

Witness Name: Mike McKirdy

Statement No.: WITN7252001

Exhibits: None

Dated: 21/10/2022

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF MIKE MCKIRDY

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 08 August 2022.

I, Mike McKirdy, will say as follows: -

#### **Section 1: Introduction**

1. *Please set out your name, address, date of birth and any relevant professional qualifications relevant to the role you currently discharge.*

1.1. Mr Michael J McKirdy PRCP SG, President, 232-242 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5RJ, DoB GRO-C 1962.

2. *Please describe, in broad terms, your role and responsibilities as President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.*

2.1. Leadership of a Medical Royal College. Making decisions with an Executive Board and Council as laid down by Royal Charter and Acts of Parliament. The main function of the College is to provide training, assessment and continuing education for its members and provide medical advice to other groups such as HM Government etc.

- 2.2. Vice Chairman of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges.
3. *Please describe in broad terms the role that the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow has in the training and education of its members.*
- 3.1. The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow works with the other two Colleges of Physicians in the United Kingdom and the other three Colleges of Surgeons in the UK and Ireland to agree and develop standards for higher specialist education, training and assessment for trainee doctors and education and continuing professional development for consultants and SAS doctors (see below). It has a similar intercollegiate function for dental training.
4. *Please set out your membership, past or present, of any committees, associations, parties, societies or groups relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference, including the dates of your membership and the nature of your involvement.*
- 4.1. I have been a member of the Council of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow since 2005. None otherwise declared.
5. *Please confirm whether you have provided evidence to, or have been involved in, any other inquiries, investigations or criminal or civil litigation in relation to human immunodeficiency virus ("HIV") and/or hepatitis B virus ("HBV") and/or hepatitis C virus ("HCV") infections and/or variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease ("vCJD") in blood and/or blood products. Please provide details of your involvement and copies of any statements or reports which you provided.*
- 5.1. No

## **Section 2: Training**

6. *What is the current system for ensuring that clinicians are kept up to date with new guidelines, guidance and best practice? How effective is this? Please provide any audits or evaluations that have assessed this. What can be done to improve this?*

6.1. Training Curricula are frequently updated by the Joint Colleges of Physicians' Training Board (JRCTB) (representing the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and the Royal College of Physicians of London) and the Joint Committee on Surgical Training (JCST) (representing the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Royal College of Surgeons of England, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow). They are then approved by the General Medical Council (GMC).

6.2. These groups administer the MRCP UK examination for physicians to enter higher training and the Speciality Certificate examination (if appropriate) for physicians in training. They also administer the intercollegiate MRCS examination and the FRCS examination.

6.3. Once training is complete the General Medical Council will approve CCT (Completion of Specialist Training certificate) and admission to the specialist register of the GMC. There is a similar process for higher trainees in dentistry administered by the four Royal Colleges of Surgeons.

6.4. While Colleges in their combined networks set curricula, education is delivered mainly but not totally by NHS education organisations such as HEE (Health Education England), NES (NHS Education Scotland) and corresponding organisations in Wales and Northern Ireland.

- 6.5. The inquiry is advised to contact the JRCTB, JCST and the dental training board who will have most detailed knowledge of Curricula, Examinations, audit and evaluation.
7. *How is best practice embedded into clinicians' practice? What can be done to improve this?*
- 7.1. Inquiries should be directed to JRCTB, JCST and dental training board.
8. *Is the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow involved in training on candour, consent and effective communication to non-clinical senior leaders working in the NHS such as executive directors, chief executives, and trustees? If so, please outline who it is delivered to, what the training consists of and any details of any audits or evaluations to assess how effective the training is.*
- 8.1. This College provides no training to non-clinical senior leaders. We only provide education to professional clinical members which can come from a variety of clinical backgrounds.

### **Section 3: Response to the recommendations of the Psychosocial Expert Group**

9. *Does the duty of candour form part of the medical, surgical or dental training or continuing professional development provided by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow? Please give details including as to which clinicians are trained on these matters, what the training consists of, and any details of any audits or evaluations to assess how effective the training is.*
- 9.1. Inquiries should be directed to JRCTB and JCST and the dental training board for trainees. While we fully agree with provision of Duty of Candour for those with CPD requirements, this is part of the annual Appraisal Process and Revalidation which is organised and monitored by the GMC and GDC.

10. *How does effective patient communication form part of the medical, surgical or dental training or continuing professional development provided by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow? Please give details including as to which clinicians are trained on these matters, what the training consists of, and any details of any audits or evaluations to assess how effective the training is.*

10.1. Patient communications is an important part of training and professional development. All postgraduate exams include modules on communication and consent. Precise details should be addressed to the training bodies as above.

11. *Do the ways in which implicit and explicit biases affect interactions with patients and families (including increasing awareness of the nature of stigma and its impacts on both patients and families/carers) form part of the medical, surgical or dental training or continuing professional development provided by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow? If so, please give details including as to which clinicians are trained on these matters, what the training consists of, and any details of any audits or evaluations to assess how effective the training is.*

11.1. We are increasingly understanding how bias can be introduced into both professional to professional and professional to patient or relative interactions. The College has an Equality Diversity and Inclusivity policy and is working closely with the GMC. However, the process by which these are monitored is by the JRCTB and JCST and the dental training body.

12. *Do you have any comments to make on the recommendations made, or any recommendations to add to those of the Expert Group listed above in relation to the two questions posed by Sir Brian to the Psychosocial Expert Group?*

12.1. We are in general agreement with the views of the expert report.

## SAS Doctors

This term refers to a group of doctors in substantive posts employed by the health service. Originally, they were termed staff grade and associate specialists. They now include a number of other grades. In England and Wales they also include speciality doctors and specialist grade doctors. Elsewhere the term locally employed doctors may be used

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ **GRO-C** \_\_\_\_\_

Dated 21.10.22