

Witness Name: Rebecca Jewell

Statement No.: WITN7672001

Exhibits: n/a

Dated: 19/06/2023

## **INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT OF REBECCA JEWELL ON BEHALF OF HEALTHCARE INSPECTORATE WALES**

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9(1) and (2) of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 3 March 2022.

I, Rebecca Jewell, will say as follows: -

#### **Section 1: Response to Evidence**

##### **1. Please provide a brief outline of the role and responsibilities of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales.**

1. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales is the independent inspectorate of the NHS in Wales, and regulator of independent healthcare services in Wales.
2. Section 70 of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 (the Act) provides Healthcare Inspectorate Wales with the authority, on behalf of Welsh Ministers to conduct reviews of, and investigations into, the provision of health care by and for Welsh NHS bodies.

3. Section 70 (4) of the Act sets out that the particular focus of reviews and investigations carried out into the provision of healthcare consider the following —

- (a) the availability of, and access to, the health care;
- (b) the quality and effectiveness of the health care;
- (c) the financial or other management of the health care and the economy and efficiency of its provision;
- (d) the availability and quality of information provided to the public about the health care;
- (e) the need to safeguard and promote the rights and welfare of children; and
- (f) the effectiveness of measures taken for the purpose specified in paragraph (e) by the body in question and any person who provides, or is to provide, health care for that body, and must take into account the standards set out in statements published under section 47.

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales carries out a range of reviews and inspections to healthcare services each year, these are to a variety of settings such as acute hospital wards, dental practices and GP surgeries.

4. Under Section 12 of the Care Standards Act 2000 (the Act), Healthcare Inspectorate Wales are the registration authority for independent healthcare services in Wales. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales determines suitability of applications for the provision of services and through these regulations takes action to approve or refuse registrations, and grants variations to conditions of registration if approved.

5. Under Sections 31 and 32 of the Act, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales undertakes inspections and reviews of registered premises.

6. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales publishes a report into all inspection and assurance activity carried out.

**2. You will see that Mr Bragg proposes that there should be a statutory responsibility for all employees in the NHS to make a report when serious injury or death has occurred which might have been preventable, and that**

**there should be a new, single organisation with responsibility to collect such information, to investigate incidents and to make sure that effective action has been taken. Please set out your response, from the perspective of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales, to this proposal. Please provide any further comments regarding Mr. Bragg's proposals that you wish to provide.**

7. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales considers the quality and safety of NHS and independent healthcare services in Wales through a programme of inspection, assurance and review work, reporting to Welsh Ministers, policy officials and publicly on the findings. As set out in the answer to question 1, the authority for this comes via the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 and the Care Standards Act 2000.
8. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales works closely with other bodies in Wales, namely Audit Wales, Care Inspectorate Wales in discharging the duty to consider the quality and safety of healthcare services.
9. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales does not determine the arrangements in Wales for organisational oversight of the safety system. Whilst Healthcare Inspectorate Wales welcomes all current and future collaboration in this regard, as a nation with devolved healthcare responsibility, any changes to arrangements over and above the existing system would be a matter for Welsh Government.

**3. You will see from the statement of Ms Braithwaite that the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care supports the establishment of a single body responsible for overseeing the safety system for health and social care. To the extent not already addressed above, please set out your response, from the perspective of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales, to this suggestion.**

10. As outlined above, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales does not determine the arrangements for oversight of the safety system related to Health and Social

Care in Wales. As devolved matters within Wales, any changes to the arrangements currently in place for oversight of the Health and Social care system would be a matter for Welsh Government. Healthcare Inspectorate Wales welcomes all current and future collaboration in accordance with the arrangements determined by Welsh Government.

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**GRO-C**

Dated \_\_\_\_\_19/06/2023\_\_\_\_\_