

**Observations on Affidavit of Billie Reynolds dated 29th November 2011 by
Professor Christopher Ludlam**

Para 6 describes being handed an envelope containing a sheet of paper with patients' initials on in two columns by Iona Philp, who was leaving the unit as the Haemophilia sister, without any explanation as to the information on the paper. I cannot comment on this particular episode, as I was not party to it, and I do not recall knowing about such a list, or envelope, but it appears to emphasise the importance we paid to trying to ensure that patients were not stigmatised for being HIV positive.

Para 11 indicates that both I and the nursing officer (to whom Billie Reynolds was responsible) told her never to mention HIV/AIDS to patients unless they brought up the subject. This does not accord with my memory and I do not think accords with written records and oral evidence given to the inquiry.

Para 13 Billie Reynolds records that I indicated that there had been a lot of false positives and the test was not accurate. This is not my recollection – we were very careful at the beginning to caution about false positives and false negatives but by 1986 we were much more confident about the results (and their interpretation)

Para 14 describes an incident arising during the night in 1990/1991. I have no recollection of it. I think it very unlikely that the patient was told for the first time his HIV status in 1990/91 or in the middle of the night. I would need to undertake further investigation to try and provide further information.

Para 17 incorrectly states that 'confirmatory tests' would be carried out on 'serum to store' samples. They would have been carried out on samples specifically sent to virology.

Para 18-19 outlines Billie Reynolds's recollection of Mark, some of which truly reflects the situation as I remember it, but in relation to trying to tell him his HIV status I think her recollection is not supported by the written record in his case notes.

Para 23 Billie Reynolds implies in this para that I told Mark his results in 1986 which I did not because he would not allow me to do so. My recollection is that in about 1987 we did hold a specific meeting to consider what we should do

about Mark and his view that he did not want to know his HIV result. I think this may have led to the proposal that he might be visited at home (this is recorded in his case notes).

Para 24 the statement in this para (that Billie Reynolds had first heard about my wanting to tell Mark in 1986, was when she heard my evidence on 21st June) does not seem to accord with what is stated in para 23 in which she records a meeting in 1987 (or later) to discuss Mark not knowing his HIV status.

Para 25 I do not recall the meeting of patients, relatives and staff in 1987 to which Billie Reynolds refers although it is possible it was one of the meetings organised by Geraldine Brown or Alison Richardson. She states that the meeting was 'pointless because no one could receive any personal information' – I think it would have been quite inappropriate to have given personal information at such a meeting.