

Witness Name: Colin McKay
Statement No.: WITN7699002
Exhibits: N/A
Dated: 08/08/2023

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WRITTEN STATEMENT OF COLIN MCKAY

I provide this statement on behalf of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 5 June 2023.

I, Colin McKay, will say as follows: -

Section 1: Introduction

1. Introductory paragraph to include your date of birth, address, occupation and employment history.

Name: Colin McKay

Date of birth: GRO-C 1964

Address: Gartnavel Royal Hospital, 1055 Great Western Road, Glasgow, G12
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Qualifications:

- MB.ChB.: University of Glasgow, 1987
- FRCS (Glasg) :.1991
- M.D. : University of Glasgow, 1996
- FRCS (gen-surg) : 1998

Employment:

- Deputy Medical Director: Corporate, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde: April 2023 to present
- Chief of Medicine, North Sector, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde: May 2019 to April 2023

- Deputy Chief of Medicine, North Sector, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde: May 2018 to May 2019
- Clinical Director, Surgical Services North Sector NHS greater Glasgow and Clyde: May 2017 to May 2019
- Honorary Professor, School of Cancer Sciences, University of Glasgow: August 2017 to present
- Consultant Pancreatic Surgeon, Glasgow Royal Infirmary: December 1998 to Present

Section 2: Response to Criticisms by W3283

At the time of the witness's care at Glasgow Western Infirmary in the early 2000s, NHSGGC was operating in terms of the NHS MEL (1993) 152 'Guidance for the retention and destruction of health records'. This set a minimum retention period of 6 years after the date of the last recorded entry for general hospital records, meaning that potentially relevant information to support a detailed response may no longer be available.

We can only identify partial records and results for the period of 2003-2009 from the Western Infirmary, and are unable to locate any records at all relating to treatment at the Vale of Leven Hospital.

This will unfortunately limit the response that can be provided.

2. The criticisms I have been asked to address are:

Paragraph 74

I did have a horrible experience with a vascular surgeon at the Glasgow Western Infirmary though. I developed a varicose vein across my knee in the early 2000's and was referred to hospital within a week. I had been the day before for my pre-op and declared everything about my HBV status. It was splashed all over my records. I went through it all with the doctors and nurses.

Paragraph 75

When I went down to the anaesthetic room, the vascular surgeon came down and shouted at me about how irresponsible I was, that I was in a vascular unit with Hep B I hadn't let anyone know. He said I should have brought it to their attention when we went down there. This is despite it being all through my notes.

Paragraph 76

I have never been so traumatised in my life. There were all of these people staring at me. I went into theatre crying.

Unfortunately, no records can be located relating to this specific treatment. However, I do note that the records still available make comment on the witness's medical history including a blood disorder. This should have alerted staff to a potential infection risk. I also acknowledge that the witness had advised them of their status at the pre-op assessment. Therefore it is entirely reasonable to expect the surgery team to have known in advance. I also recognise the witness's unhappiness by what they recall as unacceptable conduct of the surgeon on the day of their treatment and am very sorry that their care experience did not meet their expectations.

Paragraph 78

The same thing happened at the Vale of Leven Hospital in Alexandria, Dumbarton. I had a biopsy taken from my womb due to an unexplained haemorrhage. My HBV status was all over my records, and I had mentioned it in the pre-op.

Paragraph 79

After surgery, a nurse came up to change a dressing. She raised her voice abruptly and told me that I should have told her to wear her latex gloves, "I've got young children to think about". I knew the person in the bed next to me. I felt like if I hadn't been wired up in a bed, I would have got up and thumped her one! I felt so enraged. It was so, so rude.

As noted, we no longer hold any records of the witness's care at the Vale of Leven Hospital so are extremely limited in how we can respond, other than to express my sincere regret about their experience of the care provided.

Section 3: Other Issues

None.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

08/08/2023