

Witness Name: Colin McKay  
Statement No.: WITN7699003  
Exhibits: N/A  
Dated:28/08/2023

## **INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT OF COLIN MCKAY**

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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 10 July 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  
0XH

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 W7583**

We are unable to locate case records for this patient's treatment at Gartnavel Hospital in 1995. At this time, 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 3 years after the patient's death for general hospital records, meaning that potentially relevant information to support a detailed response may have been destroyed from early November 2004. This will unfortunately limit the response that can be provided.

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

#### **Paragraph 29**

**I went with George on one occasion to collect the interferon medication from Gartnavel Hospital. When we arrived, the nurse asked us where our cool bag was, to which we replied that we didn't have one. It was then explained to us for the first time that we should always keep the medication in a cool place, such as the fridge at home. We had never been told this. We just kept it in a cupboard. This was all really very disconcerting.**

#### **Paragraph 34**

**Following the treatment being stopped after 3 months, George was told there were no alternative treatments available. He was just left to get on with it. George was effectively abandoned by Gartnavel Hospital and had no further correspondence from them after the interferon treatment. He was never monitored from that point.**

#### **Paragraph 44**

**We actually have no idea about the state of George's liver when he died. They obviously decided that it should be investigated because he was due to have a biopsy on the day that he died. A bit late really, they had all that time between his failed treatment and him having to appear yellow, full of fluid and evidently close to death, before looking to investigate further and all the time knowing that he had HCV. I would like to know why something was not done sooner with the knowledge that they had.**

In the absence of any records that could allow for a meaningful response to these criticisms, I can only convey my sincere regret if the communication around the care provided to the witness's husband at Gartnavel Hospital fell short of expectations.

#### **Section 3: Other Issues**

None.

#### **Statement of Truth**

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

Signed

**GRO-C**

Dated

28/08/2023