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To whom it may concern

Statement Summary

RE: Impact of the of research on Post stroke visual impairment carried out by Prof Fiona Rowe since 2013 at The University of Liverpool

My name is Dr Andrew Hill. I have been a Consultant Stroke Physician since 2013; and clinical lead for stroke at St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals since 2014. I am an honorary clinical lecturer of the University of Liverpool (currently awaiting renewal of this by our undergraduate office).

I have worked with Prof Rowe together as members of the Intercollegiate Stroke Working Party which is an advisory group which contributes to national guidelines on stroke care since I joined in 2018.

Prof Rowe has been a leading figure in developing the national and international understanding of visual impairment following stroke for many years. Visual impairment following stroke is commonly under-considered as a major cause of disability despite having devastating effects on stroke survivors.

It is primarily through her work that the RCP / Intercollegiate Stroke Working Group guidelines advocate visual assessment and support. She works tirelessly to promote best practice standards in visual assessment post-stroke - something which is in general poorly considered across the United Kingdom. Her work is therefore important in supporting the development of best practice in post stroke visual assessment and care, but she also plays a vital role in its advocacy as an unmet need of stroke survivors.

She has also provided valuable strategic leadership support in development of our local orthoptics service: in no small part due to her guidance we offer a gold standard orthoptics service where we aim to ensure all patients receive a visual assessment in the 72 hours following their stroke unless it is impractical or inappropriate to do so.

She has also been the MSc mentor (and most recently the primary PhD supervisor) for our lead orthoptist Rachel Bate, supporting the development of our team and stroke vision research through that work.

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We have been a recruiting Trust for some of Fiona's recent studies, and will continue to support the VISION research unit with their clinical trials. One of my areas of interest is around use of clinical informatics to support stroke care, and we have been working together on ways to improve the study of assessment and treatment of visual problems following stroke.

Yours sincerely



Dr Hill
Stroke Consultant Physician
Medicine for Older People