaustive examination of each record or folder.
- 3.3. Records held digitally will require specific search criteria to determine volume and relevance and this information was provided in the initial return in 2018.

3.4. List of documentation types and premises held (paper unless stated):

Site	Patient records	Staff records	Corporate records	Comments
Blackwood Health Centre	10	25	40	
Chepstow Hospital	1,300	85	5	
County Hospital	7,300	600	5	
Llanarth House	300	100	-	
Llanfrechfa Grange	6,600	1,300	-	
Llangennech Records Library	1 million +	48 bays and floor spaces. Varied patient records include records such as, deceased patients, obstetrics, paediatrics, A&E cards, and Mental Health.		
Maindiff Court	200	-	-	
Monnow Vale	650	150	-	
Nevill Hall Hospital	103,000	9,500	30	
Nevill Hall Hospital (non-current Health records library (B3))	52,000			
On-line House current health records library	360,000			
Risca Health Centre	1,000	60	-	
Royal Gwent Hospital	40,000	6,600	1,000	

St Cadoc's Hospital	340,000	25	2,600	
St Woolos Hospital excl health records libraries	40,000	900	1,900	
St Woolos Hospital Non-current health records	130,000			
Torfaen Resource Centre	870	10	-	
Victoria House	2,100	30	-	
Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan	3,000	200		
Ysbyty'r Tri Chwm	450	20	-	
Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr	6,000	300	5	
Digitised Health Records	1 million +	Held within various clinical applications including the Health Boards Clinical Workstation, image storage, pathology etc.		
Digitised Corporate Records		Unknown – Held within various Digital storage areas – SharePoint, local network storage (X:/,H:/drive etc.)		
Gwent Archivist			unknown	

**4. Destruction of documents and retention policies:**

- 4.1. Response: It is very likely that records will have been destroyed throughout the years preceding 2018 and I believe that providing one policy document from 2018 is unlikely to inform the Inquiry of the rules in place at that time.
- 4.2. Each Health Board or Trust followed the guidance and instruction from the Welsh Assembly Government at that time provided in its WHC (2000) 71 Health Circular: *For the Record – Managing Records in NHS Trusts and Health Authorities and Department of Health Records Management Code of Practice*.
- 4.3. The WHC was a detailed set of legal obligations for record keeping for all NHS bodies; it explained the requirements for the selection of records for permanent preservation and listed suggested minimum periods for the Retention of NHS Records. The aim was to minimise record storage and retrieval, improve the standard of record keeping and ensure clinical information requirements were maintained. The policy was applicable to all records (non-clinical and clinical) whether they were in paper format, scanned or electronic.

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed

GRO-C

JUDITH PAGET

Dated:

22/4/21.