1	Wednesday, 11 September 2024
2	(10.00 am)
3	LADY HALLETT: Mr Scott.
4	MR SCOTT: Good morning, my Lady. May we please call
5	Catherine Todd, who can be sworn.
6	MS CATHERINE TODD (affirmed)
7	(Evidence via videolink)
8	Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
9	LADY HALLETT: Ms Todd, thank you so much for joining us
10	this morning. I know how difficult this must be for
11	you, it's probably something you don't want to relive,
12	but it is so important that we do hear from you, so
13	I'm really grateful to you.
14	THE WITNESS: Thanks.
15	MR SCOTT: Ms Todd, I would like to ask you some questions
16	about the experiences of you and your partner TJ around
17	the very sad death of your son Ziggy on 21 July 2021,
18	a few hours after he was born.
19	It's right that Ziggy was your first child?
20	A. Yeah, he was.
21	Q. And are you happy if I refer to him as Ziggy throughout?
22	A. Yeah, that's fine.
23	Q. On 12 July 2021, you were approaching 28 weeks pregnant;
24	is that right?
25	A. Yeah, that's correct.
	1
1	sorry, maybe, to say that I had Covid, and then up until
2	Ziggy was born, so up until the 20th. I had
3	an ambulance out as well to our house in between the
4	phone calls.
5	LADY HALLETT: Mr Scott, can you pause there, I'm not sure
6	if anybody else is having some problems following the
7	audio. Is it just me? Looks like it's just me, nobody
8	else is nodding, so I'll look at the transcript.
9	MR SCOTT: Well, you're quite important, my Lady, so if
10	there's anything we can do to make it better
11	LADY HALLETT: As long as the stenographer can hear
12	properly, that's fine. So sorry to have interrupted,
13	Ms Todd.

- 13 Ms Todd.
- 14 MR SCOTT: What advice were you being given in those first
 15 few days, so the 12th, 13th, 14th, when you were calling
- 16 the maternity unit?
- A. Every time it was really the same, just lie on my sideand to phone back if I had any other concerns.
- 19 **Q.** Did you ask for Ziggy to be checked?
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 **Q.** And what did they say?
- A. They told me that they wouldn't bring me in at the time
 because they wanted to reduce the risk of spreading
 Covid.
- 25 **Q.** How did that make you feel?

- Q. You'd been due to attend a routine scan, but you'd
- tested positive for Covid, so you called the hospital's
- 3 maternity unit. What did they do as a result of that
- 4 call?

1 2

- 5 A. When I first phoned and reported to maternity that I was
 6 Covid positive, they had cancelled a scan that was
- 7 upcoming.
- 8 Q. Did they give you any guidance or advice about what to
 9 do or things to look out for as a pregnant ladv with
- 9 do or things to look out for as a pregnant lady with10 Covid?
- 11 A. No, not at that time.
- 12 Q. You started to feel very unwell but you also became
- aware that Ziggy wasn't moving the way that he had been.What did you do as a result of that?
- 15 A. I phoned maternity, both the EOU and the advice line
- 16 multiple times. Their advice really at the time was
- 17 just to take paracetamol and lie on my side for
- 18 two hours, and drink a fizzy drink.
- 19 Q. That seems fairly normal advice you'd get for a pregnant
- 20 lady who is suffering from reduced foetal movement.
- 21 Were you being told anything above and beyond that
- 22 because you had Covid?
- 23 **A.** No.
- 24 Q. For how many days did you call?
- 25 A. I think I first phoned maybe on the 12th -- or the 13th,
- 1 A. Not reassured at all.
- 2 **Q.** Do you think that you should have been examined sooner
- 3 than you were?
- 4 A. Yeah, definitely.
- 5 **Q.** Do you think that you would have been seen earlier if 6 you didn't have Covid?
- 7 **A.** Yeah.
- 8 Q. It came to the point that you took yourself to hospital9 on 16 July; is that right?
- 10 A. The -- no, I had phoned them a few times on the 16th.
- 11 Again they gave me the same advice: just lie on the
- 12 side, drink a fizzy drink, take paracetamol. But a few
- 13 hours later nothing had changed, so I phoned back again
- and said that I was coming up for the hospital to checkZiggy.
- 16 Q. What made you take the decision to go up?
- 17 A. I just felt at that time that it had gone on too long,
- and I was just getting the same advice and nothing waschanging every time I was phoning.
- 20 Q. When you went up, it's right that you were 27 weeks and
- 21 six days pregnant that day; is that right?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. When you went up -- you have a partner TJ; that's right?
- 24 A. Yeah.
- 25 Q. Did TJ go with you?

1	Α.	He was not allowed into the hospital, he had to park	
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- 2 outside, and they brought me through an ambulance bay 3 just to be seen.
- 4 Q. Were you told when at any point TJ may be allowed in 5 while you were in there?
- 6 A. I was told that he wasn't allowed in at all.
- 7 Q. When you were in, you didn't receive a full -- I'm going
- 8 to call it a CTG scan, but you received a Doppler scan, 9 so just a normal scan to listen to the baby's heartbeat; 10 is that right?
- Just a Doppler. 11 Α.
- Q. Was the midwife who carried out that scan wearing PPE? 12
- 13 A. I think she was. It was the sister that had seen me,
- 14 although after she had done the Doppler, she had told me 15 to go back and wait in the car, that she needed to do
- 16 a handover, she'd been there from half 7 that morning,
- 17 and that I was fine and Ziggy was fine, and while I was
- 18 waiting in the car for my notes to be brought out, she
- 19 actually came out in her own clothes.
- 20 Q. How long were you waiting in your car for?
- 21 A. Maybe about five minutes after my Doppler was done.
- 22 Q. How did you feel being asked to leave the maternity
- 23 unity and go and wait in your car before you got your 24 notes?
- 25 Α. Like I was just rushed in and out the door, no one

- 1 A. (Unclear) reduced and then I had also noticed my bump 2 getting quite a lot smaller.
- 3 LADY HALLETT: I don't think the stenographer heard. What
- 4 reduced? Was that the movement of the baby? Was it
- 5 Ziggy's movement?
- 6 A. (Witness nods).
- 7 LADY HALLETT: So Ziggy's movement reduced and you thought
- 8 your bump was smaller, so you thought he was smaller? 9
- A. Yeah, yeah.

22

- **MR SCOTT:** When you went in on 16 July, for how many days 10
- had you been concerned about reduced movements from 11 12 Ziggy?
- 13 Α. Maybe from the 14th onwards.
- 14 Q. Just if I can come back to the review about that in
- 15 relation to the scan, it's also noted that:
- 16 "The impact of maternal Covid-19 was not fully
- 17 understood and led to this not being recognised as
- 18 an independent risk factor when assessing reduced foetal
- 19 movement; this resulted in [you] not having a CTG
- 20 recording when [you] attended ... on 16th July 2021." 21 It continued:
 - "At the time the review, limited information was
- 23 available about the effects of Covid-19 during
- 24 pregnancy, particularly the strain of virus which was
- 25 prevalent in Northern Ireland during the summer months

7

- really wanted to see me. 1
- 2 Q. You provided a review of the circumstances of Ziggy's 3 death. One of the points that's considered in that
- 4
 - review is about the decision not to give you a CTG scan.
- 5 A. Yeah
- 6 **Q.** And please do correct me if I'm wrong, but is it right
- 7 that the guidance that was in place at the time for the
- 8 hospital was that assessment of foetal heart rate by CTG
- 9 was from 28 weeks onwards?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And because you were 27 weeks and six days, a CTG was 12 not performed?
- 13 **A**. Yep.
- 14 Q. Were you asked to come back the next day, when you would 15 have been at 28 weeks?
- 16 A. No. I was just sent home and told that I was fine and 17 that Ziggy was fine.
- 18 Q. Were you told what to do if you still had concerns about 19 Ziggy's movements or lack of them?
- 20 A. No.

wrong?

- 21 LADY HALLETT: Sorry to interrupt again.
- 22 Ms Todd, what was it about Ziggy that made you feel
- 23 that you had had to go to hospital? What was it about
- 24 the baby that made you think that something might be
 - 6
- 1 of 2021." 2 They: 3 "... were not obvious within the Obstetric teams in 4 Northern Ireland until late August/early 5 September 2021." 6 How did you feel about that finding when you read 7 it? 8 Α. Very let down. I don't know why it took even past 9 a year into the pandemic for them to have anything 10 really in place for maternity. Q. In July 2021, had you heard there being concerns about 11
- 12 risks associated with Covid during pregnancy?
- 13 Α. Not really, no.
- 14 Q. What's your thoughts about not being offered a CTG scan? 15 How has that had a lasting impact upon you?
- A. I think that if they had have done the CTG they possibly 16 17 would have picked things up and things could have been
- 18 completely different.
- 19 Q. Do you feel that you were able to ask or insist or press 20 for a CTG scan?
- 21 A. No. As I say, I felt like I was rushed in and out,
- 22 no one really wanted me in the hospital for a start,
- 23 obviously because I was Covid positive, so I think at
- 24 the time they were just trying to get me out as quick as
- 25 they could.

- Q. Do you think the situation might have been different if
 you had been allowed to have TJ or anyone else in with
 you?
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 Q. So, moving ahead about three days later, you were having
 difficulty breathing and you were having heart
- 7 palpitations. How concerned at that point were you for
- 8 both yourself and for Ziggy?
- 9 A. Extremely concerned. I actually ended up phoning my GP
- 10 the following day from having the ambulance out, because
- 11 when the ambulance did come out they just checked me but
- 12 not Ziggy, and I was kind of -- at the time I was kind
- 13 of up and down, one minute I was okay breathing-wise and
- 14 then next minute breathing wasn't great. I think maybe
- 15 it had taken the ambulance about five hours or so to
- 16 come out, but the following day my breathing had got
- 17 worse and I just felt like the hospital, and when the
- ambulance came out they hadn't really done much, so the
 following days, whenever I'd phoned my GP --
- 20 **Q.** Can I just take those in steps. So what were you
- 21 concerned about with Ziggy that led to, I think it was
- 22 TJ who called the ambulance, wasn't it?
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. So what were your concerns about Ziggy that led to the25 ambulance being called?

- 1 checked you?
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 **Q.** This was on 16 July, so you'd already been in this for
- 4 a few days at this point, four or five days. What was5 your state of mind at that time when the paramedics6 left?
- 7 A. I think being checked by both the sister in EOU and the
- 8 ambulance, I was kind of thinking at the time maybe
- 9 everything was okay, as that's what they were telling
 10 me. and just to kind of -- to trust them when I know nov
- me, and just to kind of -- to trust them when I know now
 that I shouldn't have, you know, I should have kind of
- 12 pushed it further.
- 13 Q. Did you feel looked after?
- 14 **A.** No.
- 15 Q. So you said earlier on that you called the GP about
 midday, so that's about 11 hours or so after the
- ambulance had arrived. Could you tell us, please, whatthe GP said to you?
- A. She said to go straight to A&E and that she was going to
 fax over that I was coming so that they definitely had
 to see me.
- 22 **Q.** Did she think that yo
- 22 Q. Did she think that you might not be seen if she hadn't23 informed them that you were coming?
- 24 A. I think so. I think so. I think she also had faxed it
- 25 over, so I kind of wouldn't have been waiting as long, 11

- A. Well, I'd obviously noticed his movements reducing and
 then the sicker I was feeling, it was concerning me more
- 3 that the two of us were really unwell at that point.
- 4 Q. I think you said it was five hours?
- 5 A. Yeah, I think it was around there.
- 6 Q. That was for the ambulance to arrive from the time it7 was called?
- 8 **A.** Mm-hm.
- 9 Q. It arrived about 1.00 or 2.00 am; is that right?
- 10 A. That's right.
- 11 **Q.** You said earlier on that when the ambulance arrived they
- 12 didn't check the baby. Do you remember anything about
- 13 why the paramedics didn't check on Ziggy?
- 14 A. No, they didn't tell me why. They just basically donemy oxygen levels and blood pressure, and that was it.
- 16 Q. Did you tell them about your concerns about Ziggy's lack17 of movements?
- 18 A. Yeah. I was more so phoning for him than me at thatpoint.
- 20 Q. Again, were you given any advice or guidance about what21 you should do?
- A. No, just the same thing again, take paracetamol and liedown.
- 24 **Q.** So you were told to lie down, that was from the
- 25 paramedics you were told to lie down when they'd just 10
- but I don't think really it would have made a difference
 because obviously I was in A&E then waiting for maybe
 about ten hours.
 Q. You said you went to A&E and you just said you were
 waiting in A&E for ten hours; was that ten hours until
- 6 you were seen or ten hours until you left, or ...
- 7 A. Ten hours in A&E in total, until I was moved over to
 8 maternity. I think at about five hours in, obstetrics
 9 came down and scanned me. They -- I could see Ziggy and
 10 stuff moving then at the time --
- Q. Sorry, Ms Todd, I don't want to jump ahead too quickly,
 I will definitely get there with you. I just want to
- 13 talk about your waiting experience in A&E. You say that
- 14 you were placed in what seemed to be a waiting area for
- 15 people with Covid but it also seemed to be used for
- 16 people with suspected Covid.
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 Q. What made you think that?
- A. There was a man who was shouting everywhere about how hewasn't Covid positive. I think he was maybe like
- 21 an asthmatic, probably, and they had just grouped his
- symptoms together basically and put him in the Covidarea of A&E.
- 24 Q. So it was July 2021, was there any kind of funnelling
- 25 system or areas for people to wait depending on any kind 12

1		of Covid status?
2	Α.	They, at the A&E that I was in, they had so the
3		normal waiting room of A&E was people that they didn't
4		suspect to have Covid. Then they had a door that was
5		like locked and security and beyond that door was just
6		everyone that was either Covid positive or they had
7		Covid symptoms.
8	Q.	Was that where you were because you'd had the positive
9		test?
10	Α.	Yeah.
11	Q.	Okay.
12		So you just said in A&E that they scanned Ziggy and
13		that you could see him moving; were you given the
14		results of that scan?
15	Α.	No.
16	Q.	What were you told?
17	Α.	That he was fine but their concern at the time was
18		they'd arranged a liver function test that was done on
19		me but they had no concerns really for Ziggy.
20	Q.	You talk about how you thought that the staff were all
21		called into a meeting?
22	Α.	Yeah.
23	Q.	Did you feel that everything was fine with Ziggy at that
24		point?
25	Α.	l did, yeah.
		13

1 Α. No. No one came in at all.

. . . .

- 2 Q. How did you feel about being left in that situation?
- 3 Α. Really unsafe.
- 4 Q. Why do you think that there was a delay in carrying out 5 that emergency C section?
- 6 Α. We had a meeting, maybe December time, with a few of the
- 7 staff and they had told me the delay was because there
- 8 was another baby that had, I think, an 80% survival
- 9 rate, whereas at the time Ziggy only had 10, so they
- chose basically to go in with the other baby. 10
- Q. Do you think that there was enough staff there to be 11
- able to treat you and to give Ziggy an early C-section? 12
- 13 Α. No, not at all.
- 14 Q. Did anybody contact TJ to tell him what was happening at this time? 15
- A. No, he actually contacted the hospital a few times 16
- 17 himself. The first time I think he was told if I needed
- him that I would phone him, to which he replied "If 18
- she's in having a section she'll not have her phone", 19
- 20 and then he phoned another two times, I think, and they
- 21 told him to stop ringing and that it wasn't his
- 22 information to know.
- 23 Q. Did anybody else try and contact?
- 24 Α. Yeah, my mum and my elder sister, and they were told the 25 same thing.

- Q. So were you taken from A&E round to the maternity ward? 1
- 2 Α. Yeah, a midwife, she came down with a wheelchair to take me round to maternity from A&E, but that was another 3
- 4 five hours after he was scanned.
- 5
- Q. Was TJ with you at any point in this?
- 6 A. No, he wasn't allowed in.
- 7 Q. Where was he, was he in the car park or somewhere else, 8 or ...
- 9 A. At home. We only live maybe like five minutes from the 10 hospital, so he stayed at home.
- When you were scanned, round in the maternity ward, how 11 Q. many people were at that scan? 12
- 13 Maybe about four or five. Α.
- Q. What were you told were the results of that scan? 14
- A. That Ziggy had very little amniotic fluid around him and 15
- 16 they were going to take me for an emergency section.
- 17 Q. Did you have a chance to talk to TJ at that time?
- A. No, I just text him really quickly and then they had 18 19 prepped me for the section.
- 20 Q. Just before you go on, Ms Todd, because you talk about
- 21 the alarms going off.
- 22 Α. Yeah.
- 23 Q. How long were you left after the alarms went off?
- 24 A. An hour.
- 25 Q. Were you told what was happening?
 - 14
- 1 Q. So did anybody know when you actually went in to have the C-section? 2
- 3 Α. No
- 4 Q. When was TJ allowed in?
- 5 A. I had had the section and then brought back up to 6 a room, so it wasn't until later that night, a few hours 7 maybe after Ziggy was born.
- 8 Q. How did TJ feel in that time between when he found out 9 that you were having a C-section and when he was
- actually allowed to see you? 10
- 11 A. I think he was very anxious. He was at home with no 12 information of what was going on. He was completely 13 left in the dark.
- 14 Q. What happened to Ziggy after you had had the C-section?
- A. I know when he was first born, he had a low Apgar score, 15 16 so they had him basically in the corner with the team
- 17 within NICU. They had done CPR and then taken him up to 18 neonatal intensive care.
- Q. Did you have a chance to see him? 19
- 20 Α. No.
- 21 Q. So when he was in the neonatal unit, did you have
- 22 an opportunity or, put that a different way, did the
- 23 nursing staff try and help you and TJ see Ziggy over 24
 - that night?
- 25 Α. They tried to bring us round a few times during the 16

- 1 night but they didn't explain that they were bringing us
- 2 round, they were just kind of putting me in full PPE and
- 3 then into a wheelchair, and then the next minute I was
- 4 back, they were getting me back out of the wheelchair
- 5 and the PPE was off again.
- 6 Q. Were you in a room or were you in the ward at that time?
- 7 A. I was in a private -- like a side room. I think it's
- 8 actually the bereavement room that's in the hospital.
- 9 **Q.** So you didn't have to be in PPE in there?
- 10 **A.** No.
- 11 Q. Was TJ allowed to be in with you there?
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 Q. Was he allowed to be in there with you all night or didhe have to leave?
- 15 A. He -- as soon as he came into the hospital, he stayed
- with me then in the room. We actually had a midwife whocame in and sat -- and this was after Ziggy had
- 18 passed -- sat on the floor and told him that he wasn't
- 19 allowed to leave. He basically said he hadn't left, and
- 20 she said, "That's fine, you shouldn't even be here,
- we've already bent over backwards for you, you shouldn'teven be here."
- 23 Q. How did it help you to have TJ with you that night
- 24 before Ziggy passed away?
- 25 A. I think it was more so the support because I hadn't been 17
- Q. What did you think Ziggy's condition was before you saw
 him?
- 3 **A.** As I say, the midwife had stated that his obs were
- 4 starting to pick up, so we thought we were being brought
- 5 round to meet him as he was getting better. We weren't
- 6 told at the time that he was palliative care or7 anything.
- 8 Q. What did you find was -- how was Ziggy when you went in?
- 9 A. He was basically in an incubator, in a private NICU room
- 10 that actually overlooked the main neonatal. There was
- 11 a window so people could see in and we could see him
- 12 there, but he had all the medical equipment on basically
- 13 and when we came in they had taken him off everything
- 14 and, again, we thought that he was getting a lot better
- 15 at that point, that they were able to remove everything.
- 16 **Q.** When did you find out that wasn't the case?

17 A. They took everything off and then handed Ziggy over to

- me, and then they just left the room, and then he passedaway, and they didn't come back for maybe about another
- 20 two hours.21 Q. Was that the first time that you had been with Ziggy
- 22 since he was born?
- 23 **A.** Yeah.
- 24 **Q.** Was that the only time that TJ got to see Ziggy?
- 25 **A.** Yeah.

- given that option the whole time that, you know, Ziggy's
- 2 movements reducing, he wasn't allowed into any scans and
- 3 then again in A&E. So I think it was more so the
- 4 support and he obviously was in the same boat that I was
- 5 at the time, no one was telling us anything, so it was
- 6 just the two of us kind of talking with each other.
- 7 Q. Did you know how unwell Ziggy was that night?
- 8 A. At the start they'd said that he was really unwell but
- 9 then later on one of the midwives had made a comment
- 10 that his obs had been picking up, that was just before
- 11 we were brought round to meet him, so we actually
- 12 thought he was getting better, a good bit better, before
- 13 we were being brought round to see him the next day.
- 14 Q. Do you think the fact that you were Covid positive had anything to do with the amount of information that you were being given about Ziggy's condition overnight?
- 17 **A.** Yeah, I think they were trying not to come in and out of
- 18 the room as much as probably what they would have if
- 19 I wasn't Covid positive.
- 20 Q. Were you or TJ receiving any food and drink, for
- 21 example?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. You went round and saw Ziggy, was it about 8.30, 9.0024 the following morning?
- 25 **A.** Yeah.
- 18
- 1 Q. Were you having to wear full PPE when you were with him?
- 2 A. Yeah, we had to show PPE. We had hairnets, masks,
- a visor, a full apron, gloves and I think shoe -- like,shoe coverings.
- 5 Q. What did you think about being asked to wear PPE to6 visit Ziggy?
- 7 A. I thought it was unnecessary, especially at the time8 they knew how unwell he was, we didn't. So now looking
- 9 at it, I'm a bit confused as to why we were in full PPE,
- 10 because, you know, if they knew that he was being taken
- 11 off life support, I don't understand who the PPE was
- 12 protecting. Also he was in a private, like, infection
- room, so again, I don't think it was necessary to havefull PPE.
- Q. Wearing PPE, does that have a lasting impact upon yourmemories of your time with Ziggy?
- 17 A. Yeah. All of our photos that we have with him are in18 full PPE.
- 19 Q. How long were you with Ziggy for?
- 20 A. We were -- after he had passed, as I say, they left us
- 21 in that room for about two hours, before they came back
- 22 and then they brought us back to the bereavement room.
- 23 I think -- I'm not sure but I think they possibly had
- 24 like washed him and stuff, we weren't given the option
- 25 again to do that, and then they brought him round to the 20

- 2 Q. In those two hours did anyone come in and see you?
- 3 Α. No.

- 4 Q. You said earlier on that in the room that Ziggy was in
 - you could be seen from the outside?
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. Was there a curtain or a screen or anything that was put 8 up?
- 9 Α. Nothing. I think only after the SAI was done, because
- 10 it was something that I highlighted, as there was
- 11 another baby that was on the opposite side of the window
- 12 and his -- the baby's dad -- what I assume was the
- 13 baby's dad was able to watch everything.
- 14 You stayed in the hospital for some days afterwards. Q. 15 How much time was TJ able to spend with you?
- 16 He stayed with me the whole time then in that room. Α.
- 17 Q. How beneficial was that for both of you, that you were
- 18 able to spend time together?
- 19 Α. Really important. I think also it was really the only 20 time that we got with Ziggy, so it was very important.
- 21 Q. You had mentioned earlier on about the midwife coming 22 over and saying, "You can't be leaving this room, we've 23 bent over backwards for you". Was that two days after
- 24 Ziggy had passed away?
- 25 Α. Yeah, he was actually on my chest at the time. 21
- 1 A. Yeah, that's right.
- 2 Q. Do you know the reason for that?
- 3 A. No. No.
- 4 Q. Had anyone ever told you whether there was anyone
- 5 actually in Northern Ireland capable of carrying out
- 6 a postmortem on a child at that time?
- 7 Α. No, that was really our only option, was that he went to 8 Alder Hey and in the bereavement room they brought round
- 9 like a DVD to watch of stages, basically, and what would
- 10 happen, from timeframes to like who would be with him and -- but obviously that didn't happen either. 11
- 12 Q. How important was it to you to know where Ziggy was at
- all times in that trip to and from Liverpool? 13
- 14 Extremely important. Α.
- Q. Were you kept informed about where he was? 15
- A. No, not at all. We were told that he would be picked up 16
- 17 from the Ulster on the Monday and back on the Wednesday.
- 18 When in turn it came to the Monday, I had heard nothing
- 19 at all, so I contacted the hospital themselves, and they
- 20 basically said they didn't know where he was, he wasn't
- 21 there. They suggested that I contact the Royal
- 22 mortuary, so when I done that they weren't sure where he
- 23 was either, and they told me to maybe phone Liverpool. 24
- So I'd phoned Liverpool maybe that night and, again, I got a guy on the phone who wasn't too sure. He said 25

23

- Q. What was your overall view of the compassion that you, 1 2 TJ and Ziggy received from the staff at that time?
- 3 A. I don't think -- I don't think there was any, at all.
- I don't think anyone cared. I think they were too busy. 4
- They were rushing in and out of the room and just didn't 5 6 really care.
- 7 Q. Do you think they knew what to do, how to cope with
 - Covid and pregnant people at that time?
- 9 Not at all.
- 10 **Q.** Do you think there was enough staff to be able to look
- 11 after everyone in the maternity unit at that time?
- 12 Α. No.

8

- 13 Q. Were you offered any help with bereavement or grief 14 while you were in hospital?
- A. I later learned that leaving the hospital we were 15
- 16 supposed to have a bereavement midwife, as we were
- 17 leaving, which we didn't hear from until I think it was
- 18 two weeks later, and she actually contacted TJ to tell
- 19 him funeral arrangements that we had made.
- 20 Q. You were told that Ziggy was to be sent for
- 21 a postmortem?
- 22 Α. Yeah.

- 23 Q. Do you know that -- well, his body was going to have to
- 24 be collected to be taken to a hospital in Liverpool for
 - a postmortem; is that right? 22
- 1 he didn't think there was any babies that had come over from Belfast. Until the next morning, a lady from the 2 3 Snowflakes team had contacted me to let me know that he 4 wasn't there and she didn't -- she had stayed in contact 5 with me but then she phoned me again on the Wednesday 6 morning. But on Tuesday night she had told me that 7 there was two babies coming from Belfast but they didn't 8 know their names until they got there. So she phoned me maybe at about 6.00 Wednesday morning to let me know 9 10 that he had arrived in Liverpool. So he had basically been in the Ulster the entire time. 11 12 Q. So is it right that it was about two days where you 13 didn't know where Ziggy was? 14 Α. Yeah 15 Q. What did you think of the level of contacts that you had 16 had from the hospital in Northern Ireland? 17 I thought it was appalling. Α. 18 Were you able to have an open coffin for Ziggy? Q. 19 In the end but very nearly no. The Ulster had put on Α. 20 "maternal Covid" on his death certificate and, as 21 a result, the funeral directors' policy was that they
- 22 wouldn't then be able to manage his body, and it was
- 23 only from the lady actually that was working in the
- 24 Snowflakes team over in Liverpool, she had phoned me
- just to see if we had a CuddleCot and, at the time, 25

2	ω.	Could you just explain quickly what a CuddleCot is?	2	
3	Α.	It's like a small Moses basket type shape, a device that	3	
4		keeps the baby cold, so you can spend more time with	4	
5		them.	5	
6	Q.	How important was it to you at that time to spend time	6	
7		with Ziggy?	7	
8	Α.	Extremely important, especially	8	
				~
9 10	Q.	How long sorry.	9	Q.
10	Α.	Sorry, just because we'd even been told that it was	10	
11		going to be a closed coffin, you know, it was really	11	Α.
12		important to us that we got to make memories that were	12	Q.
13		good.	13	
14	Q.	How long did it take for you to be given a CuddleCot?	14	
15	Α.	When he came home, he was due to be home with the	15	Α.
16		funeral directors, and because the lady from Snowflakes	16	
17		team had phoned, everything kind of had to be delayed,	17	
18		so we could arrange with the hospital to collect the	18	Q.
19		CuddleCot. And I think, if I remember correctly,	19	
20		I think TJ actually had to go up and collect it himself.	20	
21	Q.	You were talking about an open coffin. Is it right that	21	
22		it was only when the funeral home were told that Ziggy	22	Α.
23		had had a negative PCR test that you were able to have	23	
24		an open coffin?	24	
	^	•	25	
25	Α.	Yeah. So the lady from Snowflakes team is the one who 25	25	
1		but if it helps her sleep then, you know, what's the	1	Q.
2		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we	2	A.
2 3		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full	2 3	
2 3 4		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and	2 3 4	A.
2 3 4 5		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy	2 3 4 5	A.
2 3 4 5 6		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the	2 3 4 5 6	A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7		issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy.	2 3 4 5 6 7	A.
2 3 4 5 6	Q.	issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7	Α.	issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah.	2 3 4 5 6 7	А. Q. А.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Α.	issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Α.	issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Α.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Α.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Α.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	А. Q. А. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	A. Q. A.	issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 13	A. Q. A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	A. Q. A.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	A. Q. A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	А. Q. А. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	A. Q. A. Q. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	А. Q. А. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A. Q. A. Q. A.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	А. Q. А. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? No. Did you feel safe as a pregnant lady in Northern 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	A. Q. A. Q. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? No. Did you feel safe as a pregnant lady in Northern Ireland? Not at all, no. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? No. Did you feel safe as a pregnant lady in Northern Ireland? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	 issue that she's given them?" And basically then we were given half, we weren't given the full the full medical notes, we were only given half of them, and I think it was a few days even for them to photocopy that out. We'd never actually received our own the green file, it's just been a photocopy. Do you think it was a battle to get those notes? Yeah. I just want to ask about your overall impressions, Ms Todd. When you look back on all of your experiences in that period in July 2021, do you think that there were enough staff to treat you at that time? No. Do you think that the staff knew how to treat a pregnant woman with Covid back in 2021? No. Did you feel safe as a pregnant lady in Northern Ireland? Not at all, no. It's right that you're pregnant now, is it? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q. A. Q. A. Q.

I didn't even know what that was.

Could you just explain quickly what a CuddleCot is?

1

2

Q.

- 24 now? 25 **A**. No.
 - 27

- organised it all. She phoned round the Ulster from 1
- 2 Liverpool to ask if he had a PCR. Now, we were never
- asked or gave consent for him to have a PCR done, but
- basically that's -- that's the only reason why, is she
- then obtained it from the Ulster. And then she
- contacted the funeral directors as well, to let them
- know that Ziggy's PCR was done by the hospital and it
- was negative. This was a Snowflakes team, this is in Liverpool, it's
- not a Northern Ireland service; is that right?
- Yeah.
- How did you feel about the level of communication that
- you'd received about the CuddleCot, about the PCR that would allow you to have an open coffin?
- There wasn't any. There wasn't any communication.
- You know, it was -- everything was done either by us or from another service that's not in Northern Ireland.
- Is it right that after Ziggy's death and after the
- funeral arrangements you'd tried to get access to the
- records that were held about you and about Ziggy? How
- easy was it to get access to those records?
- Extremely difficult. We phoned and phoned, and a lady actually told TJ she wasn't so sure why -- why I wanted
- them, even to begin with, and he said -- he had replied to her, saying "It doesn't matter why she wants them, 26
 - Did you feel listened to by medical staff in 2021?
- No.
- You have since given birth, as you say. Is it right that some of those who had been involved in your time with Ziggy arrived at your bedside at the time when your child was born?
 - Yeah.
 - How did that impact upon your experience with her?
- I don't think it was necessary at all. I also was
- admitted the majority of my pregnancy with my second,
- and had people that were dealing with the SAI with Ziggy
- at the time come round to see me while I was admitted
- with my second, which again I don't think there was any need for.
- How have your experiences made you feel towards the healthcare system in Northern Ireland?
- I don't have much hope in it.
- Just finally, how are you now?
- Not -- not great. It's obviously something that's
- completely impacted the rest of our lives, and I think
- we have just been left to deal with it ourselves. We're
- kind of away from the hospital now and that's all,
- you know, that matters to them, we're out the door, and
- 24 we're the ones left with this for the rest of our lives,
- 25 basically.

1	MR	SCOTT: Thank you, Ms Todd.
2		My Lady, I've no further questions.
3	LAI	DY HALLETT: Thank you very much indeed, Ms Todd, I hope
4		we have not added to your trauma and grief. No one can
5		ever replace Ziggy and I know that you and his father
6		will never forget him and you will always miss him.
7		I just hope that the new baby and your daughter can help
8		you come to terms with the grief that I'm afraid is
9		going to be with you forever. But thank you so much and
10		best of luck with the new baby.
11	THI	E WITNESS: Thank you.
12	LAI	DY HALLETT: Right. I think we'll take a break now,
13		Ms Todd, I think there are some people who may wish to
14		speak with you, so Ms Campbell and others may just come
15		and say repeat the thanks, I suspect, that I have
16		already given. And we will take a short break and then
17		we will come back to the next witness. Thank you again.
18		(The witness withdrew)
19	(10	.45 am)
20		(A short break)
21	(10	56 am)
22	LAI	DY HALLETT: Ms Carey.
23	MS	CAREY: My Lady, before we call the next witness, can
24		I deal with one matter. You have just heard, now, from
25		four witnesses who are giving evidence from the bereaved
		29
1		Covid transmission, and its implication for infection
2		prevention and control in healthcare settings?
2	Α.	Yes, that's the case.
4	Q.	It has the formal INQ ending 474276 and we will be going
4 5	ω.	through a number of pages and paragraphs in it. I hope
6		you have a copy in front of you.
_	•	
7	A.	I have, yes.
8	Q.	Before we delve into the science, can I start with you,
9		please, and a little bit about your background. It's
10		set out at pages 4 and 5 of your report, but does it
11		come to this: that you are a bioengineer and
12		a physiologist and an emeritus professor of applied
13		physiology at Leeds Beckett University?
14 15	A.	I am, yes. I think you are a multidisciplinary scientist, with more
15	Q.	
16		than 25 years researching the transmission of infection
17		in hospitals, and you have worked in neurology as well?
18	A.	Yes, I have, yes.
19	Q.	You specialise in what is termed interdisciplinary
20		research and you have particular expertise in the
21		transmission of infectious diseases in hospitals?
22	A.	Yes.
23	Q.	And you also have particular expertise in ventilation
24		and the behaviour of aerosols in the air, biophysics and
25		the application of engineering interventions to mitigate 31
		UT

quir	/	11 September 2024
1		groups across the UK, and in addition to publishing
2		their statements the Inquiry also obtained statements
3		from four other individuals: Seema Bhalla,
4		Sam Smith-Higgins, Margaret Waterton and Fidelma Mallon.
5		Can I invite you, please, to publish both the four
6		people that we have heard from and indeed those four
7		additional statements onto the Inquiry website.
8	LAI	DY HALLETT: Certainly. I should say I was re-reading the
9		statements of the four bereaved that you are about to
10		publish earlier today and they are all as moving as the
11		evidence we have heard over the last few hours.
12		Also I should say that you mentioned I think in your
13		opening about documents being published. The default
14		setting will be publication unless there is a reason not
15		to.
16	MS	CAREY: Thank you very much, we are very grateful.
17		Can I invite now, please, Professor Clive Beggs to
18		be sworn.
19		PROFESSOR CLIVE BEGGS (affirmed)
20		Questions from LEAD COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY for MODULE 3
21	MS	CAREY: Thank you, sit down.
22	_	Professor, your full name, please?
23	Α.	My name is Clive Barron Beggs.
24	Q.	You have provided, I think, a 132-page report to
25		Module 3 dealing with the physical science underpinning 30
1		the transmission of infection?
2	Α.	Yes, those are all areas of my expertise.
3	Q.	Before entering academia, is it right that you worked as
4		a professional engineer designing ventilation and air
5		conditioning systems for buildings, and as such you have
6		knowledge, indeed intimate knowledge, of hospital
7		ventilation systems?
8	Α.	Yes, that was the first part of my career.
9	Q.	I think during the Covid pandemic, you worked and served
10		on the Royal Society Rapid Assistance in Modelling the
11		Pandemic working group?
12	Α.	l did, yes.
13	Q.	If it's not clear from what I've just said, you are
14	_	a research scientist but not a clinician?
15	Α.	That is absolutely the case.
16	Q.	I think though that you know that the Inquiry has
17		instructed a trio of experts with clinical background
18 10		who can help in relation to that matter?
19 20	A.	Yes.
20 21	Q.	All right.
21 22		Can we take down, please, the screen, thank you very much.
22		Can we at the outset, please, try to ensure that
23 24		when giving your evidence and people reading your
25		report understand the language and understand the

(8) Pages 29 - 32

1		science about the way that the Covid is transmitted.
2		All right?
3	Α.	Yes.
4	Q.	We're going to look, firstly, at the language, and
5		I think, Professor, you may have heard me explain that
6		although obviously we're dealing with SARS-CoV-2, for
7		ease I'm going to try to just refer to it as Covid-19?
8	Α.	Yes, and I will try to use the same but I probably will
9		slip into SARS-CoV-2, please forgive me, but and
10		I'll probably say SARS or SARS-CoV-1 for the other
11		one
12	Q.	For the other all right. If there is any confusion
13		we will do our best to clarify.
14	Α.	But I will also talk about the spread of Covid as well.
15	Q.	Thank you.
16	LAI	DY HALLETT: When we're talking about confusion,
17		Professor Beggs, I was having a conversation with
18		a doctor at the weekend, and of course "ventilation"
19		gets used in two different ways in this context, doesn't
20		it?
21	Α.	Yes.
22	LAI	DY HALLETT: There's the ventilation which is opening the
23		windows and you've got ventilating a patient.
24	Α.	Oh, right, yes, absolutely. In fact I've had this
25		happen in my professional life when we have been talking
		33
1		diseases are either hospital doctors, microbiologists,
2		virologists or infection control nurses. They're not
3		necessarily in fact they're not trained in
4		engineering generally, and so we have had a kind of two
5		parallel universes come up with one group of people who
6		are on the clinical side of things and mostly in the
7		medical and infection prevention and control which
8		I'm going to call IPC after that who have gone down
9		one route and used one set of terminology, whereas those
10		working in physics, engineering and aerosol science,
11		I suppose, have used another terminology, and I'm from
12		that camp, although I cross over into them.
13		So I will use I'm afraid that's the more correct
14		terminology, by the way, from the physics, so I'm going
15		to go with the physics. So that's there has been
16		a lot of confusion, that's all I'm saying.
17	Q.	We're going to look at perhaps some of the ways that
18		confusion plays out as we go through your evidence but
19		can I start, please, with in your report you use the
20		phrase "large droplets". What is a large droplet,
21		please?
22	Α.	Right, first of all, to say droplets/large droplets, I'm
23		using that term here, it's my term for this Inquiry
24		because people, especially from a lay background, need
05		

to know this -- we're talking the upper end of things

35

nquiry	,	11 September 20
1		to clinicians and there's been crossed wires.
2		Yes, you ventilate patients who are having problems
3		with breathing in intensive care units and places like
4		that, but in this occasion we're not talking about that.
5		I have done work on bits and pieces on that but in this
6		case we're talking about the ventilation of room spaces
7		like this room here and air movement in rooms.
8	LA	DY HALLETT: Thank you.
9	MS	CAREY: Thank you.
10		All right, some basic terminology, please, and
11		I think it starts on page 7 of
12	Α.	Yeah.
13	Q.	your report but I just want to ask you about the
14		language that you have used in the report because, as
15		I think you are aware, there is not necessarily
16		consensus about the terminology and we're going to just
17		be clear about what you mean by things and then we'll
18		look perhaps at what some other people say about the
19		terminology. All right?
20	Α.	Yes.
21 22	Q.	Can you help us, as a general starting point though, why does the terminology matter?
23	Α.	Well, the reason it matters is because, historically,
23 24	~ .	there has been an awful lot of confusion and, if you
24 25		think about it, most people involved in infectious
20		34
1		and they're above 100 microns, that's micrometres, I'll
2		use the term "micrometres" or "microns". It's the same
3		thing.
4	Q.	Is that the size of the particle?
5	Α.	That's the diameter of the particle but we abbreviate
6		that to 100 microns. And there is a very good reason
7		we'll explain in a minute.
-	-	

- **Q.** All right. So a larger droplet, in your terminology for 8 9 this report --
- 10 A. Is that, yes.
- Q. -- is a particle greater than 100 microns? 11
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. All right. Just help the layperson, can we see 14 a micron?
- 15 A. A micron is a thousandth of a millimetre, so we can just 16 about see those. You know, it's about the thickness of
- 17 a hair, I think. I think I read 50 microns is the
- 18 thickness of a hair but it's that type of order of
- magnitude. Yes, you can actually feel those droplets --19
- 20 Q. You can feel a larger droplet?
- 21 A. You can feel a larger droplet, you know, when someone 22 coughs on you or something.
- 23 ${\bf Q}.~$ In a nutshell, help us, how does a larger droplet behave 24 once it's in the air?
- 25 A. Right. So from an engineering point of view and 36

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		a physics point of view, it behaves ballistically and that means it's like "ballistic" means it's got some mass, it's got weight and, when you throw it so it's like throwing a stone. So it has a trajectory. So it's got some velocity and mass. And if we're talking in the context of respiratory aerosols, someone's exhaled it, either coughed it or whatever, these are so large that they will fall rapidly to the floor, and they can't go more than about 1 metre, 1.5 metres before they hit the floor. There's something to do with evaporation but I'm
11		sure we'll come to that later.
12	Q.	I'll cover that. All right, so the larger droplets
13		behave ballistically, either they
14	Α.	Yes, ballistically, like a stone being thrown, that's
15		the way to look at it. They've got a trajectory.
16	Q.	Thank you. Aerosol particles, please.
17	Α.	Yeah.
18	Q.	How have you defined them in your report?
19	Α.	I've defined them and used the general understanding
20		which has been around since the 1930s, really, in
21		engineering and physics, with relation to the
22		respiratory particles. They're the particles that are
23		less than 100 microns. Any particle of that size in
24		this context is that. There's not a strict actual
25		any demarcation for aerosols. It's the definition is
		37
1		therefore you can be interchangeable. Anything that's
1 2		therefore you can be interchangeable. Anything that's aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two
2		aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two
2 3	0	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are
2 3 4	Q.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking
2 3 4 5	Q.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite
2 3 4 5 6		aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated
2 3 4 5 6 7	Α.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Α.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Α.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	A. Q.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it helps.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	A. Q. A.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it helps. Absolutely.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. Q.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it helps. Absolutely. So larger droplets behave ballistically, they are
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 13	A. Q. A.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it helps. Absolutely. So larger droplets behave ballistically, they are 100 microns or greater; aerosol particles are less than
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Q. A. Q.	aerosol transmission is airborne transmission, the two are Pause there. We have a stenographer who is taking a note and you're also covering some quite complicated Yes. So I just want to try and break the answers down a little, if I may, and perhaps give slightly shorter answers and then we can ask for more information if it helps. Absolutely. So larger droplets behave ballistically, they are 100 microns or greater; aerosol particles are less than 100 and they float in the air, in short. Yes. Right. Okay. You spoke about the 100 microns being, effectively, the dividing line between larger droplets and aerosols. Is that a general agreement about that dividing line at 100 microns? This is where the historical confusion comes in.

- to do with the behaviour and the characteristics.
- 2 **Q.** Right.

1

- 3 A. I'm sure we'll talk about that in a minute.
- 4 Q. So you told us how the larger droplets behave. What
 - about the aerosol particles, how do they behave in air?
- 6 A. Right, so the aerosol particles, as I -- just to
- 7 reiterate, are below 100 microns, right, and they can be
- 8 various sizes down to very small sizes. The thing about
- 9 an aerosol, by definition an aerosol is a suspension,
- 10 a mixture of particles, and they can be liquid or solid
- 11 or a bit of both, which is what you have with
- 12 respiratory particles in air, in a gas, in air, and the
- 13 really key thing is they float, they're suspended,
- 14 they're floating in the air and the really important
- 15 point is that they take on the -- air is a fluid
- 16 actually, you don't think of it like that but it is, it
- 17 flows.
- 18 They take on the fluid mechanics, the fluid dynamics
- 19 of the overall fluid. So, in other words, wherever the
- 20 air goes, the particles go if they're an aerosol.
- 21 That's the definition.
- 22 Q. Right.
- 23 A. All right?
- 24 **Q.** So, in short, they float?
- 25 A. They float in the air, while they're in that air, and 38
- 1 I explain the -- why the division is there at 100? 2 Q. Yes. 3 A. Yep. The reason that's a division is that, as soon 4 as -- when you exhale particles, right -- so I'm just 5 going to call them particles, respiratory particles, 6 both aerosols and droplets -- they evaporate. There's 7 a lot of water in them so they immediately start to 8 evaporate and they shrink down to about a third of their 9 size and, basically -- so if they're less than say a 90-micron particle, that will end up at 30. In fact, 10 11 there's very little in that upper range, they're down at 12 30 and below. 13 However, the particles that are larger than 100, 14 they're so big that what happens is they don't have 15 a chance to evaporate before they hit the ground, so that's why the divide happens. 16 So this lot are kind of going down onto the floor, 17 18 whereas the ones smaller, they can kind of evaporate and they then are wafting round the room on the air 19 20 currents, basically, and they're aerosols. 21 Q. I think you said there that, where you used the phrase 22 "respiratory particles", you're using it as a term that 23 covers both the larger droplets and the aerosol 24 particles; is that right? 25 Yes, and the reason I -- I'm just -- to clarify that, Α. 40

- 1 when writing this report, I had to -- as we will go on 2 to explain, there's a lot of confusion. I had to set
- 3 out a framework and so it was extremely helpful just to
- 4 refer to them as "respiratory particles" and that's what
- 5 I'm doing here, referring to them all as that, including 6 everything.
- 7 Q. We are going to come on to look at the way in which
- 8 viral infections are transmitted, and obviously Covid in
- 9 particular, but I want to just stand back for a moment 10 and just get an overview of where we were at the start
- 11 of the pandemic and where we are now in 2024.
- 12 If I ask you now in 2024 how is Covid transmitted,
- 13 by which route I mean, what's your answer?
- 14 Α. My personal answer and my personal opinion,
- 15 predominantly by an airborne route. 16 Q.
- Right, by an airborne route, by which you mean by 17 aerosol particles?
- 18 Α. By aerosol particles, although obviously I'm not 19 excluding other routes as well, droplets and other 20 things involved, yeah.
- 21 Q. So --

- 22 A. That's my belief.
- 23 Q. -- it transmits via airborne but it does also transmit
- 24 via the droplets? 25 A. Oh, yes, and contact.
 - 41
- 1 Q. What about those who were advising, preparing papers,
- 2 preparing IPC guidance, are you able to tell us what
- 3 their view was back in 2020 as to how Covid was 4 transmitted?
- 5 A. Not the same as mine. The answer there is -- I should 6 have said, sorry -- qualified my own belief --
- 7 I believed it was airborne but I believed it was likely
- 8 to be airborne, that there was a strong component. So
- 9 when I say that, I'm not being exclusive, I'm saying
- 10 that my belief is probably that it was airborne.
 - No, the general belief was that it was by droplets
- 12 and contact and fomite transmission. That's something
- 13 which we'll come on to. That was the general consensus 14
- at the beginning of the pandemic, which is why so much 15 emphasis was on washing hands, and things like that.
- 16 Q. So the position has, in fact, evolved from droplet being 17 thought of as to be predominant in 2020 to now
- 18 certainly, by 2024, if not earlier, the role of airborne
- 19 transmission is now perhaps considered to be different 20 and more important --
- 21 A. Yes, the World Health Organisation is -- realises now that airborne is -- and the CDC -- that it makes 22
- 23 a significant contribution. There's still argument over
- 24 which is the predominant route, in various quarters but,
- you know, it's shifted, the consensus has shifted 25

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- Q. Right, and then we're going to come onto contact. In 1 2 a nutshell, what is contact transmission?
- 3 A. That's where we start to talk about hand-to-hand
- 4 contact, you know, someone, you know, coughing into
- 5 their hands, shaking hands with someone, and then the
- 6 other contacts are, for example, you cough, you touch
- 7 a door handle, something we call a fomite, it's
- 8 an inanimate object, and then someone else touches that
- 9 and touches their mouth or their eye or something.
- 10 There's a route of solid contacts in --
- 11 Q. We'll look at that in a bit more detail but they're the 12 three predominant routes that are in play for the
- 13 purposes of transmission?
- 14 A. Yeah, some people divide them up into subgroups -- into 15 different names but --
- 16 Q. Don't worry about that.
- 17 A. Basically, that's what we're talking about: the
- 18 aerosols, the droplets and then the contact routes,
- 19 which include fomite transmission.
- 20 **Q.** That is your opinion of how Covid is transmitted now in 21 2024. What was your opinion back in 2020 when the 22 opinion started?
- 23 A. It was airborne.
- 24 Q. Fine.
- 25 Α. That was my opinion personally.

- 1 considerably.
- 2 Q. Okay. A little bit more background, please, about how 3 respiratory viral infections transmit, and I think you 4 say at your paragraph 14, as is probably obvious, that 5 in order for an infection to spread --6 A. Yeah. 7 Q. -- the infectious individual must shed virus particles 8 into the environment in such numbers thought generally to range from several hundred to many thousands, 9 10 depending on the virus, such that a few eventually reach 11 the target receptors of a susceptible host. 12 Can we put that into perhaps more easily explicable 13 language? 14 Α. Yeah, I can easily do that, it's a numbers game really. 15 So we've got two ways of looking at this. The first one 16 is a mechanistic thing. This is what we do as engineers 17 and bioengineers, things have to get from A to B to 18 cause an infection. So you can look at it in terms of 19 the transmission route or routes. Someone's got to 20 produce some virus that's viable that's going to 21 transmit through the environment somehow. This could be 22 in the air, or it could be in the hands or whatever. 23 Then it's got to get to the target and the targets in 24 this case are receptors, which I'm sure we'll talk about 25
 - later on --

1	Q.	Pause there. Just help us: in relation to Covid what	1		there as
2		are the main receptors?	2	-	We'll ta
3	Α.	The main receptor with Covid is ACE2 receptors.	3	Q.	All right
4	Q.	Where are they in the body?	4		in your i
5	Α.	Predominantly the ones we're most interested in are in	5		the repo
6		the nasal cavity and also in the upper respiratory	6		togethe
7		tract, the lining of the mouth, throat, but they do go	7		the viru
8		down into the lungs. They're also on the eyes, and	8		and dro
9		I'm not so sure but I think also possibly on the lips as	9		there.
10		well, maybe there.	10		Car
11	Q.	Pausing there, that's, in short	11		here wit
12	Α.	But to a lesser extent, you know.	12	Α.	Yeah, th
13	Q.	Pausing there, that's in short as to how the virus Covid	13		lectures
14		gets into the body, mouth, down the tract, in through	14		that sun
15		the nose or in through the eyes?	15		So
16	Α.	Yes, there's got to be. It doesn't do it by magic.	16		side, yo
17		Things have to move from one place to the other and they	17		basicall
18		have to have some kind of vector, some transport. But	18		division
19		on top of that, I think you asked me earlier on if	19		are not
20		this is okay, or shall we leave this for later the	20		100 mic
21		numbers game	21		So
22	Q.	We'll come to the numbers in a minute. I just want to	22	Q.	Yes.
23		set out some basics and then we can descend to the	23	Α.	Now, we
24		detail as we go through your evidence.	24		there, th
25	Α.	Which sorry, just to clarify, I think that was in	25		everythi
1		say later but, at the moment, we're that's where the	1		are brea
2		infection occurs.	2		we'll tall
3	Q.	Right, exactly, let's just stick with the infected	3		come fr
4		person then. You can see there that we've got there	4		there's a
5		lungs and, indeed, you've highlighted or the figure	5		and onc
6		has highlighted the alveolar; is that deep into the	6		the roor
7		lungs, in short?	7		part.
8	Α.	The alveolar are right at the bottom end, right at the	8	Q.	Pause t
9		far end of the lungs, that's where the oxygen transfer	9	Α.	Yeah.
10		goes on.	10	Q.	We can
11	Q.	Right. We go up, effectively, through the bronchial,	11		sneezeo
12		laryngeal	12	Α.	Yeah.
13	Α.	Yeah, the bronchial is the larger	13	Q.	and th
14	Q.	into the person's mouth.	14		pointing
15	Α.	Yeah.	15		indicate
16	Q.	They may be sneezing or coughing here, it matters not,	16	Α.	Yes, tha
17		and out come the aerosols and the droplets?	17	Q.	Can I fir
18	Α.	Yeah. We basically call the kind of lower	18	Α.	Yep, so
19		respiratory tract is basically anything below where the	19	Q.	All right
20		kind of mouth and nose is	20		droplets
21	Q.	Right.	21	Α.	Yes, we
22	A.	down into the lungs; and the upper respiratory tract	22	Q.	All right
		is up from the larynx upwards. But, yeah, so this is	23		smaller
23					
		where all the droplets come from. There's a lot of	24		potentia
23		where all the droplets come from. There's a lot of fluid there basically in all that and, even when people	24 25		potentia then por

1		there as well about the hundreds, and things like that.
2		We'll talk about that later, yeah.
3	Q.	All right. Can I ask, please, about one of the diagrams
4		in your report and could we call up, please, page 10 of
5		the report and figure 1, which might help bring this
6		together. I think you've set out there how effectively
7		the virus transmits. You've spoken there about aerosols
8		and droplets and there's various size of droplets on
9		there.
10		Can you just help us, please, what are we looking at
11		here with the person on the left, the infected person?
12	Α.	Yeah, this is an excellent diagram which I use in my own
13		lectures, but it's not one I produced, it's from a paper
14		that sums up everything.
15		So just to if you can see on the far left-hand
16		side, you can see aerosols and droplets, and that
17		basically tells you everything we've said already, the
18		division, and they it highlights that the droplets
19		are not really inhalable and they're larger than
20		100 microns, whereas the aerosols are inhalable.
21		So if we see the infected person.
22	Q.	Yes.
23	Α.	Now, we're actually seeing the whole respiratory tract
24		there, the lungs and the upper respiratory tract and
25		everything. That's useful for maybe things we want to 46
1		are breathing, they're producing aerosols. So I'm sure
2 3		we'll talk about that later on but that's where they
3 4		come from or originate. And if they're infected, there's a virus in there, and that's going to come out,
5		and once they leave the mouth or the nose, they're in
6		the room space and in the environment, which is the next
7		part.
8	Q.	Pause there.
9	Α.	Yeah.
10	Q.	We can see then that the infected person has coughed or
11		sneezed or exhaled
12	Α.	Yeah.
13	Q.	and the size of the droplets and does the arrow
14		pointing down to the bottom or the middle of the page
15		indicate there effectively the ballistic way
16	Α.	Yes, that's
17	Q.	Can I finish?
18	Α.	Yep, sorry, my mistake.
19	Q.	All right. Can we see there the ballistic nature of the
20		droplets falling to the ground?
21	Α.	Yes, we can.
22	Q.	All right. Can we also see there the aerosols, the
23		smaller dots on the screen, floating across to the
24 25		potential host, over a distance of about 1 metre, and
25		then potentially going into the receptors on the 48

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1		potential host?
2	Α.	Broadly speaking, yes, you're right. At various sizes
3		there's aerosols. They are actually going more than
4		1 metre in this diagram.
5	Q.	Yes, they can keep going on the bottom.
6	Α.	They can go a lot further than 1 metre, I can assure
7		you.
8	Q.	Thank you.
9	Α.	They are yeah, they are then going into the receptors
10		in the susceptible person, in the host.
11	Q.	All right. Help us, please, the aerosols, the smaller
12		particles, where do they tend to end up in the potential
13		host?
14	Α.	They, what happens is that those aerosols are floating
15		in the air. They're various sizes, right, and they are
16		inhaled if they come into the in front of the face,
17		they're inhaled through the nose and through the mouth,
18		depending on whether you're mouth breathing or nose
19		breathing, and what actually happens during respiration
20		is you exhale out and so, when you're exhaling out
21		there's actually a jet of air coming out and it's
22		blowing away little aerosols, and then when you inhale,
23		which we call aspiration, we take a breath, through the
24		nose, actually the air velocities can be quite large,
25		they can be between 10 cm to up to 40 cm per second
		49
1		called a film burst, when you breathe out, and that's
2		just even in breathing, and you produce these tiny
3		aerosols and these are kind of like 1, 2-micron size,
4		they're really small.
5		, ,
-		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are
6		
6 7		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are
		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They
7		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe
7 8		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the
7 8 9		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there.
7 8 9 10		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there. The largest particles are generated in the actual
7 8 9 10 11		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there. The largest particles are generated in the actual mouth and they're saliva, that's where the big ones, the
7 8 9 10 11 12		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there. The largest particles are generated in the actual mouth and they're saliva, that's where the big ones, the over 100 microns.
7 8 9 10 11 12 13		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there. The largest particles are generated in the actual mouth and they're saliva, that's where the big ones, the over 100 microns. So actually the particle size reflects where they're
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		The other place where you get smaller aerosols are often around the vocal chords there as well. They produce slightly bigger but they're also 5 micron, maybe below 10 micron, they can be a range of sizes, so the fluid there. The largest particles are generated in the actual mouth and they're saliva, that's where the big ones, the over 100 microns. So actually the particle size reflects where they're generated and now we know also that the microbes, if
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1		and these capture the aerosols that are in that area,
2		that's both through the mouth or the nose, depending on
3		the rate of breathing, right, and how wide your mouth
4		is, and those capture them and the air sucks in and the
5		aerosols go in and then they impact in various parts.
6		The smaller ones tend to go deep into the lungs, into
7		the lower respiratory tract, whereas the larger
8		particles, over 10 microns, definitely stick around up
9		here.
10	Q.	All right. So we've just looked there at how the
11		infection gets into the potential host. I just want to
12		ask you this: where, in relation to Covid, is it your
13		view that infectious particles are generated in the
14		infected person? If it helps you, I'm at paragraph 26
15		in your report on page 13.
16	Α.	Well, I think I can probably answer it anyway but
17	А.	
		without looking to it. I think I'm just going to fly
18		blind.
19		Particle sizes it used to be thought that it
20		didn't matter where the particles were generated. Now
21		we understand that the particle sizes in the aerosols
22		actually reflect where they're generated in the human
23		body. So the smallest particles are actually generated
24		deep in the lungs because there's a kind of fluid lining
25		to the lungs, and something called a technical thing
		50
1	Α.	But in the lungs and the vocal chords, those are key
2		areas, as I'm sure we'll talk about later on, the
3		vocalisation, yeah.
4	Q.	Can you help us with whether it's the droplets or the
5		aerosols that are more likely to contain Covid or not,
6		which of the two?
7	Α.	It's the aerosols that are more likely. There's
8		a reason for this, and it goes back to it's a change
9		
10		in thinking, but we'll talk about that, I'm sure, later
10		in thinking, but we'll talk about that, I'm sure, later on when we talk about this stuff.
11	Q.	0
	Q. A.	on when we talk about this stuff.
11		on when we talk about this stuff. Now, how one
11 12		on when we talk about this stuff. Now, how one It's in the small droplets, that's it no, small
11 12 13	Α.	on when we talk about this stuff. Now, how one It's in the small droplets, that's it no, small aerosols. Small aerosols.
11 12 13 14	Α.	on when we talk about this stuff. Now, how one It's in the small droplets, that's it no, small aerosols. Small aerosols. Thank you, all right. So deep in the lungs, small
11 12 13 14 15	A. Q.	on when we talk about this stuff. Now, how one It's in the small droplets, that's it no, small aerosols. Small aerosols. Thank you, all right. So deep in the lungs, small aerosols, that's where the Covid And the vocal chords.
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- 23 this before but we are emitting -- I'll give you
- 24 a figure -- over 100 small aerosols per second in just
- 25 breathing. You can't see them but every one of us is 52

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the -- how it works.

Q. Can I just touch on evaporation, because you've told us

1		producing that now. Right? So they're not	
2		insubstantial. So even with just breathing, you produce	
3		thousands of these things and hundreds of thousands of	
4		them in an hour.	
5		The next level up, talking. You're bringing in the	
6		vocal chords now and they vibrate, they produce	
7		aerosols. Off the top of my head, I can't remember	
8		the	
9	Q.	Don't worry.	
10	Α.	But it comes, it's an appreciable increase. But the	
11		louder you talk, shouting, more gets produced. So if	
12		you're in a loud noisy situation, you raise your voice:	
13		more aerosols.	
14		Singing particularly lots of aerosols. There are	
15		nearly up to I think a figure sticks in my head of	
16		about 900 aerosols per second.	
17		Then we go to the things that we the kind of	
18		symptomatic coughing and sneezing.	
19	Q.	Yes.	
20	Α.	They're slightly different in the sense that when you	
21		have a cough and especially a sneeze you get a violent	
22		action and that brings in the whole of the system and	
23		that strips out more so you get a wider range, you	
24		get larger droplets produced in those things and a lot	
25		of droplets in a lot of particles in between. That's	
		53	
1		they're losing them even faster, so they're going right	
2		down. They've got moisture in there they've also got	
3		proteins and other solids in there so they evaporate	
4		down into these things, right? Whereas the larger	
5		droplets, they've got a small surface area in comparison	
6		to their mass, so the evaporation is less with the	
7		larger droplets, hence why they struggle to evaporate	
8		before they hit the ground. But, generally speaking,	
9		the kind of rule of thumb and that's why we to	
10		make sense of this, around about a third of their size,	
11		that's a good rule of thumb.	
12	Q.	Can I just see if I've understood this correctly: is it	
13		the case that the aerosols evaporate quickly?	
14	Α.	Rapidly, yes, within	
15	Q.	Right, but the larger particles don't evaporate before	
16		they hit the floor?	
17	Α.	Yeah, simple, that's the general overall thing, and the	
18		ones that evaporate go to about a third of their size.	
19	Q.	Right, understood. But the smaller particles, the ones	
20		less than 100 microns, presumably they can become still	
21		suspended in the air and float around?	
22	Α.	Absolutely, yes, I mean, just to clarify one point, just	
23		to give an illustration	
24	Q.	Please do.	
25		if you produce an acread, as any you had	
25	Α.	 if you produce an aerosol, so say you had, 	

2	ω.	Can't just touch on evaporation, because you ve tolu us
3		about the respiratory particles being made up of water,
4		which clearly evaporates. If it helps you, Professor,
5		I'm around paragraph 30 on page 15 of your report, but
6		I think so you say this:
7		" no matter [what] their size, all respiratory
8		particles comprise mainly of water, because they're
9		formed in the lungs, throat and mouth
10		" as soon as the particles exit the mouth or nose
11		and enter drier air, they immediately start to lose
12		water due to evaporation and dramatically shrink in size
13		to about a third of their original diameter."
14		Help us with the droplet and the aerosols and how
15		they evaporate?
16	Α.	Right. You know, I've done plenty of modelling of this
17		over the years in my own work. You've got to understand
18		that a small particle has a small mass for a very large
19		surface area, you know, think of a small you know,
20		we're talking balls, from like football, the large one,
21		going down to kind of like, you know, marble size or
22		whatever. So the relationship, as you get smaller, the
23		surface area is much greater to the mass. So you
24		evaporate through the surface area.
25		So these poor small aerosols, small particles, 54
1		you know it doesn't mean that you're at 100,
1 2		you know it doesn't mean that you're at 100, you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of
2		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of
2 3		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of the mouth, you can have something at 10, something at
2 3 4		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of the mouth, you can have something at 10, something at 20, so if you had a 15-micron particle, that is so
2 3 4 5		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of the mouth, you can have something at 10, something at 20, so if you had a 15-micron particle, that is so small, in comparison to its large surface area, it's
2 3 4 5 6		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of the mouth, you can have something at 10, something at 20, so if you had a 15-micron particle, that is so small, in comparison to its large surface area, it's going to have evaporated down within, you know, a few
2 3 4 5 6 7		you know, it's a whole gradation of things coming out of the mouth, you can have something at 10, something at 20, so if you had a 15-micron particle, that is so small, in comparison to its large surface area, it's going to have evaporated down within, you know, a few centimetres from the mouth. It's done its evaporation
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aerosols?

in the large droplets.

1	Q.	Please do.
2	Α.	Right, so, and it's a perfectly logical position to hold
3		this, by the way, and I used to believe it myself,
4		right? That was my understanding, so it's reasonable to
5		appreciate this.
6		So when you look at all those droplets and aerosols,
7		all the respiratory particles that come out of the mouth
8		during, let's say, a cough, for example, right,
9		an exhalation event, a cough. So if you added them all
10		together, you would have a bulk of fluid, right, and we
11		know that the virus is in that fluid, right?
12		But, actually, if we looked at the quantity of the
13		fluid, if you think about it, the actual volume of the
14		fluid, most of that fluid, kind of 90% of it, is
15		actually in particles that are over 10 microns in
16		diameter. The bulk of the fluid is in the big droplets,
17		right, which you think, well, what's the point of that,
18		until you go to the next stage.
19		So where's the virus likely to be? And we thought
20		that the fluid was all the same and we thought we
21		didn't understand completely that the virus reflected
22		where the sites where they were generated. We
23		thought that it was just evenly distributed through the
24		whole of the fluid. So that meant if most of the fluid
25		was in the large droplets then most of the virus must be 57

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3		prevention and control and public health, and you will
4		see it as we'll talk in other documents, made the
5		assumption, and many scientific papers made the
6		assumption, that the bulk of the virus was in those
7		large droplets that don't travel very far. Now, that is
8		not the case.
9	Q.	Right.
10	Α.	But that's only been discovered in the last ten years or
11		so, 10/12 years, right, as the science improved. But we
12		will I'm sure talk about that.
13	Q.	Right. My Lady, can I interpose at this point to say
14		this: Professor Beggs has very helpfully in his report
15		set out key findings which summarise a number of
16		paragraphs and pages, so if anyone is either struggling
17		to follow or wants to have a quick easy reference guide,
18		the key finding boxes are very helpful in drawing all of
19		this together. So can I just put that advert out there,
20		if I may, in an attempt, I hope, to help anyone who is
21		following online in particular.
22		Can I just ask you this, please, Professor: is there
23		any scenario or situation in which someone could produce
24		a droplet without also generating significant amounts of

So, historically, those involved in infection

58

1		means but, anyway, virus shedding is basically just the
2		number of viruses that are just kind of released by
3		an infectious person, by whatever means.
4	Q.	Now, in relation to Covid, obviously there may be
5		a period of time where you are infectious but you don't
6		know that you are. Right?
7	Α.	Absolutely.
8	Q.	Asymptomatic, as it's sometimes called. There's also
9		the presymptomatic period.
0	Α.	Well
1	Q.	Help us with those and what you say at paragraph 38,
2		please, in your report.
3	Α.	Absolutely. You've led me nicely to the right point
4		there. Right, when you come into contact with someone
5		who is infectious, so they may not appear infectious,
6		they may not be coughing, that's, you know, they may be
7		perfectly all right, they don't realise they're
8		infectious, and that's what we call asymptomatic. They
9		don't show any symptoms, right, but they're still
20		infectious.
21		However, when you meet them, you don't know whether
22		they're they're not showing any symptoms but in two
23		or three days' time, they may get very, very ill and
24		feel really unwell and stay at home. Actually, they're

asymptomatic at that time but they go on to develop 60

UK Covid-19 Inquiry

1		symptoms, so we say they are presymptomatic.	1
2		So, strictly speaking, "asymptomatic" refers to	2
3		people who never show any symptoms but it's a kind of	3
4		loose thing, it overlaps with presymptomatic. It's	4
5		a working term for it can include presymptomatic	5
6		people, I would use it in that way. So, in other words,	6
7		I would say it is people who appear to have no symptoms	7
8	~	and are still infectious.	8
9	Q.	Right. So that period of time when you don't know	9
10		you've got it, in short, because you feel all right	10
11 12	A.	Yeah.	11
12	Q.	help us there, please. I think that's when you say	12 13
13		in your report that that's when the individual is most contagious?	13
14	Α.	0	14
16	А.	become symptomatic, if they do become symptomatic, and	15 16
17		for that two to three days beforehand and shortly	10
18		afterwards, I think is also fair to say. It then starts	18
19		to subside, the infectivity, after their symptoms	10
20		develop. Is that is that all right?	20
21	Q.		20
22	۹.	people are walking around, feeling well but could in	22
23		fact be transmitting the virus?	23
24	Α.	-	24
25	Q.	All right. I think you said in your report that the	25
		61	
1		you certainly will have exactly the same you'll have	1
2		a presymptomatic period where you're not showing	2
3		symptoms and you're still shedding.	3
4	Q.	So whatever time you're incubating the virus for, there	4
5		is a period of time, potentially, where you are	5
6		contagious and you don't know you're ill and, therefore	6
7		may not be wearing a mask, may not be hand washing, may	7
8		be in close contact with people, all of the ways in	8
9		which the virus could easily spread?	9
10	Α.	Yes, and you may be singing, which	10
11	Q.	Right.	11
12	Α.	you know, is not a good situation.	12
13	Q.	Can I just deal with a few more questions, please, about	13
14		asymptomatic transmission and then perhaps we'll take	14
15		a break, if we may, my Lady. Thank you.	15
16		It helps you, Professor, Can I turn you please to	16
17		page 22 of your report. Your "Key findings" box at the	17
18		top of that page may be the easy way into this. Thank	18
19		you very much. It may be the easy way into these few	19
20		questions.	20 21
21 22		I think you set out there that:	21 22
22		"A third to half of all Covid-19 cases are	22
23 24	۸	asymptomatic" Yeah, my understanding in fact it varies by age	23 24
24 25	Α.		
		aroun. So in children it's even higher than that and	25
20		group. So in children it's even higher than that, and 63	25

luir	y	11 September 2024				
4						
1		virus was able to spread for maybe two to three days				
2		before any symptoms develop but with Covid there were				
3		variations between the various strains in how long				
4		people were incubating the virus for?				
5	Α.	Yeah, I think right, so in that paragraph there,				
6		I use the term "incubation". So incubation is not quite				
7		the same as shedding. Incubation is from the minute you				
8		first get infected. At that point, you're not shedding				
9		that much virus because you're not that infected. You				
10		know, you are infected but it hasn't had a chance to				
11		replicate in your body but, as it starts to replicate,				
12		then you become infectious.				
13		So for I think the original figure that I've got				
14		down here, the figure that sticks in my head is four to				
15		seven days, I think that's for the original strain, the				
16		Wuhan strain of the virus.				
17	Q.	So you've got 4.6 to 6.4 days				
18	Α.	Yes, four to seven days, it sits there. But for the				
19		subsequent waves, the delta, the omicron, they've found				
20		the incubation periods were shorter, so it came on				
21		quicker.				
22		Presumably then, also that would mean that the				
23		a similar type of period of asymptomatic or				
24		presymptomatic infection, but I'm not an expert on that				
25		so I'm going to say that I'm on dodgy ground there. But				
		62				
1		young people. But in older people and elderly people,				
2		it's much less than that. So it kind of balances out.				
3		About 30 to 40% is the kind of figures that I see are				
4		asymptomatic. Yeah, that's, I think that's reasonable				
5		to sav				
6	Q.	Then you go on to say there that:				
7	ч.	"Although asymptomatic transmission of [SARS or				
8		Covid] is a widespread phenomenon, early in the pandemic				
9		it was not known to what extent it occurred. SAGE				
10		regularly reported on the gradually strengthening				
11		evidence base and by September 2020 confirmed				
12		definitively that it was occurring."				
13	Α.	Yeah, it's a really tricky one, this, in the sense that,				
14	Λ.	you know, what do we mean by "asymptomatic				
15		transmission", is this people who were asymptomatic all				
16		the way through or presymptomatic and that was				
17		a blurring line, so it makes it very difficult, but they				
18						
10 19		were aware early you know, in the SAGE minutes that I've seen, they were discussing it and they were aware				
		that this was a potential problem. But they didn't know				
20 21						
21 22		the extent to it, and there's a BMJ article, I think, in				
		December of that year, that is saying we still don't				
23		know the magnitude of it. But, certainly by the minutes				

- of the meeting in the September, this was becoming --
- you know, it was firming up. 64

1	Q.	I think it's important to point out, isn't it, that	1		break: you reference there that there is some evidence
2		asymptomatic infection does not necessarily lead to	2		that flu can also be transmitted by asymptomatic people
3		asymptomatic transmission; is that correct?	3		who are infectious. Why have you made reference there
4	A.	Yes, except for, of course, we've got the problem of	4		to flu when predominantly we're talking about Covid?
5		presymptomatic is asymptomatic at the time, so it's how	5	Α.	Right, throughout this, I was given a brief to look at
6		you define it. So it doesn't always there is some	6		the transmission of infection and you can't if you're
7		evidence that some people who never develop symptoms	7		looking at pandemic preparedness, it was all around
8		have a lower viral load, so they're less infectious but,	8		influenza. Influenza and I would also put RSV, another
9		of course, that person who you meet at work or whatever,	9		respiratory infection, the mechanisms of transmission
10		who doesn't show any symptoms but has Covid, you don't	10		are all very similar. The viral agent's different, so
11		know whether they're presymptomatic or asymptomatic, so	11		it makes sense to look at them, so I have looked also a
12		it's a very blurry boundary, that's what I'm saying.	12		influenza, I was asked to look at influenza and, as
13	Q.	Finally, in those key findings, asymptomatic	13		I was doing that, I was asked by the Inquiry to look at
14		transmission of Covid accounts for many of the	14		the asymptomatic transmission of influenza, which I hav
15		infections acquired in hospitals, and we'll probably	15		to confess I'd never looked at, and so I dug down into
16		hear more of that, my Lady, with the IPC trio next week.	16		the information.
17	Α.	Yeah. I was going to mention that, because not being	17		So I don't claim to be an expert on asymptomatic
18		a clinician and, you know, I read the papers and I'm	18		transmission of influenza but I looked into the evidence
19		aware of this and I was asked to comment on it, but the	19		base and it was interesting because there were some
20		clear evidence from what others have reported is that	20		contrasting views but the overall consensus was that,
21		asymptomatic transmission, both amongst healthcare	21		yes, it does occur but not to the same extent as with
22		workers and patients, made a major contribution to	22		Covid, right? So that's why I looked at it.
23		transmission in hospitals and other healthcare	23	Q.	
24		environment	24		planning was based about flu and flu could transmit
	Q.	Just the final bullet point there, before we take our	25		asymptomatically, those that were looking at Covid and
		65			66
1		drawing parallels with the flu planning might therefore	1		Oh yes, before the pandemic, I think it is anyway.
2		have thought more quickly, "Ah, well, asymptomatic	2	LA	DY HALLETT: Don't worry. That's
2 3		have thought more quickly, "Ah, well, asymptomatic transmission could also be a route in relation to	2 3	LA A.	DY HALLETT: Don't worry. That's Sorry, I'm searching through my text here.
2 3 4		have thought more quickly, "Ah, well, asymptomatic transmission could also be a route in relation to Covid"?	2 3 4	LA A. MS	DY HALLETT: Don't worry. That's Sorry, I'm searching through my text here. S CAREY: May I make a suggestion, that we take a brea
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4		
1		DY HALLETT: I'll let you off.
2	Α.	But I think the first point there is it's not clear-cut
3		by any means. Difficulties are because, frankly, how do
4		you know who's truly asymptomatic and how much are
5		presymptomatic. But you can see the dates here, right
6		at the top, the first sentence, it says:
7		"Most cases of seasonal influenza are thought to be
8		asymptomatic."
9		And that was someone Hayward in 2014. However,
10		that's disputed by various people and various things and
11		methodologies and everything. And this comprehensive
12		so we're down at about line 5 or 6 a comprehensive
13		meta-analysis in 2015 said really that's 16%. And
14		that's Leung in 2015. So it was definitely there.
15		But the key point, at the bottom, just to get it
16		over, is of course those people, if they're lower
17		infectious and fewer symptoms, they mix more, so whether
18		they were transmitting more depends on not only how ill
19		they were but also how much they mixed, shall we say.
20		Sorry, I've added that on.
21	1015	CAREY: No, don't worry, because I think what I just
22		wanted to try to be clear, and I know this will
23		resonate, my Lady, with evidence you've heard,
24 25		I suspect, in Modules 1 and 2, I think there was
25		a pre-pandemic flu strategy in 2011, and we're going to 69
1		it helps you, we're at page 24 and I'd like to
2		examine with you, please, the movement of infectious
3		particles through the air.
4		Now, we've probably touched on it a little bit by
5		looking at the ballistic way that the droplets behave in
6		contrast to the way that the aerosols float through the
7		air my paraphrasing, I appreciate but there we
8		have, I hope, at the top, a little summary of that:
9		"Exhaled respiratory droplets [greater than
10		100 microns] behave ballistically fall to the
11		floor
12		"Smaller particles shrink due to
13		evaporation"
14		As we've looked at:
15		" and become [even smaller] aerosol particles
16		which can float in [the] air."
17		Now, help us, please, you say:
18		"These small aerosol particles can take many minutes
19		(even hours) to settle out of the air and therefore can
20		be transported long distances around [the] rooms by air
21		currents."
22	Α.	Can I direct you can we put it up? direct you to
23		paragraph table 1 in paragraph 59.
24	Q.	Yes, I'm going to come on to that, but if it helps you
25		to answer the questions, please do. Because what
		71

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perhaps look at that little later with Professor Beggs,

- 2 so there is the underpinning document in 2011 and then
- 3 these various studies in 2014, 2017, 2015, et cetera,
- 4 albeit not consensus on that either, that suggested
- 5 though that flu was thought to be asymptomatic. So
- 6 we'll just keep that chronology, if we may, in our minds
- 7 as we go through.
- 8 A. Can I just clarify --
- 9 **Q.** Yes.
- 10 A. -- what I'm saying here? It was known that some
- 11 influenza transmission was asymptomatic before the
- 12 pandemic.
- 13 **Q.** Yes?
- 14 LADY HALLETT: And the dispute was on how many?
- 15 A. How many.
- 16 LADY HALLETT: Yes.
- 17 A. And it was to do with methodology.
- 18 LADY HALLETT: So I can confidently say that it was known
- 19 that some cases of flu are asymptomatic?
- A. All I've reported is what was in the papers, and that's
 what was said --
- 22 LADY HALLETT: Thank you?
- 23 A. The references are all there.
- 24 MS CAREY: Thank you very much, Professor.
- 25 New topic if I may, please -- and in your report, if 70

1		I really wanted to know was: how long does it take? How
2		far can they go?
3	Α.	That's what I was going to do.
4	Q.	All right.
5	Α.	That's where the table would be that's it, thank you.
6		Right. Back in 1851 a guy called Stokes developed
7		a whole load of laws to do with basically it was
8		understood how aerosols behave, right, and how particles
9		in air behave, and we use them in engineering to predict
10		how aerosols behave, and basically Stokes' law can be
11		applied both to moving particles but also to particles
12		in still air.
13		And here, what we have here is a table for various
14		sizes, and I just did it for illustrative purposes,
15		a range of sizes, and I'm assuming 2 metres, which is
16		the height of a tall person, producing but it's an
17		approximate height and you can see there that say
18		we take a 5-micron particle.
19	Q.	Yes.
20	Α.	That actually takes descends at about well, it
21		takes 32 minutes to fall to the floor.
22	Q.	Right. So if someone were 2 metres tall
23	Α.	Yeah, it's a bit high, but height of a

- 24 Q. Yeah.
- 25 **A.** 32 minutes, right? So we can set the clock and we can 72

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1		wait until half past and it's still falling. And that's
2		in an absolutely still room. This room and every other
3		room that you will be in has movement, because basically
4		if you have a mechanical system we've got lots of
5		movements in here, but when people move walk around
6		and we're each producing what's called a thermal
7		plume, because we've got we're warm and we have
8		a convective so there is lots of air movement, so
9		they will stay airborne for a lot longer than this.
10	LAI	DY HALLETT: Can I just interrupt to say the transcriber's
11		software has crashed, but they will catch up on the
12		transcript.
13	MS	CAREY: Thank you very much.
14	-	So you mentioned there the thermal plume. Help us,
15		where is it? What is it? How does it work?
16	Α.	Oh, right, yeah, it's been overlooked a lot.
17		Yeah, thermal plume, basically your skin is at
18		about, I don't know, 36, 37 37 degrees, the air's at
19		20 degrees, when it comes into touch into contact
20		
		with you, you're warm and you get you've got every
21		one of us here has got a rising current of air,
22		convective current of air, passes over the face, round
23		the back of the head, and you've got a big plume and
~ 4		
24	_	we can actually visualise this
24 25	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps
	Q.	
	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps
	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps
25	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73
25 1	Q. Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73 heavy particles fall out. But it can also go for
25 1 2		Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73 heavy particles fall out. But it can also go for radiators, you know
25 1 2 3	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73 heavy particles fall out. But it can also go for radiators, you know I was going to ask, yes?
25 1 2 3 4	Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73 heavy particles fall out. But it can also go for radiators, you know I was going to ask, yes? they can do the same thing, it's an area that's
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25 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. A. Q. Q.	Pause there, because there may be a diagram that helps 73 heavy particles fall out. But it can also go for radiators, you know I was going to ask, yes? they can do the same thing, it's an area that's not it's the big difference between indoor transmission and outdoor transmission. It's one of the key differences. Right. Outdoor it just goes up and it's distributed. Right. So the virus can go up in the particles, up through the upwards through the thermal plume, and then into, presumably, any current of air that is within the room? Well, in fact, here we've got what we call four-ways movement diffusers, they're something called a Coanda effect, they're shooting air underneath the ceiling, so if someone is producing a thermal plume that then mixes with that and there's particles in it, they will be clistributed around. So this idea it's very complex, it's complex fluid mechanics, and it's different in every space, but this idea that we can just say a particle falls out of

1		you.
2		Could I call up, please, figure 7 on page 26 of the
3		report, because I think this will demonstrate what
4		you're so there's a person at the bottom?
5	Α.	Yeah, this is my colleague at Queen Mary's in London.
6	Q.	Right. And the halo, for want of a better phrase, is
7		that the thermal plume?
8	Α.	It is, yeah. What we did there, this is something
9		called Schlieren photography, which is a very specialist
10		type of photography which is useful in this situation.
11		The horizontal line, by the way, in this particular
12		is us trying to simulate a ceiling, right?
13	Q.	Okay.
14	Α.	So what actually happens, and we've got a video of this
15		online, you can see that we had this constant flow of
16		streams of air going up. They get to the ceiling and
17		then they spill out across the ceiling, depending on the
18		height of the ceiling of course, and you can see it
19		really is quite they could be kind of moving at the
20		highest above the head at about, you know,
21		30 centimetres, a foot, a second, and that can transport
22		quite large aerosols up.
23		What we think is happening, anything that gets
24		entrained into that goes up to the ceiling, then fans
25		out and then after a while it gets slowed down and the 74
		14
	_	
1	Q.	Can I see if I understand this correctly. Your thermal
2		plume sitting there will travel upwards?
3	A.	Yeah.
4	Q.	And on a current could, therefore, flow in the direction
5	•	of her Ladyship, me, everyone else
6	Α.	Yeah, it could do. Obviously the smaller particle
7 0		the heavier the particle the point about the aerosol is that it will only the particles will only stay
8 9		,
9 10		suspended in the air until the air current drops in its strength, at which point they start to descend, but they
11		then fall into the next they kind of do
12		that (indicated), you know, but they go a lot further.
12		So the table in table 1 is an ideal situation in
14		still air.
14	Q.	Yeah.
16	Q. A.	And unfortunately I've seen in lots of literature people
17	Ω.	saying the worst case is they say, like, a 5-micron
18		particle can't go more than a metre, which is just
10		
19		wrong, but people sometimes take a value off here, but

rooms are not still, that's the whole point. That's the

whatever metric you wish to use, an aerosol can travel?

In a room like this perhaps, might be the easier way of

76

bit that I'm trying to get over.

thinking about it.

22 Q. Are you able to help us with how far, in metres or

(19) Pages 73 - 76

1	Α.	Yeah, they can travel a long way, much further than
2		2 metres. Right? That's from the social distancing
3		point of view, and where we we'll talk about near
4		field and far field. But if we could look at figure 8,
5		please.
6	Q.	I thought you were going to turn to that.
7		My Lady, it is behind tab 8 and it is INQ000497038.
8		This is going to be, when we get it on screen there
9		we are.
10	Α.	Oh, right, yeah, that's I didn't think that was
11		figure 8, actually, but it doesn't matter, this is good
12		as well.
13	Q.	Just do it with this well, this one is in the context
14		of a six-bed bay
15	Α.	Yeah, this is very good. Figure 8 in the report was
16		actually also computational fluid dynamics.
17		CFD stands for computational fluid dynamics and its'
18		a tool that we use, physicists and engineers use, to
19		simulate complex flows of air and particles and fluids
20		in various environments.
21		And this is actually work that we had done at
22		Addenbrooke's, I worked with the Addenbrooke's team
23		there, at Addenbrooke's Hospital, and this is
24		similar is one of the wards there, where you have
25		a classic six-bedded bay. And what happens is we used
		77
1		Sorry, you said a simulation there. This is
2		a simulation
3	Q.	Yes.
4	Α.	but in fact, just to clarify that and we also did
5		measurements, we had particle counters throughout the
6		whole ward now, these are not looking at bioaerosols,
7		they're just looking at particulates throughout the
8		whole ward. And in an earlier study we actually
9		measured the transport and we've published this in the

- 9 measured the transport, and we've published this in the 10 Journal of Hospital Infection, and what we found was,
- for example, when the ward round came round, we saw the 11
- 12 particles go up in one part of the ward, you know, 10,
- 15 metres away at the far end, and then those particles 13
- 14 just migrated all the way through -- as with the ward
- 15 round, as the doctors went round, but also as the air 16 currents moved. Which is exactly what we're seeing
- 17 here.
- Thank you. 18 Q.
- It's not just simulation. 19 Α.
- 20 Q. No. Understood.

21	Perhaps if we just take that diagram down, please,
22	because it brings me on to inhalation and the risk of
23	inhalation.
24	And if it helps you, Professor, I'm at paragraphs 65
25	onwards in your report, which is at page 28.

1		some a team of aerodynamicists used computational
2		fluid dynamics to simulate the transmission of aerosol
3		particles.
4		And there we have a bed the dark bed on the
5		right-hand side in the middle of the six-bedded bay is
6		a patient who is infectious. We can't see the thermal
7		plume here they're lying in bed, they're exhaling
8		out and this is actually 2.5-micron particles, and we
9		built in the thermal plume. And what you see is the
10		density of the particles after ten minutes in that space
11		of regular breathing out and exhaling particles, and you
12		can see them migrating all the way through.
13		And in fact as part of the studies we did at
14		Addenbrooke's, we looked at the particles and we could
15		see them migrating throughout the whole ward within
16		minutes. You know, it takes time, that's what
17		I'm trying to say. They can transmit 10 metres easily.
18	Q.	So although this is a simulation of a six-bedded bay,
19		one can see there that not only is there the infection
20		concentrated around the infectious patient but the two
21		beds either side of the infectious patient, and indeed
22		the aerosol beginning to spread out to the other three
23		patients and up to the top of the bay
24	Α.	Into the corridor, that's the corridor towards the
25		nurses' station.
		78
1	Α.	Yep.
2	Q.	Just give me a moment to turn that up.
3		(Pause)
5		(

(Pause)

- It's probably evident, just looking at the key findings first of all, that when aerosols are inhaled the different size particles land in different places within the respiratory system. Right? Α. Mm. Q. The smallest particles, which as you told us before the break are more likely to contain the virus, they tend to travel deep into the lungs, while the larger aerosol particles land in the mouth and throat? Yes. But -- yes, shall I --13 Α. 14 Q. Do you have a caveat to that? Yeah. There is no clear cut-off, right. So Α. historically, the kind of -- which comes back from almost the end of the Spanish flu in the First World War, you know, the early part of the 20th century, so
- 18
- 19 it's pretty old science, but it was realised then that 20 particles that were less than 5 microns tended to travel
- 21 into the lower respiratory tract. What that means is
- 22 that they went deep into the lungs.
- 23 Particles above that size that were inhaled tended
- 24 to stick in the nasal cavity, in the upper respiratory
- 25 tract.

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 that was small microns, whereas things like influenza, which predominantly infects the upper respiratory tract first and foremost, they thought: well, that must be in particles bigger than 5 microns. And well come on to that later. But the truth of the matter is it's a gradation. it's roughly around three but it's kind of 10 to 5 microns. 10 microns can go deep into the lungs as well, and some 5 microns can stay up in the upper respiratory tract, but the important point there is that particles in inhalation up to 100 microns can be inhaled if the air's strong enough to if they're in the region, they can but they don't go deep, they just stay up here. But most of the particles that are being inhaled and tend to end up somewhere in the system are under 20 microns, that's the general rule. But it's not hard and fast. Q. No, understood, all right. Now, I think you said, though, in your report at paragraph 66 that: "Aerosol particles tend to be light and slow moving, and as such are easily inhaled." 81 1 land on - that's trickier. In my opinion it's trickier, but traditionally it's thought Q. Pausing there, if we just think about it A. That's the droplets, not the aerosol. Q. I know. If we just pause there and think about it in the context of a nurse taking a vital sign, blood pressure or temperature in the ear, essentially what you're saying there is that the droplet, the larger paticle, can easily, if they're up close to them, end up in the eye, or in the mouth, albeit that you're A. Absolutey. Well, I personally find it harder to see how it gets up the nose, because what's happening is these droplets are tending to fail away, and they're and so the nose	1		And clinicians use that as a demarcation to do with
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	24		it's a route, but the epidemiology supporting this is
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			83

1	Α.	Yes.
2	Q.	" if a susceptible person is close to an infectious
3		person then there is the potential for droplets
4		transmission via the eyes or mucus membranes of the
5		nose and mouth"
6		Is that correct?
7	Α.	Yeah. Yes. I'm just trying to see this. Yeah.
8		So the this is about droplet transmission, the
9		larger droplets, right?
10	Q.	It is.
11	Α.	So we're talking about larger than 100 microns. They
12		can't travel very far. So if someone's in close
13		proximity to someone else, within a metre, say, and
14		someone coughs or sneezes and they're infectious,
15		they're going to produce a whole load of aerosols and
16		droplets but those droplets have got a trajectory and
17		they're ballistic, and they can land we all know it,
18		we've all experienced it when someone's coughed or
19		spoken, you can feel the spit, you know, on your
20		forehead that's a very large droplet, but they could
21		land on your eye, and there's some ACE2 receptors there,
22		or sialic receptors with influenza. And that could
23		cause an infection, a route of what we call a portal
24 25		of entry. Or, and it's a bit more ambiguous on this
25		one, it could land on your lips, for example. It could 82
1		this is what is sunnosed to hannen, and it's plausible
1		this is what is supposed to happen, and it's plausible, definitely
2	Q.	definitely.
	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your
2 3	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are
2 3 4	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your
2 3 4 5	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the
2 3 4 5 6	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled
2 3 4 5 6 7	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	A.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure in the same position as the droplets, you can't have
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure in the same position as the droplets, you can't have droplets without aerosols. So if that patient if
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure in the same position as the droplets, you can't have droplets without aerosols. So if that patient if that nurse has got no mask on, for example, they may
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure in the same position as the droplets, you can't have droplets without aerosols. So if that patient if that nurse has got no mask on, for example, they may receive a droplet in the eye, it's a fairly small
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q.	definitely. Now, let's look at the aerosol particles and your paragraph 67, and you say that because they are suspended in the air, the quantity that will be inhaled is directly proportional to the concentration of the particles in the air and the volume of the air that is inhaled. So take a slightly different example now, the nurse is not taking blood pressure or the temperature but is on the other side of the room dealing with another patient, help us please with what you say there and the level of risk to the nurse. Yes, I will, but I want to just say one thing in relation Of course. because it's important to do this. So let's make the nurse, again taking blood pressure in the same position as the droplets, you can't have droplets without aerosols. So if that patient if that nurse has got no mask on, for example, they may

25 opinion, that's a higher likelihood. So in that near 84

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1		field they can get that. But of course aerosols don't
2		just stop there, they pass on further. So now we go to
3		the longer range thing that you've just described.
4		So
5	Q.	We're going to look at near field and far field, so it
6		is as well to deal with it now.
7	Α.	Right, so going back to the concentration of the
8		particles, it's irrespective, from the aerosol point of
9		view, of whether it's in the near field or the far
10		field, near or further away, you breathe in some air
11		which has some virus in it, viral particles. So it's
12		actually just the number of viral particles is the
13		risk is related to the this is the numbers game: the
14		more viral particles you inhale, the more likelihood
15		that one's going to hit one of those receptors and cause
16		the infection.
17		So you can it's to do with the volume of air
18		inhaled, wherever you are in the room, and the
19		concentration of particles in that. And obviously if
20		you're close up, the concentration's likely to be
21		greater than if you're further away. And the volume of
22		air inhaled, that's the total volume, depends on how
23		fast you're breathing, how much you take in, but also
24		how long you are. So we now have
25	Q.	As in how long you are exposed?

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. All else being equal?
- 3 A. All else being equal, yes.
- 4 Q. But of course one has to bear in mind then how close youare to the infectious person?
- 6 A. Yes. So you -- all right?
- 7 Q. Go on, you can carry on.
- 8 A. So we could have, for example, someone who is close to
 9 a person for a short period of time inhaling a certain
- 10 infectious dose. They're got a high concentration but
- 11 they've taken in for a short time. Or in a café,
- 12 for example -- or someone on the other side of the café
- 13 is working there for four hours or -- you know, with
- 14 a computer, and they're breathing in infectious air,
- 15 they're breathing in a smaller concentration but for
- 16 longer, and so they can actually get the same infectious
- 17 dose, actually a greater infectious dose, even though
- 18 the concentration is lower in the far field.
- 19 **Q.** So for the infection to occur, is this right, you need
- to have inhaled a respiratory aerosol that contains thevirus?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 **Q.** The aerosol must come into contact with a receptor,
- 24 nose, mouth?
- 25 A. Wherever, yeah.

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- A. Exposed.
- Q. Right. Can we hive that off, if we may, and deal with
 that slightly later --
- 4 A. So the volume and the concentration. The concentration
 - changes where you are in the space, but it's dependent
- 6 also on how much air you breathe in, and that's
- 7 dependent on time.
- 8 Q. Can I see if I --
- 9 LADY HALLETT: Professor, can I interrupt to say, I know how
- 10 careful you are trying to be and it really is very
- 11 helpful information, but Ms Carey's an expert at getting
- 12 what she needs and what I'm going to need, so if you
- 13 could just try to shorten your answers. And if she
- 14 wants more, she'll ask for more?
- 15 A. I will, yes, certainly.
- LADY HALLETT: Because we have limited time. I'm sorry
 to --
- 18 A. No, that's okay, it's very understandable.
- 19 MS CAREY: Thank you, my Lady.

five minutes?

- Can I ask you, to see if I understand this correctly
- 21 from your report, if the susceptible individual spends
- 22 two hours in the room with an infectious person, they're
- 23 going to be at much greater risk of acquiring the
- 24 infection compared to someone who's only in there for

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- Q. The virus in the aerosol must be fit enough to bind on
 to the receptor?
- 3 A. Yes, it's got to be viable to get in and there's got to
 4 be enough of it to get into it, basically, yeah.
- 5 Q. Then once inside the receptor or the cell, the virus
 6 must overcome any of our own immune system in order for
 7 the infection to take hold?
- 8 A. Yes, so what actually happens is that most virus
 9 particles either miss receptors or get knocked out by
- 10 the defence, the host defences, or they're not fit
- enough, and it's just that few that get through. It's
- 12 a numbers game.
- 13 **Q.** Right. Does that generally mean, therefore, that
- a large number of virus particles need to be inhaled inorder for an infection to be established?
- A. The figure that sticks in my head from, I think it's the
 Skagit choir analysis, or is it -- that's another
- 18 paper -- is 600, I think, in this particular case, for
- a kind of ratio of 600 to 1, the expected dose to beinhaled.
- 21 Q. Right.

25

- 22 A. But that, again, is an estimate that I -- that's in --
- 23 **Q.** In short, you've got to get a large number of --
- 24 A. You've got to get a large number, but that is always the
 - case with viruses, you know.

1	Q.	All right. If I understand your evidence correctly,
2		therefore exposure time and concentration of the virus
3		in the air are critical when we're looking at how the
4		infection gets in and spreads?
5	Α.	Absolutely, yes, the longer you spend in a space, even
6		if the concentration is not that high, you're at risk.
7	Q.	Can I ask you about an example that you refer to in your
8		report, please, at paragraph 74 on page 30 of your
9		report, which might highlight the importance of exposure
10		time and indeed concentration of the virus in the air.
11	Α.	Sorry, which is it? Yes. I've got it, yep.
12	Q.	Yes. I think you looked there at situations where the
13		viral load is allowed to accumulate, let's say in
14		a poorly ventilated room
15	Α.	Yes, right.
16	Q.	even short exposure times can result in significant
17		risk?
18	Α.	Yes.
19	Q.	So actually let me just finish and this is
20		especially in the case where individuals may be
21		shouting, singing or just talking, and then you go on to
22		refer to a study by Alsved. Help us with this
23		paragraph, please?
24	Α.	Yes, no problem. Right, so two things happen, really.
25		When you exhale a virus exhale aerosols which contain $$89\end{smallmatrix}$

- 1 a classic one.
- 2 Q. Yes.
- A. So they're producing lots of aerosols into the space and
 the concentration builds up and everyone's breathing it
 in. In that situation, Alsved calculated quite a short
- 6 period of time, even within 37 minutes. It depended on7 the ventilation rate and all the rest of it.
- 8 Q. So is it fair to say that healthcare workers treating
 9 patients who are generally in the near field, in that
 1 to 2-metre range, or potentially right up close to
- 10 1 to 2-metre range, or potentially right up close to11 them, are more generally exposed to the near-field risk?
- 12 A. In that specific situation, yes and no. They're in the
- near-field risk when they're treating that patient andcaring for that patient, they're in the far-field risk
- 15 when they're at the nurses' station or it's a cleaner or
- 16 someone who is working around about, and other patients
- maybe in the near and in the far field, depending on thesituation.
- 19 Q. So it's not just nurses, non-clinical staff like the
 20 cleaners, the porters, some --
- A. Non-clinical staff are also exposed to it in offices ofhospitals, and things like that as well.
- 23 **Q.** I think you said in your report -- I won't take you to
- 24 it, Professor -- that when considering the near field
- 25 direction is important, clearly face-to-face poses more 91

- virus, so you imagine someone in the near field, they're 1 2 going to get a waft of this thing through their -- past 3 them 4 Q. In their near field, 1 to 2 metres, roughly? A. 1 to 2 metres, yeah, I'd call it that kind of region. 5 6 They'll get the first waft, which is a high 7 concentration, and that could occur indoors or outdoors. 8 But those aerosols then, assuming they're not inhaled, 9 progress into the room and mix, and then the air 10 currents in the room take them and take them around, and 11 this is where it differs from indoors and outdoors. 12 So outdoors there's a progressive dilution but what 13 happens indoors is, because we've got an enclosed space, 14 these aerosols start to waft around and build up in 15 concentration in the space. So someone in the far 16 field, who's some distance from the infected person,
- 17 they can be breathing a kind of soup of aerosols if the
- 18 virus is in there, if it's a poorly ventilated space, of
- 19 a fairly high concentration over quite a long period of
- 20 time and it's made even worse if you're in
- 21 an environment like the Skagit choir, which we may come
- 22 on to later where people were singing, if it's noisy,
- 23 a nightclub or a church or something, where lots of
- 24 superspreading events have occurred, where we generally
- 25 have got people raising their voices: singing is 90
- 1 of a risk?
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 Q. Side to side, a risk, but not --
- 4 A. Yeah. Near field definitely. If you're in front of
 5 that -- what we call the exhalation plume, you're going
 6 to get a higher dose. Actually, there is a slight
- 7 caveat to that in the clinical scenario, because
- 8 patients are often in bed and so the thermal plume rises
- 9 up from them, as their exhalation does as well, and so
- 10 clinical staff are often above the patient. So I would
- 11 include both the exhalation plume and the thermal plume.
- 12 So if you've got a patient and you're taking blood
- 13 pressure or something and they're lying down, you can be
- 14 leaning over them and getting both the exhalation and
- 15 the thermal plume. So, yes.

16 Q. Understood. There is a number of variables there as to
17 how you end up getting infected but can I look at

- a different form of transmission now briefly and come on
- to what you've termed "Fomite and contact transmission".
- 20 It's at page 36 in your report, Professor. Again,
- 21 terminology may be important here, so actually -- thank
- 22 you -- the key findings may be a helpful way in to this
- 23 evidence.

- I think you said in your report that historically
- 25 flu and other respiratory viruses have been assumed to 92

1		be transmitted by droplet transmission, the larger	1
2	•	particles, and by contact.	2
3 4	A. Q.	Yes Is that right?	3 4
4 5	Q. A.	and fomite as a	4 5
6	Q.	Yes.	6
7	Щ. А.		7
8	Q.		8
9		is also the phrase "fomite", so let's deal with those,	9
10		if we may please.	10
11		Can I just deal with contact. Direct contacts: help	11
12		us, please, what is meant by the phrase direct contact?	12
13		If it helps you, it's paragraph 91 on page 37.	13
14	Α.	Yeah, right, so I'm not actually saying contact, I'm	14
15		talking about direct routes and indirect routes there,	15
16		and it's important in the thing, so shall I explain?	16
17	Q.	Yes, please do.	17
18	Α.	I was asked by the Inquiry to examine all the routes,	18
19		right, and I have done quite a bit on hand washing in my	19
20		time but mostly on things like MRSA. So I wanted to set	20
21		it alongside the airborne and the droplet as well, so	21
22		we're looking at the whole picture because it's really	22
23		important that the number of intermediary steps, the	23
24		virus can get diluted basically, right? So I wanted to	24
25		introduce, talk about direct routes, so in this 93	25
1		and company touches it and then rules their out. That	4
1 2		and someone touches it and then rubs their eye. That	1
2	Q.	would be an intermediary step. Or a droplet falls onto a bed handle on a patient's	2
4	α.	bed	4
5	Α.	Yeah, yeah, classic. There's a bed rail or it drops	5
6	Α.	onto a surface, a patient's surface, so the patient does	6
7		that, or on to a medical instrument or something.	7
8	Q.	Understood.	8
9	Α.		9
10		example, or whatever.	10
11	Q.	So there is contamination effectively via some kind of	11
12		intermediary surface	12
13	Α.	An intermediary step and the classic one is, you know,	13
14		the handshake, is that.	14
15	Q.	Well, I wanted to ask you about that because handshaking	15
16		is sometimes given as an example of direct but, if	16
17		I understand you correctly, it isn't because it's got to	17
18		go onto my hand, I shake the other person's hand and	18
19		they then have to transmit it to a receptor; is that	19
20	_	right?	20
21	Α.	Yes. In the textbooks, when they're talking about hand	21
22		contact, they say that's the direct route. I'm doing	22
23		this for this report because I'm trying to make sense	23
24 25		for everybody that there are intermediary steps, and	24
25		that's really rather important. So the direct contact, 95	25

-	-	
1		report it's confusing because they talk about direct
2		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
2		contact and indirect contact, so I'm talking about
3 4		direct routes in this report and in this paragraph, as meaning there's no intermediary stage. So that could be
4 5		a droplet going from coughing and landing on someone's
6		eye or it could be an aerosol going out, flowing round
7	~	and going up someone's nose. That's direct. There's
8	Q.	Pause.
9	A.	Yep.
10	Q.	Thank you. I just want to make sure I understand that
11		right: the virus travels from the infected person to the
12		receptor without touching anything in between?
13	Α.	Yeah, so whatever is in the virus that left the mouth,
14		and we're talking in those situations, certainly in the
15		short in the near field, within, you know, seconds;
16		in the case of the droplet, within minutes. So there's
17	~	nothing in the way to interfere.
18	Q.	Understood. Indirect may be obvious now, but help us,
19		please, looking at paragraph 91, I think you said that
20		indirect routes involve one or more intermediary steps.
21	A.	Yes, so
22	Q.	So the context of respiratory transmission, help us with
23		that, please.
24	Α.	I suppose that could be with the intermediary step there
25		is the droplet when it lands on the outside of the nose 94
4		
1 2		say, touching someone's hand or touching something, I suppose if someone kissed someone that could be a very
2		direct route, you know, but that's a very intimate
4		I don't know where to go with that one, really. We'll
4 5		leave that at this moment.
	•	
6 7	Q. A.	Yes. I'm blushing now, I can see this here.
8		DY HALLETT: I don't think kissing got banned, did it?
9	A.	I don't know. What happened in the home stays in the
10	Λ.	home, I suppose, yes.
11		You know, but the point is it's the idea that the
12		classic of the textbooks would say the classic of the
13		indirect and two indirect routes as I've classified
14		here, with the hands. The classic one would be,
15		"Hello", you cough into your hand, you shake hands with
16		someone else, they then take it and they rub their eye
17		or their nose or something. Or with a fomite that would
18		be you cough into your hand, you touch the door handle
19		you walk away, someone else then touches the door
20		handle, then they do that.
20	MS	CAREY: So that is what is meant by fomite?
22	A.	That's fomite, yes.
23	Q.	Can I take it that where you're dealing with indirect
24		, .
		transmission, viral material is lost through
25		transmission, viral material is lost through degradation?

(24) Pages 93 - 96

	۹.	Yes, every time you touch, so let's take the door	1	Q.	
2	ጋ .	handle, that's a great one to do.	2		porous, all of the other ways in which could
		Yes.	3 4	А.	Yeah, that was fully understood initially, but later on
4 A 5	۹.	So even when you cough and you cover your hands, not all the virus went onto your hands and the hands actually	4 5		many studies have shown that the porous hands and things, it doesn't survive that well on it. But hand
6		aren't very good at porous surfaces and hands tend to	6		washing is really good by the way, so don't, you know
7		kill the virus, it doesn't last for very long. So	7		
8		whatever goes onto the hands, then it has to be	8	0	 Well, that actually was going to bring me onto
9		transferred to the it's lost something there. It	9	ч.	I think you've said in your report that the fomite
10		goes to the door handle, it's lost some more.	10		transmission, touching the inanimate object, and indeed
11		Then the next person to touch the door handle	11		contact transfer plays a role but the precise proportion
2		doesn't necessarily touch them straightaway, they might	12		of that is not yet known; is that correct?
13		wait an hour and, in that time, it's degraded over time.	13	Α.	
14		The person touches it, it loses them, and in fact	14		it was thought to be much more important than later on
5		I think it was Raymond Tellier did some analysis and	15		but I'm sure clinical witnesses will tell you the same
6		reckoned that only about 1% of it eventually gets to the	16		thing. As it went on, it got downplayed and
17		target, if it does get to the target. So it really is	17		certainly the fomite and the contact and so less
8		degraded.	18		emphasis was on that and more was on the droplet.
9		So time is a very key important thing in there.	19		So I think it does make a contribution but I don't
20 G	ว .	Now, clearly, though, when you're talking about direct	20		think we understand how much of a contribution. But
21		contact, it goes you cough in my face, effectively?	21		I would say it's a significant but minor contribution.
22 A	۹.	Very short.	22		That's my personal opinion.
23 C	ጋ .	Yes, exactly, that's the point.	23	Q.	Fine. I think you did say in your report at
24 A	۹.	So the virus is fitter, and it hasn't been through any	24		paragraph 105, though, and you made the point that the
25		intermediary steps. 97	25		precise proportion of fomite and contact transmission
1		that plays a role is not known but the IPC people by	1		IPC cell made up of a number of individuals, and
2		which you mean those drafting the guidance and public	2		obviously it wasn't proportionate for the Inquiry to
3		health assumed it to play a greater contribution whilst	3		speak to all of them.
4		airborne, certainly initially, was considered to be	4	Α.	Yep.
4					
4 5		an unlikely	5	Q.	So, although she is the front person, I want it to be
5 6 A	۹.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher	6	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on
5 6 A 7	۹.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report,	6 7	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks
5 6 A 7 8	۹.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from	6 7 8	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we
5 6 A 7 8 9	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in	6 7 8 9	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the
5 6 A 7 8 9 10	۹.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's:	6 7 8 9 10	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it,
5 6 A 7 8 9 10	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has	6 7 8 9 10 11	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break.
5 A 7 8 9 10 11	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it
5 6 A 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit
5 6 A 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway."	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there
5 6 A 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Α.	Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet
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5 A 7 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 C 18 C		Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to be honest. Perhaps before we break for lunch, I want to deal with one other topic, if I may, my Lady, and it's to look at	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet transmission", there the statement sets out that: "Droplet transmission involved droplets ([of 5 microns to about 200] in diameter) from an infected
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5 A 7 8 9 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 C 18 19 20 21		Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to be honest. Perhaps before we break for lunch, I want to deal with one other topic, if I may, my Lady, and it's to look at some of the other terminology that is used and then perhaps, after lunch, we can look at some of the historical controversy and assumptions that played out	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet transmission", there the statement sets out that: "Droplet transmission involved droplets ([of 5 microns to about 200] in diameter) from an infected person's respiratory tract reaching the eyes, nose or mouth of another person." Then it sets out:
5 A 77 8 99 100 111 122 13 14 15 16 17 C 18 19 200 21 222		Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to be honest. Perhaps before we break for lunch, I want to deal with one other topic, if I may, my Lady, and it's to look at some of the other terminology that is used and then perhaps, after lunch, we can look at some of the historical controversy and assumptions that played out in particular in the IPC guidance.	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet transmission", there the statement sets out that: "Droplet transmission involved droplets ([of 5 microns to about 200] in diameter) from an infected person's respiratory tract reaching the eyes, nose or mouth of another person." Then it sets out: "Large droplets [greater than 20 microns] typically
5 A 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 15 16 17 C 18 19 20 21 21 22 23		Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to be honest. Perhaps before we break for lunch, I want to deal with one other topic, if I may, my Lady, and it's to look at some of the other terminology that is used and then perhaps, after lunch, we can look at some of the historical controversy and assumptions that played out in particular in the IPC guidance. So, Professor, can I ask you this: I think you were	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet transmission", there the statement sets out that: "Droplet transmission involved droplets ([of 5 microns to about 200] in diameter) from an infected person's respiratory tract reaching the eyes, nose or mouth of another person." Then it sets out: "Large droplets [greater than 20 microns] typically fall to the [floor] within 1 metre
5 A 77 8 99 100 111 122 13 14 15 16 17 C 18 19 200 21 222		Yeah. Well, I always like to kind of quote higher authorities than myself, right, and the PIP report, which is the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness report from 2011, there was two of them, and there you see it in 105, it's: "Since the role of hands in the transmission has actually never been demonstrated epidemiologically, one may hesitate to attribute great proportion to this pathway." The epidemiological evidence is not that strong, to be honest. Perhaps before we break for lunch, I want to deal with one other topic, if I may, my Lady, and it's to look at some of the other terminology that is used and then perhaps, after lunch, we can look at some of the historical controversy and assumptions that played out in particular in the IPC guidance.	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q.	made abundantly clear that she's often speaking on behave of the cell's position. Occasionally she speaks to her own position and we'll deal with that when we hear from her, but can I just ask you about some of the terminology that she uses, whether you agree with it, and see where we end up just before our lunch break. Could you turn, please, to page 13, and if we put it on screen, it's INQ000421939_13. We're, I hope, a bit more familiar now with some of the language, and there may be a divergence here, and if we look at "Droplet transmission", there the statement sets out that: "Droplet transmission involved droplets ([of 5 microns to about 200] in diameter) from an infected person's respiratory tract reaching the eyes, nose or mouth of another person." Then it sets out: "Large droplets [greater than 20 microns] typically

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1		smaller droplets [5 to 20] can stay airborne for several
2		minutes."
3		Now, just pause. You have told us about the
4		distinction between 100 microns and now we're
5		introducing much smaller figures, and I want to try and
6		understand what you say about droplet transmission
7		firstly involving droplets of 5 microns to about
8		200 microns in diameter; is that a range of diameter
9		with which you're familiar and with which you would
10		agree?
11	Α.	I disagree with it, but I am familiar with it, if that
12		makes sense. May I just elucidate one thing?
13	Q.	Yes, of course.
14	Α.	Earlier on in your questioning, earlier on in the first
15		session, you asked me about the 100 microns and I said
16		there was two schools of thought, and I went down the
		-
17		engineering/physics, which are my which I believe is
18		the correct one because it's dealing with the physics,
19		which is well established and has been established for
20		about 150 years, certainly 100 years, in this situation
21		since the 1930s. The other branch is the medics and the
22		IPC branch, and this represents that, and they we
23		will see it in the next session they had this
24		5-micron demarcation. They didn't actually say
25		200 microns but that's a good upper limit, it's not bad.
20		101
1		factually incorrect that will take about one to fall
1		factually incorrect, that will take about one to fall
2		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of
2 3		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in
2 3 4		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to
2 3		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind
2 3 4		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the
2 3 4 5		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind
2 3 4 5 6		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the
2 3 4 5 6 7		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	0	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Α.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Α.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A. Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand why is it important in terms of infection prevention and control measures?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand why is it important in terms of infection prevention and control measures? Well, if you feel that a particle, so say most particles are in that kind of smaller range, if you feel that but above 5 microns, if you think that that's a droplet and doesn't go more than 1 metre, which is the classic
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand why is it important in terms of infection prevention and control measures? Well, if you feel that a particle, so say most particles are in that kind of smaller range, if you feel that but above 5 microns, if you think that that's a droplet and doesn't go more than 1 metre, which is the classic viewpoint, I'm not saying that's here necessarily said
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	A. Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand why is it important in terms of infection prevention and control measures? Well, if you feel that a particle, so say most particles are in that kind of smaller range, if you feel that but above 5 microns, if you think that that's a droplet and doesn't go more than 1 metre, which is the classic viewpoint, I'm not saying that's here necessarily said quite like this, but the classic textbook says that a particle greater than 5 microns doesn't go more than
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. Q.	out of the air, about 1.3 minutes, from a height of a standing height, and remember that is still air not in air. That has a descending velocity, according to Stoke's law of 2.5 centimetres per second, bear in mind that the average air velocity in this room is in the region of 15 to 25 centimetres per second, that type of order. These particles in that one minute, they will travel much further can potentially travel further than a metre, especially if they're So there is a divergence here between physicists, if I put it like that Yeah. and the clinicians and I want to try to understand why is it important in terms of infection prevention and control measures? Well, if you feel that a particle, so say most particles are in that kind of smaller range, if you feel that but above 5 microns, if you think that that's a droplet and doesn't go more than 1 metre, which is the classic viewpoint, I'm not saying that's here necessarily said quite like this, but the classic textbook says that

1		But that 5 microns, they said anything bigger than that
2		was a droplet.
3		So I am familiar, I've seen this many times in many
4		things but, as far as I'm concerned, that has no basis
5		in physics, it's completely arbitrary, that first
6		statement there. Certainly, they do go up to
7		200 microns and they certainly are in the 500 microns
8		but they're not droplets, those are below 100, those
9		are aerosols.
10	Q.	Right. So
11	Α.	But, you know, they can reach the eyes and
12	Q.	Yes, that bit there is no dispute with but, from your
13		evidence, if I understand you correctly, "droplet" is
14		referring to microns 100 plus?
15	Α.	Yes.
16	Q.	Aerosols lower than 100?
17	Α.	As in that diagram, which we saw earlier on, Wang's
18		diagram.
19	Q.	Do we need to look at the paragraph 43 referencing large
20		droplets greater than 20 microns now being introduced,
21		typically falling to the ground?
22	Α.	It's just not true.
23	Q.	Right.
24	Α.	It's not true. In fact, I can tell you what a 25-micron
25		particle, which is larger than that, right, it's 102
		102
4		
1		distanced, you think, well, all the droplets will fall
2		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the
2 3		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near
2 3 4		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field.
2 3 4 5		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols
2 3 4 5 6		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols are important, basically, especially if you don't
2 3 4 5 6 7		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols are important, basically, especially if you don't believe that the virus is in them, which we now know the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols are important, basically, especially if you don't believe that the virus is in them, which we now know the virus is in those things.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. Q.	on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols are important, basically, especially if you don't believe that the virus is in them, which we now know the virus is in those things. Also, I should say, you would be recommending a surgical mask Right. because you would be trying to stop droplets and not being too concerned about the aerosols, if that was the case. So I understand this correctly, the size of the droplet can determine not only how far sorry, the size of the particle can determine not only how far it can go but the type of IPC measure that might be required by the healthcare worker in terms of masks and other bits of PPE they might need to wear to help protect them?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q.	on the floor and you're not taking into account that the aerosol will be inhaled, especially both in the near field and in the far field. So you're completely you don't think the aerosols are important, basically, especially if you don't believe that the virus is in them, which we now know the virus is in those things. Also, I should say, you would be recommending a surgical mask Right. because you would be trying to stop droplets and not being too concerned about the aerosols, if that was the case. So I understand this correctly, the size of the droplet can determine not only how far sorry, the size of the particle can determine not only how far it can go but the type of IPC measure that might be required by the healthcare worker in terms of masks and other bits of PPE they might need to wear to help protect them? Yes.
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25 the purposes of Ms Ritchie's statement, what she says 104

(26) Pages 101 - 104

1		about airborne transmission:	
2		" involves infectious particles in	:
3		a respirable size range that can remain suspended in the	;
4		air for long periods and be dispersed by air currents	4
5		over distances greater than 1 metre."	:
6	Α.	Right, can I just say	(
7	Q.	Yes.	-
8	Α.	to clarify, a respirable size actually has a strict	8
9		definition in the	9
10	Q.	Right.	1
11	Α.	Well, it's interpreted as less than 5 microns generally,	1
12		right, that's the demarcation.	1
13	Q.	Thank you.	1
14	Α.	Certainly in the PIP report, that's there. It's the	1
15		demarcation between the particles that go deeper into	1
16		the lungs and stay higher up, so 5 microns is	1
17		generally it's not stated here but that would be the	1
18		kind of size there.	1
19	Q.	Right.	1
20	Α.	So, sorry.	2
21	Q.	It's all right.	2
22	Α.	Are we	2
23	Q.	So, I'm sorry, I lost my train of thought there:	2
24		"Airborne transmission involves infectious particles	2
25		in the respirable size range that can remain	2
		105	
1		less than 10 microns are going to obviously travel short	
2		distances but they'll travel a lot further than the	:
3		short distances. So I think this says "can spread over	;
4		short distance less than that", the implication being	4
5		there that it can only travel over less than short	:
6		distances. No, it can't, it can travel over short	(
7		distances and long distances. In fact, that's been	-
8		known about for years. I'm sorry, you know, back in	ł
9		Wells' work in the 1930s on TB they were talking about	9
10		that going	1
11	Q.	Long-range transmission, I suspect you've just dealt	1
12		with, and there is set out at paragraph 49, it's her	1
13		view that the distinction between a respiratory aerosol	1
14		and a droplet in terms of size is:	1
15		" an academic consideration that cannot usefully	1
16		be applied in national guidance."	1
17		Now, can I make it clear this is not a them and us?	1
18	Α.	No, I know.	1
19	Q.	There is a genuine divergence here between the	1
20		physicists and perhaps the clinicians, so please don't	2
21		misunderstand	2
22	Α.	Yeah.	2
23	Q.	the position but I just want you to help us with your	2
24		view about some of these terms and indeed some of the	2
25		IPC measures that might flow from the terminology.	2
		107	

1		suspended in the air for long periods and be dispersed
2		by air currents over distances greater"
3		Do you agree with that summary in that paragraph?
4		(Pause)
5		Put another way, do you think it accurately
6		reflects?
7	Α.	Yeah, no, I agree with it but I would say that particles
8		over 5 microns can also do that as well and go further
9	_	than
10	Q.	Fine. Now, she refers in the statement to short range
11		transmission and long range. You've told us about near
12 13		field and far field. So, again, the terminology not
13		necessarily being on all fours. Set out here is: "Short-range aerosol transmission involves tiny
15		respiratory droplets (less than [10 microns]) that can
16		spread over short distances (less than 2 metres)."
17		Do you agree with that?
18	Α.	I disagree with that.
19	Q.	Why?
20	Α.	Right. Because particle a 10-micron particle in
21		still air will take 8 minutes to drop 2 metres, right,
22		to fall out of the air. Sorry, 8 metres minutes,
23		I should have said. So 8 minutes, that's in still air,
24		it can move a lot further.
25		So a 10-micron particle so particles that are
		106
1	А.	5 , 5 5
2	Α.	us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here.
2 3	А.	us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of
2 3 4		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right?
2 3 4 5	A. Q.	us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly.
2 3 4 5 6		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly. Right, so I want to say straight up: I work with
2 3 4 5 6 7		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly. Right, so I want to say straight up: I work with clinicians but I am not a clinician, you know that, but
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly. Right, so I want to say straight up: I work with clinicians but I am not a clinician, you know that, but I have utter respect for clinicians and I see how they
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly. Right, so I want to say straight up: I work with clinicians but I am not a clinician, you know that, but I have utter respect for clinicians and I see how they deal with patients all the time. So from an infection
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		us at all, you know, I'm really trying to help here. I'm smiling because it highlights the difference of opinions, right? Exactly. Right, so I want to say straight up: I work with clinicians but I am not a clinician, you know that, but I have utter respect for clinicians and I see how they deal with patients all the time. So from an infection prevention and control background, which this person is talking from, they're having to deal with a whole load of practical things. My answer to this is it's not
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25 understand it, then we can take measures that help to 108

1	mitigate transmission, that's why it's important to	1		you've given that you disagree with that
2	understand, so I don't believe it is an academic issue.	2	Α.	Yes.
3	MS CAREY: My Lady, may we pause there?	3	Q.	and indeed believed at the outset that it v
4	I referred to her as "Ms Ritchie"; she is	4		airborne, and indeed now in 2024 have firm
5	Dr Ritchie. I meant no disrespect, I'm sorry about	5		belief?
6	that.	6	Α.	Absolutely.
7	But would that be a convenient moment?	7	Q.	All right. The World Health Organisation's
8	LADY HALLETT: Of course. 1.55.	8		requires just a moment's examination. In M
9	MS CAREY: Thank you.	9		it right that the WHO, World Health Organis
10	(12.54 pm)	10		position on transmission of Covid was that i
11	(The short adjournment)	11		airborne?
12	(1.55 pm)	12	Α.	Absolutely, they even Tweeted about it.
13	LADY HALLETT: Ms Carey.	13		Right. By April 2021 there was partial acce
14	MS CAREY: Thank you.	14		the WHO that Covid was airborne?
15	Professor, we've got a number of topics to deal with	15	Α.	Yes.
16	this afternoon, and can I just try and deal with your	16	Q.	And it was December 2021 that they stated
17	evidence in relation to the historical controversy.	17		could be transmitted via aerosols?
18	I suspect we've got a flavour of it already from the	18	Α.	Yes.
19	evidence that you've already given, but where things	19	Q.	Right. Your position is, if I may summarise
20	have gone wrong or have been assumed to be the position,	20		September 2020 and if it helps you I'm at
21	what I really want to understand is what impact that had	21		a paragraph 139 in your report on page 53.
22	on IPC guidance and IPC measures.	22	Α.	Yep.
23	So can I just deal with the first and perhaps one of	23	Q.	
24	the main areas of controversy, which is that Covid was	24		consider that:
25	not airborne. Now, I gather from all the evidence that 109	25		" the weight of the evidence presente 110
1 2	You set that out in your report and I won't take you through it:	1 2		All right. That was obviously 15 months or the WHO, in December 2021
3	" indicates that by the end of September 2020	3	Α.	Yes.
4	there was enough moderate certainty evidence to strongly	4	Q.	stated that it was transmitted via aerosols
5	suggest that [SARS or Covid] could be transmitted via	5		Yes. Yes.
6	the airborne route"	6	Q.	Now, we have alluded this morning to the fa
7	Pause there. The reference in there to "enough	7		has been a shift in the scientific consensus
8	moderate certainty", is that your terminology?	8		position in 2020 by those writing the guidan
9	A. Yes, it is my terminology. I'm referring to I'm kind	9		advisers and the like, to where we are in 20
10	of trying to look at it in the whole. I was convinced	10		I understand it correctly that you consider the
11	it was airborne but, if you're looking for there's	11		shift in consensus was largely driven by sci
12	a range of evidence from a lot of different angles,	12	Α.	
13	which we may go into, I don't know, but I was pretty	13	Q.	, , , , ,
14	I was felt that it was a good certainty, moderate	14		insert
15	certainty, there's not beyond absolute doubt but it was	15	LA	DY HALLETT: Sorry to interrupt. You're dist
16	definitely a strong possibility. That's the kind of	16		between clinicians and your kind of scientis
17	thing that I'm	17		saying virologists?
18	Q. All right, that's what you were trying to convey there?	18	Α.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
19	A. That's what I'm trying to convey there. You know, I was	19		background, predominantly very much influ
20	convinced and many of my colleagues from my background	20		from physics, people like Lidia Morawska, C
21	will be utterly convinced that it was, by that time.	21		engineers, myself and others, but there we
22	Q. Can I summarise it this way: you thought there were	22		involved in that. There was a letter of I thin
23	a number of sources that pointed, by September 2020, to	23		230-odd eminent scientists/clinicians to the
24	it being airborne?	24		"Look, it's airborne", and I can't remember t
25	A. Yes, yes. 111	25		l'd have to look at 112
	111			112

2	Α.	Yes.
3	Q.	and indeed believed at the outset that it was
4		airborne, and indeed now in 2024 have firmed up that
5		belief?
6	Α.	Absolutely.
7	Q.	All right. The World Health Organisation's position
8		requires just a moment's examination. In March 2020, is
9		it right that the WHO, World Health Organisation,
10		position on transmission of Covid was that it was not
11		airborne?
12	Α.	Absolutely, they even Tweeted about it.
13	Q.	Right. By April 2021 there was partial acceptance by
14		the WHO that Covid was airborne?
15	Α.	Yes.
16	Q.	And it was December 2021 that they stated that Covid-19
17		could be transmitted via aerosols?
18	Α.	Yes.
19	Q.	Right. Your position is, if I may summarise it, that by
20		September 2020 and if it helps you I'm at
21		a paragraph 139 in your report on page 53.
22	Α.	Yep.
23	Q.	Thank you. It's helpfully highlighted there. You
24		consider that:
25		" the weight of the evidence presented"
		110
1	Q.	All right. That was obviously 15 months or so before
2		the WHO, in December 2021
3	Α.	Yes.
4	Q.	stated that it was transmitted via aerosols?
5	Α.	Yes. Yes.
6	Q.	Now, we have alluded this morning to the fact that there
7	ч.	has been a shift in the scientific consensus from the
8		position in 2020 by those writing the guidance, those
9		advisers and the like, to where we are in 2024. Do
10		I understand it correctly that you consider that that
11		shift in consensus was largely driven by scientists?
12	Α.	Yes.
12	Q.	Okay. In your report, if you could just take down the
14	ω.	insert
15	1.4	DY HALLETT: Sorry to interrupt. You're distinguishing
16	LA	between clinicians and your kind of scientist or are you
17		saving virologists?
	^	
18 19	Α.	background, predominantly very much influenced by people
20 21		from physics, people like Lidia Morawska, Cath Noakes, engineers, myself and others, but there were clinicians
21 22		involved in that. There was a letter of I think about
~~		Involved in that. There was a letter ULL tillin about

- 30-odd eminent scientists/clinicians to the WHO saying,
- _ook, it's airborne", and I can't remember the date,
- d have to look at --

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A. Ah, right.

MS CAREY: Can you help?

LADY HALLETT: Oh, I see, so this --

vear.

icing on the cake.

I can remember.

finding RNAs, so that was around. There was evidence

leading up to that, people have cultured live virus from the air, and people realised that this was in the

aerosols and everything. This led up -- so the evidence

of you may know of, which was a choir had a practice in the Skagit Valley Chorale and 61 people were in this

practice, and I forget how many hours it was but it was

building as well, a large space, and so they weren't all

necessarily socially distanced or anything, as far as

this was reported -- first reported, I think, probably

in August but not -- the analysis was done with

And 53 of those people became infected, 53 of 61

became infected and, unfortunately, two people died and

something called the Wells-Riley equation and looking at

the whole route of transmission and the authors came to

the absolute conclusion this could not have been by hand 114

Now, we just briefly touched on the WHO position.

I want to ask you about the position in the UK, and

I think you say at paragraph 140 in your report that

Module 2 -- certainly was aware that, from 14 April,

airborne route, and she then went on to form the Environmental Modelling Group, and that group, as

not airborne to Covid-19 is airborne. Is that,

and convey the change of consensus.

I Googled it I thought it was March 2020.

A. Yes, I can clarify. The first outbreak was reported in

A. Yes, that's what I'm saying here. I'm using the Covid

is not airborne to Covid is airborne as a vehicle to try

LADY HALLETT: Just before you move on, you said the Skagit

Valley Chorale was September 2020, second wave. When

Emerging Infectious Diseases, which is a CDC publication

and it reported the outbreak but didn't do the analysis.

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generally speaking, correct?

transmission of Covid might be occurring through the

my Lady knows, produced a number of documents in 2020 and into 2021, which showed the change from Covid-19 is

Professor Noakes -- who my Lady heard from I think in

a number of hours, and I think in a fairly large

in close contact with each other, they weren't

This was when -- it's a horrendous event which some

was building, that's what I'm saying, that's why this is

all part of the same picture, and this was the kind of

from lab work that the virus could stay viable in the

air for long periods of time, this is all evidence

 LADY HALLETT: So it was across the board? A. Yeah. MS CAREY: Thank you very much. A. But they were absolutely influential in that. Q. Underpinning that evolution from the position at the start of the pandemic to at the end were obviously a number of scientific papers, and you've set them out in your report, and I'm not going to go through them all, save for one that you considered to be of some import in moving the shift towards people accepting airborne transmission. Can I ask you, please, about paragraph 132 in your report, and if we'd like to put it on the screen, there is a summary of it on page 55, and it's the Skagit Valley superspreading event, and on the screen it's the entry of 26 September 2020. A. Yeah. Q. Just, in a nutshell, tell us what happened at the Skagit valley superspreading event and then why you consider it to be so important? A. Right. I just want to set it in context, if it's all right, just very briefly. G. Briefly, thank you. Prior to that, right from March, there was evidence that – of people sampling the air in hospitals and 113 contact or droplets; it was far field aerosol transmission, and that really was epidemiological evidence that confirmed what we had suspected from all the other studies that were coming through. Q. Fine, and they set out in that little – A. So that's why that was a key thing. Q. Thank you. 1 think, in addition to concluding there was overwhelming evidence of long-range or far-field airborne transmission, it perhaps matters not for these purposes, that fornite or ballistic droplet transmission was unlikely to explain a substantial fraction of those 53 cases? A. Absolutely. Q. All right, and you'd, in your report, said that this study or event gave wider traction to the notion that Covid might be airborne? A. Yes, those of us who were worki			
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25 September 2020, going into the second wave later that	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Q. A. Q.	transmission, and that really was epidemiological evidence that confirmed what we had suspected from all the other studies that were coming through. Fine, and they set out in that little So that's why that was a key thing. Thank you. I think, in addition to concluding there was overwhelming evidence of long-range or far-field airborne transmission, it perhaps matters not for these purposes, that fomite or ballistic droplet transmission was unlikely to explain a substantial fraction of those 53 cases? Absolutely. All right, and you'd, in your report, said that this study or event gave wider traction to the notion that Covid might be airborne? Yes, those of us who were working behind the scenes to try to understand this, and were convinced it was airborne, we were this was really helpful, because this was further evidence to that. But also people were starting to take notice, and that's when it gained traction further afield because of that.
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(29)	Pages	113	- 1

1	Α.	But then the group, it didn't mention airborne, so group
2		came together with Professor Noakes, Shelly Miller
3	LA	DY HALLETT: It's all right, I don't need to go into more
4		detail. So the event took place in March, analysis
5		later?
6	Α.	They did the analysis the epidemiological analysis
7		and this is showing that that could not have been
8		highly unlikely it would have been by that route.
9	MS	CAREY: Thank you for that.
10	Α.	That took several months, obviously.
11	LA	DY HALLETT: Thank you.
12	MS	CAREY: I think I should add that, although the
13		Environmental Modelling Group shifted its position from
14		Covid-19 isn't airborne to is, again, I think you set
15		out in your report at paragraph 143, not all scientists
16		agree with that shift. I won't go into that but it's
17		just to allude to the fact that there isn't always
18		consensus about this.
19	Α.	It was gradual, it was in steps.
20	Q.	I suppose, really, the question comes down to this: can
21		you help us as to why you think it was assumed at the
22		start of the pandemic that Covid was not airborne? Your
23		paragraph 125 might help you, Professor. It's at
24		page 49 in your report.
25	Α.	125?

1	that you can't tell whether the near-field transmission
2	is by droplets or aerosols. It could be either, from
3	the epidemiological and the animal study data.
4	But because you take the a priori position, which
5	seemed reasonable at the time, that most of the virus is
6	going to be in the largest droplets, therefore that
7	would explain that these results would be it's
8	plausible it's in the large droplets.
9	In the fine aerosols there's after all there's
10	hardly any virus, at that time, and the PIP report says
11	that in 2011. That's the justification for the whole
12	thing, they actually set that out quite clearly.
13	Because they assume it's in the large ones, therefore
14	all the epidemiological evidence and all the animal
15	studies are interpreted as being droplet borne, then
16	people come along afterwards, they report it, yes, it's
17	been shown that it's droplet borne, but it was all on
18	this assumption.
19	If you flip the assumption, if you knew that they
20	were in the smaller particles you'd say, "Well, it was
21	all airborne" and suddenly all the evidence would show
22	it was airborne. So it's an a priori assumption that
23	was reasonable at the time that in the last 10, 12 years
24	has been challenged. But whether people are aware of
25	that

1	Q.	Yes. Essentially, why was it assumed at the beginning
2		that Covid wasn't airborne?
3	Α.	Quite simply, it was assumed it was droplet borne, was
4		the main route. Droplet borne, don't travel, the large
5		droplets is where it was assumed, in my opinion,
6		wrongly, as it's transpired, that most of the virus was
7		in the large droplets and these do not travel more than
8		about 1 metre, 1.5, therefore the only people who can
9		get infected are the people who are in close range,
10		therefore it is droplet borne. So where the virus is in
11		the particles is hugely important because it
12		everything it's kind of house of cards, everything
13		rests on that.
14	LA	DY HALLETT: Was there any basis for that assumption? Why
15		would you not work on the basis that we don't yet know
16		the route of transmission
17	Α.	That's an excellent answer sorry, an excellent
18		question. It's an a priori position. So when you look
19		at trying to this is what people don't realise. When
20		you're trying to interpret epidemiological data of
21		outbreaks, and indeed animal experiments, you canvass it
22		with an a priori position, you say: does it fit with
23		this or what we expect? The problem there is that
24		the when you actually drill down into the evidence,
25		and it's going back to the '40s, and things like this, 118
1	LA	DY HALLETT: Well, that's what I'm questioning. Is it
2		reasonable, if you don't know the route of transmission,
3		surely you should be preparing for and guarding
4		against I think some core participants have called it
5		the precautionary principle, though I'm wary of that
6		because I've heard it has different meanings to
7		different people, but surely you should guarding against
8		every possible route of transmission until you know?
9	Α.	You're absolutely correct. I sorry, another of my
10		hats is doing statistics and I spent a lot of time
11		looking at that, and one of the problems with stats is,
12		generally, medical statistics we're trying to eliminate
13		what's called a type 1 error, which is we're trying to
14		say something is we want absolute proof to show that
15		that drug makes a difference, and we're not so worried
16		about when we get it wrong on the other side, the type 2
17		error, when we say basically, which is with the
18		pandemic, it's not airborne and it is airborne, we're
19		not too worried about that generally. But in a pandemic
20		that's exactly what you don't want, you want to be
21		precautionary

21 precautionary.

22

So one of the problems was I think there was

- 23 a mindset there that followed through -- sorry,
- 24 I'm waxing on a bit too much there --
- 25 LADY HALLETT: Sorry, it was my fault, I interrupted. 120

1	MS	CAREY: Not at all, because in fact that's where I was
2		going to get to, because if in reality there is no clear
3		evidence at the beginning of a pandemic about what route
4		of transmission is adopted, do you think it would be
5		wise for recommendations to cover all modes until you
6		know more?
7	Α.	I certainly would do, and this is one of the big
8		complaints that myself and others have is that people
9		have a kind of confirmation bias, in the sense that they
10		confirmed what they thought and they read that into it.
11		And I'm not saying that there isn't droplet
12		transmission, but to rule it out when just take the
13		simple fact that you always have aerosols with droplets.
14		That's been known about for many, many years. If you're
15		going to be precautionary, what you see in many of the
16		randomised controlled trials are people are going to
17		a very high bar of proof to jump over, when in fact, as
18		we've seen, there's very little evidence for the
19		hand-borne route, and then they don't apply that high
20		bar of proof for that because that's the <i>a priori</i>
21		received position, it's in the textbooks and that. So
22		that's one of the weaknesses I see of the whole thing.
23	Q.	Thank you.
24		Can I deal with one other or two other matters in
25		this vein. I think you say at your paragraph 150 that
1 2	Q.	but do you consider that the physical science suggests that many so-called AGPs actually produce fewer
3		aerosols than normal activities such as coughing?
4	Α.	Yes.
5	Q.	That's not to say that some AGPs don't produce a lot of
6		aerosols but there are some on there that actually
7		produce fewer?
8	Α.	I always I've got to be a bit careful not being
9		a clinician, so I but from the evidence that I have
10		seen, and there has been quite, quite serious studies
11		and meta-analysis done, quite a lot of the AGPs which
12		were thought to produce a lot of aerosols don't produce
13		that many aerosols.
14	LA	DY HALLETT: AGP again?
15	MS	CAREY: Aerosol-generating
16	Α.	Aerosol-generating it's a medical procedure, so
17		bronchoscopy, for example, would be one, where you stick
18		an endoscope down
19	Q.	Now, I should add there is not always consensus about
20		what should or shouldn't be on the AGP list. But in
21		general terms is this the position: there may appear to
22		be an overconcentration on AGPs and the role they play
23		to the detriment of us just talking and breathing?
24	Α.	Yeah. I'll add if I can add
05	~	

25 **Q.** Yes, of course.

1		there was an important shift in the thinking concerning
2		vocalisation, ie speaking, shouting, singing. I just
3		want to ask you about that.
4		I think you are of the view that breathing and
5		talking was overlooked as a way of producing aerosols;
6		is that right?
7	Α.	Yes. And I'd include singing as well, and shouting.
8		If you think about it, all the emphasis, certainly
9		at the beginning of the pandemic, was on symptomatic
10		situations, so coughing and sneezes. You know, people
11		can see people are infectious: distance yourselves,
12		cover your mouth, wash your hands, all the rest of it.
13		But nobody was talking about just being next to someone
14		who was breathing.
15		You know, think about a patient in bed, and if you
16		think about presymptomatic patients, say in that
17		six-bedded bay, an open bay, the other patients are with
18		them, next to them, all day long. If that person is
19		infectious, just talking and breathing, they may not be
20		showing any symptoms but they still could be spreading
21		the virus. So it's a hugely important issue.
22	Q.	One other allied topic is that of aerosol-generating
23		procedures (AGPs). Can I summarise your position. If
24		l've got it wrong, please let me know
25	Α.	Yes.
		100

1	Α.	Yes, and in my opinion, yes, when you look at the IPC
2		guidelines, the national IPC manual, there's lots and
3		lots on aerosol-generating procedures and nothing on
4		just aerosols produced natural aerosols produced
5		through exhalation, including coughing actually and
6		including that unless it's classified as an airborne
7		disease. And the only thing that's classified as that
8		are measles and TB are the two, yes, basically.
9	Q.	Just finally on dealing with assumptions, can I ask,
10		please, that we put up page 45 of Professor Beggs'
11		report and I hope maybe segue into the Pandemic
12		Influenza Preparedness (PIP) 2011 report.
13		Professor Beggs sets out fully in his report the
14		impact of that, but I just want to look at the two
15		finite bullet points to bring it together.
16		You consider that:
17		"The 2011 Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP)
18		report was well-conducted and correctly identified the
19		significant remaining uncertainty about [flu]."
20		But it has:
21		" several problems. Unlike many other studies it
22		did acknowledge the risk of airborne transmission, but
23		only at close range"
24		Does that mean in the near field?
25	Α.	Yes, yes yeah.
		124

1	Q.	" and made an important flawed assumption about large
2		droplets conferring most of the infection"
3		Whereas you are telling us in fact it is the
4		aerosols?
5	Α.	Yes, that's the that's that fundamental assumption,
6		and if I may just take a minute I like this report.
7		I was really pleased that, when I read it, they'd gone
8		into depth, they'd justified why things were there,
9		they'd gone through things and they were looking at it.
10		But they made the assumption that the which was
11		definitely prevalent, the first study actually found
12		influenza virus in small aerosols, less than 5 microns
13		in size, only occurred in 2010, and they spotted that as
14		well, but they made this assumption that most of the
15		virus was in the large droplets and therefore very
16		little would be in the aerosols. Therefore aerosol
17		transmission probably wasn't occurring, certainly not in
18		the long range, possibly however it might be occurring
19		in the short range, in the near field. That was their
20		assumption. But they did say that the droplet was the
21		main route.
22	Q.	Thank you.
23	Α.	There is another flawed assumption but I think we're
24		dealing with that one in the next is it in the next
25		one?
		125
1		in, that was just completely missed in the PIP report.
2		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that
2 3		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report.
2 3 4		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what
2 3 4 5		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that
2 3 4 5 6		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the
2 3 4 5 6 7		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were mainly concerned about aerosol-generating procedures, as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were mainly concerned about aerosol-generating procedures, as you say, and this is why it influenced future IPC
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Q.	So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were mainly concerned about aerosol-generating procedures, as you say, and this is why it influenced future IPC guidance. Understood.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q. A.	So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were mainly concerned about aerosol-generating procedures, as you say, and this is why it influenced future IPC guidance. Understood. So it was influential. But there was no again, there
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Α.	So those two assumptions I felt were flaws in that report. Going back to this here, they had raised what I did like was they raised the possibility that short-range aerosol transmission was occurring for the first time, which I thought was good, but they were mainly concerned about aerosol-generating procedures, as you say, and this is why it influenced future IPC guidance. Understood. So it was influential. But there was no again, there was no epidemiological evidence so far as I could see relating to the aerosols in the aerosol-generating procedures. I may be wrong, but I can't That's your position, all right. I can take that down. And let me just deal with this. I've obviously asked you a number of questions and given examples relating to hospital bays and nurses attending to patients in that context, non-clinical staff going in and cleaning and the like. Can I ask you, what implications does the significance of aerosol transmission have for IPC in smaller settings, clinics,

Inquir	у	11 September 2024
1	Q.	I hope so. Can we look at the final bullet point
2		please.
3	Α.	If not, I will then
4	Q.	All right. The reason it's important, my Lady, is
5		because the PIP report, many of the findings and
6		assumptions in that then underpinned various guidelines
7		for use during a flu pandemic and, by extension
8		therefore, other respiratory virus pandemics. And it
9		restricted respirators to only staff conducting AGPs on
10		flu patients. And you say there:
11		"Newer evidence that large amounts of virus could be
12		naturally exhaled by infectious patients did not shift
13		this initial policy choice during the Covid-19
14		pandemic."
15	Α.	Right. Before I do that
16	Q.	Yes.
17	Α.	I don't want to forget the other point, which is not
18		here but it's in the text.
19		The other flaw in the PIP report was that they
20		assumed that once aerosols as they went out they fanned
21		out and you got less and less concentration. That's
22		what happens outdoors. But indoors, because they're
23		confined, the concentration over time will build up, and
24		so people in the far field, even though the
25		concentration will become more and they can breathe that
		126
1	Α.	Right. No, the physics is the same, but it's exactly
2		the same principles. Basically the aerosols will build
3		up in a space that's poorly ventilated. So in a smaller
4		setting, you might be looking at a hospital
5		a doctor's waiting room, you might have quite a tight,
6		confined space with maybe not well ventilated with
7		a lot of people there. You may also find that the same
8		things apply: the longer you spend in the presence of
9		someone who's infected and the closer you are to them,
10		you're probably going to get a higher load of aerosols.
11	Q.	So across the healthcare settings it's important to get
12		right at the outset, or at least not get wrong at the
13		outset, the mode of transmission?
14	Α.	Yeah, physics doesn't change whether you're in a big
15		hospital or a little clinic.
16	Q.	Can I move topic completely to face masks, respirators
17		and, to the extent we need to, visors.
18		Now, Professor, we've already seen an example of
19		an FRSM, and if we want one there is in your report.
20		And I think perhaps if we could call up page 73 and
21		a very helpful diagram there.
22		In short, FRSMs protect against droplets; is that
23		right?
24	Α.	Yeah, well, it's fluid-resistant surgical masks,
25		right
		128

(32) Pages 125 - 128

1	Q.	But they can't prevent inhalation of aerosols due to	1		the p
2		their loose fitting	2		nose
3	Α.	Yeah, they're loose-fitting masks around the face. They	3		forwa
4		protect the wearer well, the first and foremost thing	4		-
5		is to actually protect other people by stopping big	5		"also
6		droplets being exhaled out, so they hit the mask inside	6		the s
7		and they don't get transmitted to other people. But the	7	Q.	My L
8		aerosols can escape, as you can see in figure 14	8		a sur
9	Q.	We're going on come on to that.	9		sprea
10	Α.	Oh, we're going to	10		inhal
11	Q.	Yeah.	11		[
12	Α.	They escape, but they protect the wearer in so much that	12	Α.	Yes,
13		large droplets heading for the nose or the mouth, but	13		aeros
14		not the eyes, don't hit that. But aerosols can get	14		and y
15		round the gaps basically.	15		there
16	Q.	And if we look at our figure 14, the first column, (a)	16	Q.	Resp
17		and (d) represents the thermal exhalation plumes	17		there
18		produced by someone when no mask is worn and they are	18		aeros
19		sitting quietly sorry, (a) is no mask is worn and (d)	19	Α.	They
20		is when the mask is worn. So that's what it looks like	20		envir
21		if someone is sitting quietly, the plume that is	21		prote
22		produced.	22	Q.	My L
23	Α.	So you can see the thermal plume rising up over them in	23		gene
24		every case and you can see I presume here this	24	Α.	They
25		person's breathing through their nose and you can see 129	25		head
1		fit to occur.	1		your
2	Q.	If a wearer fails a fit test for whatever reason,	2	Q.	Clarit
3		l think you also say in your report at paragraph 197	3	Α.	Right
4		but you don't need to call it up there are respirator	4		in a l
5		hoods that can be used in those circumstances if the	5		effec
6		fit test fails for whatever reason?	6		that v
7	Α.	Yes, yeah.	7		I
8	Q.	All right, now I would like to ask about the	8		world
9		effectiveness of different mask types. And if it helps	9		some
10		you, we go to I think around 210, or page 79, in your	10		that i
11		report.	11		you g
12		(Pause)	12		infec
13		l think you say can we take down paragraph 210	13		contr
14		for a moment. Thank you.	14		trial b
15		But in short, is it difficult to evaluate the	15		beca
16		effectiveness of mask types?	16		a lot
17	Α.	No. It depends how you want to evaluate them.	17		of the
18	Q.	Let me deal with some of the detail	18		thing
19	Α.	Lab or field trial.	19		
20	Q.	All right, let me deal with some of the detail then.	20		world
21		I think you said at your paragraph 210:	21		beha
22		" demonstrating that masks are actually effective	22		relati
23		at inhibiting the transmission of [Covid] has proven to	23	Q.	It wa
24		be somewhat challenging"	24		thank
25	Α.	Yep, right, I think I just need to clarify this, because	25		-

1		the plume coming down, the exhalation plume from the
2		nose going down towards the ground, not even going
3		forward.
4		The next one, (b), is where they're actually saying
5		"also", and the last one is a laugh actually. And then
6		the same thing repeated with the surgical mask on it.
7	Q.	My Lady, that may be neat way of encapsulating the role
8		a surgical mask can play in helping either prevent the
9		spread of infection or, in the large droplet case, the
10		inhalation of it.
11		Did you want to say something?
12	Α.	Yes, can you see how, when the mask is worn, there is
13		aerosols escaping out through around the nose bridge,
14		and you can see how they join into the thermal plume
15 16	0	there and then travel wherever, in that sense.
17	Q.	Respirator masks, as we know, are tight fitting and are therefore designed to protect the wearer from inhaling
18		aerosols?
19	Α.	They also protect them from pushing them out into the
20		environment as well, but they are designed primarily to
21		protect against all particles, aerosols and droplets.
22	Q.	My Lady has already heard that in the UK we use FFP3
23		generally and you have to be fit tested.
24	Α.	They've got head straps that go round the back of the
25		head. That's important because that enables the tight
25		head. That's important because that enables the tight
23		130
20		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Q.	130
1	Q. A.	130 your question
1 2		130 your question Clarify away.
1 2 3		130 your question Clarify away. Right. So you can get a mask, put it on a mannequin or in a lab in a controlled situation and you can test the effectiveness. So it's not difficult to do that. So
1 2 3 4		130 your question Clarify away. Right. So you can get a mask, put it on a mannequin or in a lab in a controlled situation and you can test the effectiveness. So it's not difficult to do that. So that was my answer to your question. Right?
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		130 your question Clarify away. Right. So you can get a mask, put it on a mannequin or in a lab in a controlled situation and you can test the effectiveness. So it's not difficult to do that. So that was my answer to your question. Right? If you want to see how they behave in the real world, do they actually stop a pandemic or stop something, you have to do a trial of some nature. And that is tricky because what happens is things change,
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There is, however, as you set out in your report at 132

136

1		paragraphs 213 and 214 onwards, findings of	1		the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 [Covid] infection."
2		a Royal Society review which conducted, I think,	2	A.	
3		a review of, was it, 34 different studies?	3		overall, the whole thing and remember, stuff that
4	A.	Yes, it was, up to Omicron, I think.	4		this was done late on, after the pandemic. It's much
5		Yes. I just want to summarise those because they're	5		higher quality evidence than early in the pandemic.
6		important.	6		They found the weight of evidence was that wearing masks
7	Α.	Yeah.	7		was better than not wearing masks, and respirators were
8	Q.	I think that the Royal Society found that the vast	8		better than surgical masks.
9		majority of studies they looked at found that masks	9		It's as simple as that, really.
10		reduced infection; is that right?	10	Q.	They went on to consider the specific issue of
11	Α.	Yes, they were effective in mitigating and reducing the	11		respirators and surgical masks.
12		transmission of infection.	12		And can I call up paragraph 218, please, on page 83.
13	Q.	That wearing a mask reduced Covid transmission in the	13		We can see there the Royal Society review stated:
14		community?	14		"There is also evidence, mainly from studies in
15	Α.	Yes.	15		healthcare settings, that higher-quality 'respirator'
16	Q.	And that seven of the studies found that respirators	16		masks were more effective than surgical-type masks."
17		were more effective than fluid-resistant surgical masks?	17	A.	
18	Α.	Yes.	18		classification, but it's equivalent to a FFP2 actually.
19	Q.	And that drawing all of the different studies together,	19	Q.	Which is not generally used in the UK
20		the Royal Society found and perhaps we could	20	A.	Not generally used, but good, a very good mask, a very
21		highlight paragraph 215, please there in bold, the	21		good mask/respirator, as we'll yeah.
22		Royal Society expert group concluded that:	22	Q.	
23		" the weight of evidence from all of the studies	23		said a little lower down in your paragraph 218 that
24		suggests that wearing masks, wearing higher quality	24		there was good grounds for believing that respirators
25		masks (respirators), and mask mandates generally reduced	25		generally performed better than surgical masks at
		133			134
1		protecting healthcare workers against Covid?	1		The two are related and in the hierarchy of controls,
1 2	Α.	protecting healthcare workers against Covid? Yes, yes.	1 2		The two are related and in the hierarchy of controls, right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here.
	A. Q.				-
2		Yes, yes.	2		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here.
2 3		Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to	2 3		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks
2 3 4		Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite	2 3 4		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in
2 3 4 5		Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we	2 3 4 5		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me
2 3 4 5 6		Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3	2 3 4 5 6		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room
2 3 4 5 6 7	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2.	2 3 4 5 6 7		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see	2 3 4 5 6 7 8		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah. Right. FFP3 is what is recommended in the UK, although	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads of virus in the air, you would find that there was
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah. Right. FFP3 is what is recommended in the UK, although my Lady will hear in due course that, in the absence of	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads of virus in the air, you would find that there was a huge difference, the respirators would be really
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Q. A. Q.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah. Right. FFP3 is what is recommended in the UK, although my Lady will hear in due course that, in the absence of FFP3, because supplies ran out, FFP2 was considered to be an acceptable mask in the absence of FFP3.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads of virus in the air, you would find that there was a huge difference, the respirators would be really effective because if they're fitting well and but the surgical masks would be ineffective because there is
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q. A. Q. A.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah. Right. FFP3 is what is recommended in the UK, although my Lady will hear in due course that, in the absence of FFP3, because supplies ran out, FFP2 was considered to be an acceptable mask in the absence of FFP3. Yeah. Right, and so that provides some context. Help us, please, with your paragraph 221, though. Yes. Right, so what I'm saying there is that right, that first part of that paragraph really should be read	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20		right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads of virus in the air, you would find that there was a huge difference, the respirators would be really effective because if they're fitting well and but the surgical masks would be ineffective because there is a big supervirus out there and they're allowing aerosols to get through. So the effectiveness of surgical masks depends on the viral load, whereas the respirators are kind of immune to that. Right? So you've got to look at the load in conjunction
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. A. Q. A.	Yes, yes. In the similar vein, going on, please, in your report to paragraph 221, a number of other studies that you cite in that paragraph, but you say there in bold are we talking here about a distinction between FFP2 and FFP3 masks? I think we are, so let me deal with FFP2. Let me just have a quick look at this statement and see what it said. (Pause) Yeah. Yeah. Right. FFP3 is what is recommended in the UK, although my Lady will hear in due course that, in the absence of FFP3, because supplies ran out, FFP2 was considered to be an acceptable mask in the absence of FFP3. Yeah. Right, and so that provides some context. Help us, please, with your paragraph 221, though. Yes. Right, so what I'm saying there is that right, that first part of that paragraph really should be read in conjunction with paragraph 219. Could I show that, please?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q.	right, and 219 is building the case, so here it is here. So, basically, if you, basically surgical masks perform better when there's lower levels of pathogens in the air, lower levels of virus in the air. So let me just give you two examples, right. If we had a room with no virus in the air and we had people wearing surgical masks and people wearing respirators, two groups, you would find no difference between them because there's no threat. Right. You go to the opposite end, where you've got loads of virus in the air, you would find that there was a huge difference, the respirators would be really effective because if they're fitting well and but the surgical masks would be ineffective because there is a big supervirus out there and they're allowing aerosols to get through. So the effectiveness of surgical masks depends on the viral load, whereas the respirators are kind of immune to that. Right? So you've got to look at the load in conjunction with that. So when we come on to 221 now, right, when you're asking me about that, if I could just have it

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(34) Pages 133 - 136

1		"This led Cheng to conclude that surgical	
2		masks might provide sufficient protection when exposure	
3		levels are low, in virus-rich environments, such as on	
4		Covid wards, they may not be adequate."	
5		Right? So, in other words, if you've got	
6		a situation where you've got a whole load of Covid	
7		patients or suspected Covid patients, who are maybe even	
8		presymptomatic or at early stages and highly infectious,	
9		gathered together, you're likely to have a high viral	
10		load in the air. Your surgical masks may not be	
11		effective against that, whereas, if you're dealing with	
12		a Covid patient who's maybe just one patient or a low	
13		number, and they're towards the end of their infection	
14		and they're not producing as much, the virus in the	
15		environment might be less, therefore the surgical mask	
16		may be more effective in that situation.	
17	Q.	So pausing there	
18	Α.	That's what that	
19	Q.	I know, so pausing there, in a situation where there is	
20		someone dealing with a ward full of either suspected or	
21		actually confirmed Covid patients, is that an argument	2
22		for saying that, where there's likely to be such a high	
23		viral load, there is a stronger argument for the use of	4
24		respirators?	4
25	Α.	Yes, or better quality masks of some nature but 137	4
		107	
1		a group you don't think about this one might be	
2		working on a place where there's a real high Covid risk	
3		and the others aren't. It doesn't make a difference,	
4	~	you know, do you see what I mean, this is why it's	
5	Q.	So let me draw some of	
6	A.	Sorry, I'm	
7	Q.	No, not at all. Let me see if I can draw some of these	
8		threads together though because I think you make the	
9		point, and others will doubtless make it, my Lady, later	
10		in the hearing, that the realities of wearing FFP3 can't	
11		be ignored here, they are uncomfortable, they can lead	
12		to skin irritation, they are hot?	
13	A.	Yeah.	
14	Q.	After, I suspect, this afternoon's break, I'm going to	
15		ask you a little bit about FFP2 but let's just pause	
16		there because you mentioned in that answer that we can't	
17 10		ignore the role of ventilation, and I'd like to just come on to look a little bit of that.	
18 10			
19 20		Clearly though when one is talking about masks, it	
20 21		requires compliance by the wearer, and I think you said	2
21		that you're aware that in hospitals infected patients	2
22		were significant drivers of infection amongst healthcare	2
23 24		workers and other patients, and that mask wearing amongst patients, and I'm at your paragraph 206	4
∠4		amonust patients, and the at your paradiabili 200	
25	Δ		-
25	Α.	Sorry, was that 139	

- 1 certainly respirators would be a strong argument.
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. In fact, that's what the bold bit at the bottom is
 - there --
- 5 **Q.** Yes.

6

7

8

- A. -- which was Ferris' study found that healthcare workers who were wearing a surgical mask had a 31-fold increased
- risk of acquiring a ward-based infection -- SARS-CoV-2
- 9 infection -- when working on a Covid ward, compared to
- 10 when working on a non-Covid ward. I think I've got that
- 11 paraphrased right.

12 LADY HALLETT: Professor Beggs, as a layperson, the

- 13 conclusion seems to be like common sense.
- 14 A. It is common sense, sorry, even to a professor of15 engineering, it is common sense as well.
- 16 MS CAREY: If you've got loads of it in the room, you need
- 17 better protection than when you have less of it.
- 18 LADY HALLETT: Yes, yes.
- 19 MS CAREY: Is that --
- 20 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah. But the problem -- but it's even the
- 21 hierarchy of controls. You'd be amazed that people
- 22 don't realise that they -- that's one of the challenges
- 23 when you're doing a trial, you know, how do you know the
- 24 threat's there in the first place, you're comparing two
- 25 groups who are wearing masks. One might be in 138
- Q. 206, which is on page, if it helps you, 78.
 A. Yep.
- 3 Q. "... mask wearing amongst [patients] was essential to 4 reduce patient-to-patient and patient-to-[healthcare 5 worker] transmission ..." 6 But, of course, it's difficult to enforce, 7 particularly, for example, if the patient is so unwell 8 they can't tolerate wearing a mask. A. Can I just explain that a bit more in its full entirety, 9 10 as briefly as possible? 11 So what was found in the -- various studies have 12 found is that the most -- most of the infection to other 13 patients was from patients who became infected with 14 Covid in hospital, nosocomially infected patients in 15 hospital and they infected other patients and they also 16 infected healthcare workers, right, they drove it, and 17 the reason they did that is because they caught the 18 infection in hospital and they were there during that incubation period and early infectious periods. That's 19 20 when they were most infectious, so anyone who came into 21 contact with them was going to be at risk. So they're 22 the kind of key players in terms of driving infection in 23 many situations. 24 So one of the things that my colleague 25 Chris Illingworth and his study at Addenbrooke's was --140

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1		found from his study was to encourage patients to
2		in-patients to wear masks. Now, this is a big problem
3		because these patients are ill, they're uncomfortable
4		and they're certainly not talking about we're talking
5		about surgical masks not respirators or anything and
6		they're trying to get in-patients to I think
7		according to my clinical colleagues at Addenbrooke's,
8		they were trying to do that but they kind of ended up
9		all over the place and it was difficult, you know;
10		people have to eat, you know.
11	Q.	Yes. So if there is a high viral load in the room
12	Α.	Yeah.
13	Q.	one way of preventing you from contracting the
14		infection is mask wearing?
15	Α.	That also helps to keep the viral load down.
16	Q.	I know, I know, but the other way of helping reduce the
17		viral load is therefore ventilation?
18	Α.	Absolutely.
19	Q.	Right. Can we just deal with some terminology in
20		relation to ventilation?
21	Α.	Yep.
22	Q.	Ventilation is the introduction of fresh air to flush
23		away bacteria?
24	Α.	And viruses.
25	Q.	I'm taking your words.
		1 1 1

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1 (Q.	Air cleaning is the process by which the air is cleaned,
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- 2 as the name suggests, with a filtering unit?
- 3 A. Yes, absolutely, so that does move -- we've got one over
 4 there.
- 5 Q. We're going to come onto that later.
- 6 A. It's got a fan and air goes through it. So it promotes7 air movement but it cleans the air.
- 8 Q. All right. Now, can I ask you please to look at
 9 paragraph 238 on page 90 of the report. Dealing now
 10 with ventilation.
- 11 A. Yep.
- 12 Q. Paragraph 238, you say at the top of the paragraph that

room ventilation is ineffective against large droplets,ie those greater than 100 microns, because they behave

- 15 ballistically and drop to the floor.
- 16 **A.** Right.
- 17 Q. Is that correct?
- 18 A. Yes. Sorry, general room ventilation that we normally19 have, that you can have specialist systems that do do
- 20 that but that's a different animal. But, yes, it is 21 correct
- 22 Q. You go on there to, in that paragraph, make the point
- 23 that ventilation can only flush away and remove aerosol
- 24 particles that are suspended in air as these travel with
- 25 the air currents?

- 1 A. My words, all right.
- 2 Q. And viruses.
- 3 A. I obviously was talking about bacteria there.
- 4 **Q.** All right.
- 5 A. But ventilation is -- yes, it is.
- 6 Q. Thank you.

8

- 7 A. No, ventilation is the action of introducing fresh air,
 - outside air that's clean to -- what we do is we dilute
- 9 the concentration and we flush away the particles in the
- 10 air. So it flushes away anything that's in the air, as
- 11 aerosols, so that could be dust, that can be, you know,
- 12 inanimate stuff, it can be bacteria, fungal spores and
- viruses, right? So it's indiscriminate. It flushesthat away.
- 15 Q. I follow that. Let's just concentrate on the virus for
- 16 these purposes. Air conditioning is the movement of air
- around or between rooms; it's not the same thing asventilation, is it?
- 19 A. Air movement is the movement of air around between
- 20 spaces so, in this room, for example, we could have
- 21 a ceiling fan -- we haven't got one, you'll have to
- 22 imagine it -- it would be moving, you would feel the air
- 23 currents generated by that, but that's not ventilating
- 24 the space, it's promoting movement, and many people get
 - confused between the two. 142
- 1 Α. Absolutely, if it's headed for the floor and it's 2 heavier, it's not going to be flushed away. 3 Q. "With respect to this, room ventilation is generally 4 only effective at mitigating the far-field infection 5 risk, because it cannot remove aerosol particles in the 6 near field ..." 7 A. Yes, yes definitely. Again, there are very specialist 8 ventilation systems that could do the near field but, 9 generally speaking, it only affects the far field, it flushes out the particles and reduces the concentration. 10 11 Q. "So, in IPC terms, room ventilation is a measure 12 designed to mitigate the transmission of disease by the 13 airborne route." 14 Pause, please: 15 "Therefore, there is an inherent inconsistency in 16 saying that room ventilation is important, which 17 simultaneously arguing that airborne transmission does 18 not occur." Yeah. 19 Α. 20 Q. "This is something that many may fail to appreciate." 21 Put that into layman's terms, please. 22 A. Yeah, I'm not going to mention anybody, I'm talking in 23 general about things, as what happens is that there's 24 an inherent disconnect between -- frankly, you see it
- 25 all over the place in much of the IPC literature that's

7

1		been certainly in the historically is people
2		generally think ventilation is a good thing, but then
3		they argue that airborne transmission doesn't occur, in
4		which case you'd say, "Well, if it's all droplet, why on
5		Earth we need the air why do we need the
6		ventilation?" And, you know, it's a they're contrary
7		positions and they say, "Oh, well, it's good to have
8		it", and then, well, if it's good to have ventilation,
9		you're arguing that there's things in the air and they
10		could be breathed in.
11		So people don't fully connect these join the
12		dots, if you know what I mean.
13	Q.	I mean, you're never saying you should only have masks
14		or you should only have ventilation, that's not what
15		you're saying, if I'm following?
16	Α.	Certainly I'm not saying that, no. I am saying I'm
17		just saying that there's a disconnect in you need
18		a holistic approach, you need to look at all the routes
19		and you need to have something that's workable.
20	Q.	Now, at your paragraph 240, you set out the ways in
21		which engineers quantify the amount of ventilation
22		required to minimise the risk of airborne transmission,
23		air changes per hour, and you say there it's the number
24		of complete air changes, so the replacements of air that
25		will occur in one hour. Just help us with the example
		145
1		like a door handle or something where it might be
2		sitting there for days.
3	Q.	All right. Fresh air rate per person, you set out
4	ч.	there. It's generally specified in terms of litres of
5		fresh air per person per second and so, for example, in
6		a classroom containing 30 people, the fresh air rate of
7		10 litres per second was specified, you'd need
8		a ventilation rate of 300 litres per second?
9	Α.	Yes.
3	А.	100.

9 **A.** Yes.

- 10 Q. Right. Now, we won't descend to the arithmetic in a
 11 number of circumstances but that's generally the way --
- 12 A. That's just generally -- it's very useful in situations
- especially like this room here, where we have quite
 a high occupancy level. If you have a lot of people in
 one space, one's relating to the room, the other's
 relating to the people.
- 17 Q. I think you make the point in your report that a room
 18 can have a region of high and low virus concentration,
 19 it's not one or the other?
- 20 A. Absolutely, you showed a picture earlier on which was
- 21 from a CFD analysis of a ward and you saw that all the
- 22 aerosols were down one side of the ward and not the
- 23 other, so that's because there was a diffuser like this
- 24 actually dividing the air and concentrating it in that
- 25 area, and it was kind of circulating round. So we were 147

- 1 that you set out there.
- 2 **A.** Yeah, right, so we've got a room here. Let's say we had
- two air changes -- doesn't matter what size the room is,
 let's say we had two air changes per hour that's the
- let's say we had two air changes per hour, that's the
 usual -- ACH is what that means -- two air changes r
- usual -- ACH is what that means -- two air changes per
 hour, that would mean that the complete volume of the
 - hour, that would mean that the complete volume of the air in the space was replaced twice in an hour. So if
- 8 we had a particle of air, I know it's a mixture of
- 9 air -- of gases, but if we had a particle of air, that
- 10 would mean -- or an aerosol suspended in that air, one
- 11 aerosol, right, one viral particle -- on average it
- 12 would remain in the room for half an hour at maximum,
- 13 and it would be flushed away.
- 14 Q. So six air changes an hour would mean that it remained15 for ten minutes?
- 16 A. Ten minutes, yes.
- 17 Q. Right.
- 18 A. So that's the kind of longest. Now, that's assuming
- 19 complete mixing. You can have pockets of air which are
- 20 stagnant and that's why we need to look at how that's
- 21 moving around in the space but that means that, if
- 22 you've got six air changes per hour, generally the
- particles are not hanging around for a long period in
- 24 that space and, therefore, if there's a virus in them,
- 25 that virus is not having a long time to decay. It's not 146
- 1 getting air movement and so it meant that certain people 2 were more at risk than others. 3 **Q.** Take another example, there might be a lower 4 concentration by a window that's open --5 Yeah. Α. 6 **Q.** -- than there is at the far end of the room further away 7 from the window? 8 Δ. Excellent example because it relates to naturally 9 ventilate spaces. Naturally ventilated spaces are 10 really deep -- people don't realise this but it's 11 a complex fluid mechanics problem, this space is a very, 12 very deep space and we've got some windows. If we were 13 just relying on the windows to produce that, we would 14 have ventilation there but we could have very still 15 stagnant regions over here and it would be difficult. 16 So you can have that but, obviously, also where the 17 infector is, you will have -- likely to have a high 18 concentration and if you, again, also have a strong air 19 current, they might be picked up and deposited 20 somewhere. 21 So understanding how the air moved around wards is 22 quite important, not just specifying the air change 23 rate, in my opinion. 24 Q. Fine, well, that brings me on to the hospital
- 25 ventilation guidelines, which start in your report at 148

1		paragraph 245, and there are what are known as health	1
2		technical memoranda which are published, and what do	2
3		they do, in a nutshell, please, Professor?	3
4	Α.	Yeah, these are basically guidelines for all NHS estates	4
5		and hospital engineers and people involved in buildings.	5
6		They deal with the ventilation, so ventilating hospital	6
7		buildings basically, but they're actually healthcare	7
8		facilities, so it could be clinics as well, and they're	8
9		called specialist ventilation. Most of the concentrated	9
10		effort is on things like operating theatres, isolation	10
11		rooms, negative pressure isolation rooms, bronchoscopy	11
12		suites, things like that.	12
13		But they also cover general wards and non-clinical	13
14		areas, toilets and things like that. Although so	14
15		they're de facto the guidelines that people go to, and	15
16		there's two of them: one is for the design of them and	16
17		the other one so they specify the air change rates	17
18		that should be	18
19	Q.	Right. Understood.	19
20	Α.	And the other one is for the maintenance and operation,	20
21		so validating how they run, ensuring that they're still	21
22		doing what they're supposed to be doing.	22
23	Q.	Now, the HTMs, there are HTMs in England, similar ones	23
24		in Scotland and I think similar ones in Northern Ireland	24
25		and Wales; is that right?	25
		149	
1		decision tree: is the infection likely to be airborne or	1
2		is it likely to be not airborne droplet is	2
3		non-airborne by the way, right, or contact born; and if	3
4		it's droplet then it's just an ordinary ward you don't	4
5		have specialist insulation, you don't have negatively	5
6		pressurised isolation rooms; if it's airborne then you	6
7		need negatively pressurised isolation rooms and various	7
8		other things. And the only two diseases that are	8
9		basically classified as being airborne are TB and	9
10		measles.	10
11	Q.	TB and what?	11
12	Α.	TB and measles.	12
13	Q.	Oh, measles. Thank you, I misheard you.	13
14	Α.	Yes, TB and measles are classified. So this	14
15		classification of whether it's airborne or droplet is	15
16		huge in ramifications all the way through the whole	16
17		thing.	17
18	Q.	Now, you say at paragraph 249 in your report the HTMs,	18
19		the 2021 ones, classified spaces within hospitals as	19
20		either being areas where the risk of airborne infection	20
21		is high and therefore specialist ventilation is required	21
22		or areas where the airborne infection risk is low and	22
22		therefore general building ventilation will suffice.	23
23		5 5	

- 24 Can you just help us what do you mean by "specialist
- 25 ventilation"?

- A. This is where I'm getting a bit iffy. There are --
- certainly in Scotland and England there are ones.
- 3 There's something governing that in Northern Ireland and
- Wales, what they're called, but they're going to be
- based on the same kind of standards. Again, engineering
- 6 physics is much the same and that's it, yeah.
- 7 Q. Now, the HTMs that were in play during much of the
- pandemic, is that a document from 2007? I'm looking, if
- it helps you, at your paragraph 247 on page 92.
- 10 A. Yes.
 - 1 Q. The current --
 - 2 A. Yes, no, I can see that. Right, so, brief history,
 - right? So at the beginning of the pandemic it was the
 - 14 2007 documents --
 - 15 **Q.** Thank you.
 - 6 A. -- that were valid and they went through until
 - 7 I think -- is it June 2021 when the new guidelines took
 - 8 over? However, the new guidelines were written before9 the pandemic.
 - **Q Q**. Right. Whether it's the 2007 or the 2021 guidance, they
 - broadly used the same distinction between "airborne" and non-airborne"?
 - A. Absolutely, they used exactly the same. They're just
 - slightly modified in various ways but they -- from what
- 25 I can see, but the key thing is they use a rigid 150

1	Α.	Right, yeah, so let's get this the risk is high and low,
2		get that out of the way first of all. If it's deemed
3		airborne, then it goes down a certain pathway, right?
4		So if it's airborne, the risk is high, right, by that.
5		If it's deemed droplet, the risk is deemed low and it
6		goes down a different pathway. So all the specialist
7		stuff kicks in. So there's really a couple of areas
8		where they consider it really important. I'm talking in
9		broad terms here.
10	Q.	l understand.
11	Α.	Yeah, so the classic one is operating theatres because
12		there's risk of bacterial infections and surgical site
13		infections. So huge amounts of the documents are given
14		over to operating theatres and that's not really
15		relevant for what we're talking about here in
16		a pandemic.
17		The next area is: is it airborne? Well, if it's
18		an airborne disease like tuberculosis, then the patient
19		should be put in a negatively pressurised isolation
20		facility with a specialist ventilation system that makes
21		sure that there's an air a foyer, an airlock that
22		prevents the microbacterium tuberculosis from escaping
23		into the rest of the hospital, so it protects other

- 24 people.
- 25 Q. Understood.

UK Covid-19 Inquiry

1	Α.	Then aerosol-generating procedures, the classic
2		forgive me, I'm at a loss here but the classic one is
3		a bronchoscopy suite where we actually look do
4		a procedure with an endoscope to actually take biopsies
5		in the lungs. A lot of coughing, classically done with
6		TB and classically produces lots of aerosols with
7		potentially TB that are infectious. That needs good
8		ventilation, that's specialist. So you see how the
9		pathway goes down that.
10		If it's droplet, you end up on a normal ward, you
11		know.
12	Q.	Yes. So, on a normal ward, not to denigrate it but
13	Α.	So I think six air changes is the specified thing for
14		that
15	Q.	I'm going to come onto that but I think you make the
16		point at paragraph 250 in your report that, in general,
17		where you are not dealing with those high-risk areas,
18		such as the operating theatres and the like, in general,
19		areas and wards within healthcare systems, odour control
20		is the main reason for ventilation, not infection
21	_	prevention?
22	Α.	
23		you think about the in the light of the IPC hierarchy
24		of controls, it just doesn't even figure. This is just
25		saying that the ventilation there is to stop you 153
		100
1		purposely and deliberately.
2	Q.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you
2 3	Q.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six
2 3 4	Q.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in
2 3 4 5	Q.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in your report, you suggest that the evidence shows that
2 3 4 5 6		Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in your report, you suggest that the evidence shows that the actual ward ventilation rates are lower than that?
2 3 4 5 6 7	A.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in your report, you suggest that the evidence shows that the actual ward ventilation rates are lower than that? Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in your report, you suggest that the evidence shows that the actual ward ventilation rates are lower than that? Yes. Is that, can you help, is that dealing across the UK or
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. Q.	Just a few other matters please on this. I think you have mentioned already that the HTM guidance says six air changes an hour for a general and acute ward but, in your report, you suggest that the evidence shows that the actual ward ventilation rates are lower than that? Yes. Is that, can you help, is that dealing across the UK or is that based on English studies; are you able to help with that? Yeah, I can, yeah. Right, first of all, we've got some a lot of very old hospitals, right? Hospitals are built at different times and they so, you know, we have Victorian hospitals, Nightingale wards that are just opening the windows, and they're very prone to whichever way the wind blows, basically, in those situations whether they achieve you get great variation there in the amount of air changes, as I think I say in my article here. But, for example, the ward that I I worked closely with Addenbrooke's Hospital, I'm involved in a study there, but where we measured the rates there, they were considerably lower, I think less than one air change for a mechanical ventilation

1		know, get rid of smells, basically, no other real
2		purpose, not for infectious purpose, according to this.
3		Obviously it should be for infection control purposes.
4	Q.	So if there were, for example, an asymptomatic patient
5		on a general and acute ward, the ventilation would be
6		doing nothing to try and help dilute the amount of viral
7		load in that ward?
8	Α.	Absolutely, not, it would be, no, the ventilation would
9		be there, if it's six air changes that would be helpful,
10		it's good but many wards, older wards, don't even
11		achieve that. But the point is you're not even
12		recognising it and these are the guidelines. So these
13		guidelines are, in my opinion, out of date.
14	Q.	Fine. Can you help me with that: does the guideline
15		even talk about
16	Α.	It doesn't, there is no higher risk on normal wards and
17		the only purpose in normal, non-clinical spaces and
18		general wards is about controlling odour, making the
19		place comfortable, and shouldn't be trying to use too
20		much energy, and patients and healthcare workers are at
21		no higher greater risk. It's written in my report, I've
22		only quoted what they've said and, in the light of the
23		Covid pandemic, I'm afraid I don't believe that's fit
24		for purpose and I've said that purposely and
25		deliberately saying that, and I'm saying it now
		154
1		"Evidence would suggest that"
2	Α.	Could you put this up?
3	Q.	Yeah:
4	ч.	" actual ward ventilation rates are often well
5		below those specified in the HTM"
6		For example at Addenbrooke's, as you have just been
7		telling us, Butler found delivered mechanical
, 8		ventilation rates to be between 0.96 and 0.73 air
0		

9		changes on two medicine for the elderly wards, well
10		below what was deemed acceptable in the 1970s and far
10		below what was deemed acceptable in the 1970s and lar
11		below the six air changes that we've got now in the 2021
12		HTMs.
13	Α.	So this encapsulates what I'm saying here, right? So
14		now, in the current HTMs, it's six air changes, that's
15		the standard. When the building was built in the 1970s
16		at Addenbrooke's in that one, it was 2.5. So that was
17		the standard, it was designed to that, which is
18		considerably lower than what we have now, whether that's
19		a right standard or acceptable standard is another
20		matter but, even then the when we actually measured
21		the air change rates from the mechanical ventilation
22		system and what we do is we actually put a hood
23		anemometer over the grilles to see how much air is being
24		brought out.
25		We found it was less than one air change so it was 156

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1		not performing to its standard then and way below the
2		other standard. The bottom one there, the Nightingale
3		ward, basically that's a ward with cross ventilation and
4		lots of windows and no mechanical ventilation and
5		there's huge variation there because of basically how
6		the wind blows, basically, and whether the windows are
7		open. There are some other I mean, when I was
8		writing this report, I didn't
9	Q.	Can I pause you there
10	Α.	Sorry.
11	Q.	because I think we've got the point there that there
12		is great variation depending on the age of the hospital,
13		type of ventilation they've got and the ability to reach
14		now the guideline of the six air changes an hour. But
15		help me about this: what do the HTMs say, if anything,
16		about non-clinical areas and the ventilation that's
17		required, for example, in a staff room or where the
18		cleaners go to get equipment?
19	Α.	Right.
20	Q.	Do they say anything about it?
21	Α.	No and yes, right? So largely no, right? But if I can
22	~	just sum it up, right?
23	Q.	Of course.
24 25	Α.	So the I've given the flavour of what it says.
25		Basically it's saying these are ancillary places, 157
	-	
1	Α.	
2		transmission of Covid, they don't adequately reflect
3		this. They do put a kind of preamble on them, say we wrote these before the Covid
4	~	
5	Q.	I follow that, yes.
6 7	Α.	Which they do atread and yeah that's reasonable yeah
7	0	Which they do stress and, yeah, that's reasonable, yeah.
0	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look
8 0	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to
9	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with
9 10	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening
9 10 11	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening a window but that is subject to wind direction, strength
9 10 11 12	Q.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening a window but that is subject to wind direction, strength of the wind, comfort of the patient if it's winter,
9 10 11 12 13		Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening a window but that is subject to wind direction, strength of the wind, comfort of the patient if it's winter, that's probably not going to be hugely practical.
9 10 11 12 13 14	Q. A.	Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening a window but that is subject to wind direction, strength of the wind, comfort of the patient if it's winter, that's probably not going to be hugely practical. Well, can I I'll just list them, they're very useful.
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9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21		Just before we break, if I may, my Lady can I just look briefly please at the interventions that can be used to supplement ventilation and, Professor, it's dealt with in your report starting on page 97. Obviously opening a window but that is subject to wind direction, strength of the wind, comfort of the patient if it's winter, that's probably not going to be hugely practical. Well, can I I'll just list them, they're very useful. Obviously you could open windows. It's a good way to boost ventilation. But there's lots of downsides. You've mentioned winter. You freeze the patients in winter, that's not a good situation, especially if these are patients who are very ill and need to be comfortable and maintain their body temperature. You also get pollutants in from outside, you get particulates from

- 24 noise traffic. You know, there's a whole load of things
- 25 and, also, once you've opened them, when you've got 159

2		ventilation is for odour control and that. You then
3		have a great long list, so there's very little on ward
4		ventilation actually written in the text.
5		What you have is a big table with various spaces
6		listed so, in that table, which covers about four pages,
7		you will have things like ancillary spaces, some will be
8		a sluice thing, a ward toilet, I can't remember whether
9		there's an office building, a waiting area, how they
10		gradate it but they'll have usually something, an air
11		change rate, and, generally, I don't know I wouldn't
12		like to comment at this bit but that's how they treat
13		it; it's kind of an also-ran space.
14	Q.	Understood. So there is a concentration, if that would
15		be the right phrase on the high risk clinical areas?
16	Α.	No, the high risk from according to the criteria of
17		to me it's not concentrated on the high-risk areas
18		from
19	Q.	Do you think
20	Α.	a Covid point of view.
21	Q.	Sorry, I didn't mean to cut across you. Do you think
22		that the HTMs in general reflect the risks of

they're not that important, right, in terms of the

- 23 transmission from airborne infectious viruses?
- 24 A. I don't think they do at all.
- 25 **Q.** Right.

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1		a deep plan space, you can't necessarily get good
2		ventilation. It's good in that area but not further in.
3		So there's limitations. That's what I would say.
4	Q.	Assuming that we are dealing with not a new hospital but
5		one of the older hospitals in the estate, clearly you
6		can't rip down the ceiling and redo the ventilation, or
7		not easily and certainly not cheaply in a pandemic.
8	Α.	It's a hugely expensive to change and upgrade
9		ventilation systems, and disruptive as well.
10	Q.	So the kind of portable or easily built into options
11		include portable air cleaners; is that right?
12	Α.	Yeah, portable usually they're portable but call them
13		supplementary air cleaners, supplementary devices that
14		help to remove pathogens or nullify pathogens in the
15		air. Pathogens, by the way, could be bacteria or
16		viruses.
17	Q.	Fine, and helpfully there's a figure there giving us
18		an example of what one may look like but it's easily to
19		put into the ward or the room or whatever you want to
20		
21	Α.	You have several in this room but there's one there.
22	Q.	Thank you very much. All right. There are what are
23		known as upper room UV lamps. What are they, please?
24	Α.	Right, upper room UV, it is a technology where you're
25		using ultraviolet light, so we can use ultraviolet light 160

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1		at 254 nanometres, that's UVC light. It actually
2		when the photons of light hit the virus they actually
3		destroy the genetic material and prevent it from being
4		able to replicate again and cause infection. So upper
5		room UV you can put UV in air cleaners like that in
6		a box, so they're doing the same thing as the filter,
7		the HEPA filter, air efficiency filter other
8		technology is different or you can actually put them
9		on fittings up onto the ceiling, at high level above
10		people's heads, you can't see the actual field, and
11		create a UV field.
12		Now this is a very old technology that was used in
13		the 1930s and 40s, right up to the '60s in the States on
14		TB wards, and what you're doing is allowing the natural
15		air convection currents to take the pathogens and the
16		in the case of TB, through the field and it's getting
17		zapped. It's above the heads of people, so it's safe
18		and it you can get a huge air equivalent air
19		change rate.
20	Q.	So pausing there
21	Α.	So
22	Q.	there are a number of ways of trying to improve the
23		ventilation in a ward, in a staff room, if we wanted to,
24		in any number of settings and I think you say that these
25		portable interventions have a role to play in a pandemic
		161
1		cleaners and, in theory, achieve the same effect
2		relatively cheaply. They're very flexible and these are
3		things that should be looked at, in my opinion.
4	Q.	Right.
5	Α.	That's what I'm trying to say.
6	Q.	I think you made reference there to SAGE and they
7		published a report in November 2020 where, effectively,
8		they endorsed the use of portable air cleaners to
9		provide supplementary ventilation in spaces that were
10		poorly ventilated?
11	Α.	Absolutely.
12	Q.	Can I just ask you this
13	Α.	It's a very useful document as well. There was nothing
14		out there before that.
15	Q.	Is this the position: that there were no guidelines to
16		help hospitals as to what type of portable ventilation
17		
		they should or might think about installing?
18	А.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when
18 19	Α.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no
19 20	А.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no guidelines, that was upper room UV. There has been no
19 20 21	A.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no guidelines, that was upper room UV. There has been no guidelines at all until the pandemic. So we knew these
19 20 21 22	А.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no guidelines, that was upper room UV. There has been no guidelines at all until the pandemic. So we knew these technologies could potentially be effective but nobody
19 20 21 22 23	Α.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no guidelines, that was upper room UV. There has been no guidelines at all until the pandemic. So we knew these technologies could potentially be effective but nobody knew how many facilities should we put in a space, where
19 20 21 22	Α.	Yeah. Well, I was looking at this back in 1999 when I first started looking at this. There was no guidelines, that was upper room UV. There has been no guidelines at all until the pandemic. So we knew these technologies could potentially be effective but nobody

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1		because there's a balance that needs to be struck
2		between ventilation in non-pandemic times and the
3		ventilation that may be required during a pandemic?
4	Α.	Yeah, I think this is well, first of all, I'm not the
5		only one saying this, SAGE EMG said this as well, right?
6		But, to be honest, I actually was throughout the
7		pandemic, I had a central role in trying to promote
8		this. I could see that no one was doing this so
9		I actually got these trials off the ground at
10		Addenbrooke's to do that, so I was very much
11		an instigator in trying to promote the use of this and
12		get the trials to get the evidence because I could see
13		that we hadn't got the evidence.
14		Going back to what you said, they've got huge
15		potential. You've got an estate, money's short, in
16		everything we should be looking at utility. Can we
17		what can we do, the biggest bang for our buck. So we've
18		got wards that we can't necessarily upgrade the
19		ventilation system and, actually, do we need the you
20		know, in a pandemic situation, if you've got a ward
21		that's used for cohorting patients, you might need
22		a very high ventilation rate but, when it's not being
23		used for that, you don't need as much. You're not going
24		to change the whole ventilation system for that, it
25		costs a fortune. But you can bring in portable air 162

1	Q.	So is there effectively an ad hoc way that the hospital
2		might decide to do it and it might be done in one
3		hospital and another way in another.
4	Α.	Yeah, this is what happened. I can only speak for my
5		experience of what I observed in various places. But
6		people put they were put in wards but they were
7		sometimes put not by us in our trial but sometimes
8		put in corridors, probably having a minimal impact. If
9		you put too small a unit in, it's not going to have the
10		effect.
11	Q.	Now, pause there because it's right to note that since
12		the emergency stage of the pandemic finished in May
13		2023, NHS England produced two technical bulletins which
14		effectively provided some practical guidance regarding
15		the use of filters and UV air cleaning devices; is that
16		correct?
17	Α.	They were built on the SAGE initial document, they were
18		very welcome in my opinion because they again brought
19		more, brought it to the forefront and the potential for
20		it but the trouble is that the right, I'm just going
21		to use a term here the applied research is not there.
22		The fundamental research is there, we know that
23		these things kill the virus and clean the air, how to
24		use them and where we should use them to best effect is
25		not and so the guidelines can only reflect the

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1		research. This research should have been done for the	1	an existing, old, mature technology that's well
2		last 20/30 years, you know and, because it's not there,	2	understood and therefore is ready to go quickly and we
3		we can't we need to do it.	3	should see if we can get as much utilisation out of
4	Q.	Final question from me on this topic, please, I just	4	that. But I also think the potential bang for your buck
5		want to go back to UV lamps. You mentioned that they	5	of, say, upper room UV is well worth looking at. We
6		obviously may pose a degree of risk to health?	6	need some trials to look at that because that might be
7	Α.		7	useful as well.
8		254, fairly well known, it's fairly minimal. The	8	MS CAREY: I'm going to move onto a different and final
9		biggest danger there is, if someone does something	9	topic with the professor.
10		stupid like climbs on a desk and looks up into the UV,	10	LADY HALLETT: Certainly, I shall return at let's say
11		they're blinded. So they have got baffles to stop	10	15 minutes. People can work out what time that is.
12		people looking inside, so that you're shielded, you	12	(3.13 pm)
13		can't see them. That's an obvious thing. Also, if	12	(A short break)
14		there's a reflective surface that they reflect on to	13	
15		-		(3.32 pm) LADY HALLETT: Ms Carey.
16		someone, they can irritate the eyes, basically.	15	-
	~	The other one, 222 nanometres	16 17	MS CAREY: Thank you, my Lady.
17	Q.	We don't need to descend to that but, given that there		Professor, in your report at part 5, which starts on
18		is a degree of risk	18	page 104, you set out key findings which are effectively
19		Yeah.	19	a summary of all of the detail that you've included in
20	Q.	from a UV lamp, do you think there are more	20	the preceding pages, but can I see if I can summarise it
21		advantages to HEPA filters, the portable units, than	21	further, if I may, and please correct me if I'm wrong
22		there are over the UV lamps, if we are looking at	22	but I think your key findings can be summarised as
23		proposing one type of portable ventilation over the	23	follows: that Covid is transmitted also via the airborne
24		other?	24	route?
25	Α.	I think that the HEPA filtered portable filter units are 165	25	A. Yes. 166
				100
1	Q.	So we've got droplet and airborne and, you would say to	1	a little hit of a moughle facet depending on things
•	· · ·	ee ne re get alepiet and all berne and, yeu neald eay te		
2		a lesser extent contact and fomite transmission?		a little bit of a movable feast, depending on things, but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the
2	Δ	a lesser extent, contact and fomite transmission?	2	but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the
3		Yes.	2 3	but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the aerosol
3 4		Yes. And if you were to be asked whether you think there is	2 3 4	but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the aerosolQ. That's what I was going to say. And the reason for that
3 4 5		Yes. And if you were to be asked whether you think there is more aerosol transmission than droplet transmission,	2 3 4 5	but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the aerosolQ. That's what I was going to say. And the reason for that dividing line in your evidence is because particles less
3 4	Q.	Yes. And if you were to be asked whether you think there is more aerosol transmission than droplet transmission, would you able to opine on that?	2 3 4 5 6	 but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the aerosol Q. That's what I was going to say. And the reason for that dividing line in your evidence is because particles less than 100 microns can travel longer distances, float in
3 4 5 6 7	Q.	Yes. And if you were to be asked whether you think there is more aerosol transmission than droplet transmission, would you able to opine on that? I would most definitely say that I believe there is more	2 3 4 5 6 7	 but basically that's the it's the ballistic to the aerosol Q. That's what I was going to say. And the reason for that dividing line in your evidence is because particles less than 100 microns can travel longer distances, float in the air, whereas over 100 microns they behave
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25 A. In my opinion, that should be the case. Obviously it's 167

(42) Pages 165 - 168

1

 ${\bf Q}.~$ Yes. To final summary by me, whilst the fluid-resistant

			ч.	res. To final summary by me, whilst the huld-resistant
2 A .	Yeah.	2		surgical masks are helpful at reducing exhalation of
3 Q .	It wasn't to diminish them, but it's to lose sight of	3		droplets, they offer limited protection against the
4	all the other ways in which one can become infected?	4		inhalation of aerosols?
5 A .	Yes, to just concentrate on their own is incorrect in my	5	Α.	Yes.
6	opinion.	6	Q.	Full protection is provided by FFP3 masks but there are
7 Q.	I think you said to us earlier that good hand hygiene	7		practical considerations such as the need to fit test,
8	was important but the evidence that it substantially	8		how comfortable they are, that may limit the utility of
9	mitigates transmission of respiratory viruses is	9		the FFP3?
0	relatively weak?	10	Α.	Absolutely. They when fitted properly, they prevent
1 A .		11		aerosol inhalation and infection by that route, but
2	reviews and other reviews. Nevertheless, good hand	12		they're uncomfortable, they can irritate the skin,
3	hygiene is good because those other pathogens, bacterial	13		there's a whole load of baggage that comes with them, so
14	pathogens, MRSA, things like that, so I'm not against	14		utility is not so good.
15	good hand hygiene, it's very important. And it's easy,	15	Q.	And finally, as we just discussed before the break,
6	that's the point, it's easy utility, you can do it.	16	-	Covid-19 highlighted the need for good ventilation in
7 Q.		17		healthcare settings, and indeed in other settings?
8	In relation to asymptomatic transmission, which for	18	Α.	Absolutely, absolutely.
9	these purposes include the presymptomatic stage, you	10	Q.	Right. Can we turn, then, please, to your
0	consider that by September 2020 it was clear that there	20	ч.	recommendations, and, Professor, they are at 112 in your
21	was widespread asymptomatic transmission?	20		report. Perhaps if we put those up on screen as well it
22 A .		22		would help those following.
23 A.	strongly suspect that that was well, no, yeah, it	23		Now, some of these we may have touched upon already
24	was. And as a precautionary thing we should have been	23		in your evidence, but your first recommendation is there
25	concerned about it. Yeah. To my understanding.	25		needs to be a more multidisciplinary approach taken to
	169			170
1 2	future pandemic preparedness by the government, including but not limited to hospital IPC. It should	1 2		of people coming through from the pandemic who've learned from the engineering who have gone into this
3	include scientific advice from experts, similar to the	3		area to look at because of the pandemic, so they're out
5		5		
1	SACE Environmental Modelling Croup, but also working on	1		there who have that kind of physical biological
	SAGE Environmental Modelling Group, but also working on	4		there, who have that kind of physical, biological,
5	pandemic preparedness as well as the emergency response.	5		science side that could give extra expertise. And
4 5 6 7	pandemic preparedness as well as the emergency response. In a nutshell, why do you say that there needs to be	5 6		science side that could give extra expertise. And I think that that would be very useful.
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Q. I follow that.

1

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1		have wasn't standing. Is it now standing
2	LAI	DY HALLETT: No, no, it was set up well, I think it was
3		set up for the pandemic. Certainly it was SAGE's for
4		emergencies.
5	MS	CAREY: Yes, but EMG was a subgroup of SAGE.
6	Α.	Yes, I think it was well, SAGE goes on, doesn't it,
7		in various ways, it's not just for the emergencies, is
8		it? Or have I got that wrong?
9	LAI	DY HALLETT: We're going down a
10	Α.	Sorry, I'm showing my lack of
11	LAI	DY HALLETT: It's all right, it's just that you're saying
12		make sure that the likes of you or Catherine Noakes or
13		people with similar specialities are involved in
14		planning not just response.
15	Α.	Yes, make sure
16	LA	DY HALLETT: I have it.
17	Α.	Yes, when you're preparing for the next pandemic, get
18		people from all disciplines to get a good idea what's
19		going on. Cath Noakes joined SAGE but not at the
20		beginning, after I think later on actually as well.
21	LAI	DY HALLETT: We can check her evidence, I've already heard
22		from her so we can check it.
23		Right, Ms Carey.
24	MS	CAREY: Can I ask you, please, you've obviously alluded
25		to the fact that at present it's not able to say "the
		173
1		terminology?
2	Α.	Well, I think they've got it in step with the rest of
3		the world. I don't think you can do that. But I think
4		this education thing you know, once people start to
5		understand how these things behave then they think
6		they realise the need to change that terminology.
7		That would help people to come to agreement, I would
8		have thought. It's when people are just looking at
9		their guidelines from their discipline and don't
10		understand maybe the fundamental physics going on
11		underneath.
12	Q.	You have referred in your evidence already to the fact
13		that you consider there is a need to revise and upgrade
14		the HTM guidelines on hospital ventilation, so I don't
15		need to ask you about that.
16	Α.	I do believe that, yes.
17	Q.	That's a firm recommendation you make.
18	Α.	Yes.
19	Q.	In relation to portable ventilation, as we were just
20		discussing in the break, do you consider there is need
21		for more evidence and indeed guidelines on the
22		deployment of portable supplementary air
23	Α.	Yeah, we

- 24 Q. -- devices --
- 25 A. These are -- you know, certainly portable air filters,

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1		amount of transmission is airborne, the amount
2		transmission of transmission is droplets", I don't want
3		to go over that again, but recommendation iii:
4		"Much confusion currently exists in the terminology
5		used in the healthcare system guidance from
6		the UK"
7		That's before you even add the WHO guidance into
8		that. What do you say and how do you say we can resolve
9		differences in terminology?
10	Α.	Right, well, first of all, to say the WHO is actually
11		looking into this whole area and is making slow progress
12		from what I can understand on this whole issue, and
13		I think one of the things that we could do is actually
14		education, so that people who are from a clinical
15		background would actually have explaining what
16		an aerosol is and how things work. Then they would have
17		a better understanding and then that would start to
18		bring people together. The problem is that people are
19		often talking about the same thing but using totally
20		different terminology and being totally confused. And
21		with a bit of education
22		The problem is that some people are well,
23		a little reluctant to change their opinions, I think
24		that's fair to say, you know, but
25	Q.	How do you think the UK should go about changing the 174
1		HEPA filters, are low-hanging fruit. They're cheap,

1		HEPA filters, are low-hanging fruit. They're cheap,
2		easy, we know they clean the air, we know they do
3		a similar job to ventilation. If ventilation is good
4		then portable air cleaners are good. What we don't know
5		is how many do we put in, where should we put them to
6		best effect. So it's applied research, which in the big
7		picture of things is fairly cheap. And, you know, it's
8		quick to do. But we need to know where we should be
9		putting them to get best effect, you know. And that
10		should be reflected in the HTM guidelines as well,
11		because they should be just as a standard procedure
12		l would say.
13	Q.	You consider there needs to be, at your
14		recommendation vi:
15		" a need for further multidisciplinary research
16		to better understand how air and indeed [infectious]
17		aerosols move around hospital wards"
18	Α.	That goes back to the slides that you showed, which
19		showed the aerosols, the particles all on one side of
20		the ward. In other words, we assume when we talk
21		about air changes and we specify air changes, we assume
22		that it's all completely mixed and it does the job. But
23		when we do CFD, we suddenly realise: oh, there's
24		pressure gradients, things are that diffuser is
25		actually putting the risk up for these people on this

25 actually putting the risk up for these people on this 176

1	side of the room, the aerosols are going out into the	1		as I my brief was to look at the science of these
2	corridor. We need to understand how to do that better.	2		things, and as I looked at it obviously I knew about
3	Again, it's applied research.	3		the science of both masks, but when I looked into how
4 Q .	Fine. Now, that recommendation there you concentrate on	4		they were being used, under the guidelines, I realised
5	hospital wards, but just thinking about all those	5		that all we had was essentially, in the NHS, a binary
6	non-clinical areas.	6		choice: you go down one route that's respirators, if
7 A .	Oh, non-clinical as well.	7		that's kind of specified, in which case then it falls
8 Q .	Would you include those in there, that generally we need	8		under the COSHH regulations and HSE; otherwise it's
9	to understand how the air moves around the hospital?	9		surgical masks. And from a point of view of preventing
10 A .	Yes.	10		airborne infection, from the science point of view, one
11 Q .	Yes.	11		is it's all or nothing. These if they're fitted
12 A .	Yeah, in fact, non-clinical hospital waiting rooms	12		properly, the FFP3 masks prevent airborne transmission
13	are really important	13		The surgical masks, there may be a little bit of
14 Q .	Yes.	14		inhibition, but they're not that effective, so they
15 A .	Waiting areas are really important areas.	15		allow the aerosols to get through.
16 Q .	The final one I would like to concentrate on before	16		And as a scientist that made me think: well, there's
17	I conclude is masks. Right?	17		an awful lot in between there, surely we can
18	Now, we have, through you, examined the efficacy or	18	Q.	Pausing there
19	otherwise of FRSM versus FFP3, and you've mentioned	19	Α.	improve and get something with can I I want to
20	a number of times that there are potential practical	20		say utility, if you don't mind. These have got good
21	problems with widespread use of FFP3: it needs to be fit	21		the surgical masks, good utility but not effective
22	, checked, it's uncomfortable. It leaves, does it not,	22		against airborne. FFP3, very effective but not good
23	staff, patients, whoever wants to wear them, with	23		utility, they're difficult, they come with baggage, if
24	a slightly binary choice?	24		that
25 A .	You're absolutely right. This was the one thing that, 177	25		In the ground there may be an optimum solution tha 178
1 2 Q .	we could achieve. Let's look then, please, at what you say on your	1 2		FFP3 with head straps" And of course you don't need a fit test.
3	page 113 at recommendation v, which is a good	3	Α.	Shall I
4	introduction to this recommendation. There you've made	4	Q.	Now, yes, let's break that down. I have an FFP2
5	the point already:	5	Α.	Yep.
6	" FFP3 provides better protection for [healthcare	6	Q.	to show an example of a type of FFP2 which is
7	workers] caring for patients with [Covid] than surgical	7		potentially a middle ground between the FRSM
8	masks. This raises the questions [as to] whether [the]	8	Α.	Yeah.
9	(FRSMs) provide adequate protection to [healthcare	9	Q.	and the respirator.
10	workers] when caring for Covid-19 patients."	10		Why do you think there should be more consideration
11	Or indeed for those who are asymptomatic?	11		given to that middle ground?
12 A .	Yeah.	12	Α.	Right, so this really comes from public health and also
13 Q .		13		from the point of view of reducing nosocomial
14	whether due to guidance, regulation, fit testing, supply	14		infections.
15	or comfort should be addressed urgently by the UK	15		First of all, I don't want to be prescriptive. It's
16	Government to ensure that more effective respiratory PPE	16		just that when I looked into this, there was the
17	is widely available before and during the next	17		FFP2 masks with ear loops which was already there, so
18	pandemic"	18		was a kind of low-hanging fruit that might be applicable
		19		if used in the right way.
	Yeah.	13		
19 A .	Yeah. " and that [healthcare workers] are better			So what we have at the moment is we have a binary
19 A. 20 Q .	" and that [healthcare workers] are better	20		So what we have at the moment is we have a binary situation, and when you go to the FFP respirators with
19 A. 20 Q . 21	" and that [healthcare workers] are better protected In particular, consideration should be			situation, and when you go to the FFP respirators with
 19 A. 20 Q. 21 22 	" and that [healthcare workers] are better protected In particular, consideration should be given to alternative face mask solutions, such as FFP2	20 21		situation, and when you go to the FFP respirators with behind the head straps, they're uncomfortable, they nee
 19 A. 20 Q. 21 22 23 	" and that [healthcare workers] are better protected In particular, consideration should be given to alternative face mask solutions, such as FFP2 masks with ear loops, which offer superior protection	20 21 22 23		situation, and when you go to the FFP respirators with behind the head straps, they're uncomfortable, they nee fit tests, you get hot, there's a whole load of baggage
 19 A. 20 Q. 21 22 	" and that [healthcare workers] are better protected In particular, consideration should be given to alternative face mask solutions, such as FFP2	20 21 22		situation, and when you go to the FFP respirators with behind the head straps, they're uncomfortable, they nee

,		the science of both masks, but when hooked into now
ŀ		they were being used, under the guidelines, I realised
5		that all we had was essentially, in the NHS, a binary
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		that's kind of specified, in which case then it falls
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4		that
5		In the ground there may be an optimum solution that
		178
		FED3 with head straps "
		FFP3 with head straps"
2	_	And of course you don't need a fit test.
2	А.	And of course you don't need a fit test. Shall I
2 8	A. Q.	And of course you don't need a fit test.
2 3 4 5		And of course you don't need a fit test. Shall I
2 5 5 5	Q.	And of course you don't need a fit test. Shall I Now, yes, let's break that down. I have an FFP2
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- that comes with it which makes them difficult when
- you're in a working environment. And they fall under 180

1	the COSHH regulations, so they need to be fit tested,	1
2	and there's a whole load of stuff there.	2
3	These don't stop the aerosols, but in the ground in	3
4	between, from the point of view I'm interested in the	4
5	greatest benefit for the greatest number, right, so the	5
6	greatest benefit for the greatest that's very much	6
7	like a public health point of view: you're trying to use	7
8	interventions that mitigate the transmission. They	8
9	don't do it perfectly, but they reduce it.	9
10	And when I was looking into this, I was finding	10
11	studies where people had looked at FFP2 masks with ear	11
12	loops, especially in Germany, and they were finding that	12
13	there was a performance that was 50% better than the	13
14	surgical masks, they were performing much better than	14
15	the surgical and these were straight out of the box,	15
16	without adjustment of the nose loop, and when you	16
17	adjusted the nose loop you got much better performance.	17
18	They're not fit tested.	18
19	Q. No.	19
20	A. So these would fail as respirators and we're not	20
21	trying to pretend that they're behaving as respirators,	21
22	they're behaving as masks but potentially that might	22
23	be a middle ground that's got better utility, causes	23
24	less discomfort to healthcare workers, provides better	24
25	protection against aerosols, and is reasonably cheap and	25
1	be better education about airborne transmission for	1
2	healthcare workers and those completing risk	2
3	assessments?	3
4	A. Definitely.	4
5	MS CAREY: My Lady, that does conclude my	5
6	Questions from THE CHAIR	6
7	LADY HALLETT: Just before I turn to questions from	7
8	core participants, I think the vulnerable families	8
9	wanted to ask you questions, I turned them down, but	9
10	I'll ask it in summary because I think they probably go	10
11	without saying.	11
12	If you improve ventilation in hospitals to and	12
13	obviously protect, in so doing, clinical and	13
14	non-clinical staff it goes without saying, does it	14
15	not, that you'd also help protect patients?	15
16	A. It does, yes.	16
17	LADY HALLETT: It also goes without saying that the most	17
18	vulnerable patients would be better protected?	18
19	A. Yes.	19
20	LADY HALLETT: Thank you.	20
21	This is a question that I was concerned thinking	21
22	about too.	22
23	In relation to portable air cleaners, in normal	23
24	times, ie non-pandemic	24
25	A. Yeah.	25
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- is easier to use.
- And I'm not wanting to be prescriptive --

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3
   Q. No.
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- A. -- but what I'm saying is this is an area which we
- should be investigating or the health service should be investigating.
- 7 **Q.** So is your recommendation, in short, that the government
- 8 needs to investigate that middle ground and whether
- 9 there is a form of protection, whether it's FFP2 or
- 10 not --
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. -- that can provide that balance between the higher
- 13 levels of protection with the added uncomfort and all
- 14 the baggage, as you say, that goes with FFP3 and the 15 lower levels of protection --
- 16 A. Absolutely, I'm looking -- there will be an optimum
- 17 sweet spot. And that might not be the same for every
- environment, and remember it's got to be taken into 18
- 19 account with the viral load in the air. By no --
- 20 LADY HALLETT: I have the point, Ms Carey, thank you.
- MS CAREY: Thank you. 21
- 22 It's finally this, because there are some questions
- 23 from the core participants.
- 24 A. Right, sorry.
- 25 Q. Would you support a recommendation that there needs to 182

1	LADY HALLETT: do hospitals have these portable air or
2	are they only brought out in an emergency?
3	A. As far as I know they weren't being used but they
4	appeared during the pandemic. But they have been known
5	about for years.
6	LADY HALLETT: But the question is, I mean, do all hospitals
7	have a supply of them? Should we be using them all the
8	time?
9	A. Sorry, I take that back. I used to be a professor of
10	medical engineering at Bradford University and
11	I certainly was aware that there was units being sold.
12	They were probably being used in operating theatres to
13	provide extra ventilation, so they were being used in
14	certain specialist places. It's an old and well known
15	technology. And they're easily obtainable, you know.
16	Does that answer the question, sorry?
17	LADY HALLETT: I think the answer is that the more of them
18	about even in normal times, the better ventilation you
19	have, the better the chances of patient and healthcare
20	worker safety?
21	A. Yes.
22	LADY HALLETT: Thank you.
23	Right. Now
24	MS CAREY: My Lady could Liust correct one thing?

25 Professor Beggs was kind enough to indicate there are

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1		some revisions to paragraph 18.	1		l've no
2	LA	DY HALLETT: I've got them.	2	TH	E WITN
3	MS	CAREY: Your Ladyship will have them, but they've not	3	LA	DY HAL
4		been read into the record and I'm asked to do so. It's	4		you a
5		two minor revisions, but essentially the sentence should	5		
6		read:	6	MS	FOUBI
7		" but now in August 2024 he acknowledges that the	7		Ρ
8		inhalation of infectious airborne particles,	8		Camp
9		ie aerosols, is likely an important route by which	9		A lot o
10		SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory virus infections can be	10		I antic
11		transmitted."	11		please
12		And in the final sentence, where it currently reads	12		S
13		"droplet/aerosol" it should read "droplet/airborne."	13		and y
14	LA	DY HALLETT: Thank you.	14		opinio
15	MS	CAREY: Thank you, my Lady.	15		and p
16	Α.	Excuse me, there's one thing you missed there, sorry,	16		offerir
17		looking at it, it should be appendix 11A.	17		gover
18	MS	CAREY: That's fine, we'll deal with that. Thank you	18		shoul
19		very much, my Lady.	19	Α.	Yes.
20	LAI	DY HALLETT: Thank you.	20		dried,
21		I'm now going to allow some of the core participants	21		also s
22		to ask you some questions, Professor. They have limited	22		or phy
23		time, so I often have to say this to witnesses	23		aware
24		please remember when giving your answers that the longer	24		word '
25		your answers, the more you eat into the time that 185	25		knowr
1 2 3		They need to be aware of these things underlying things, then that will influence their opinion on the	1 2 3	A. Q. A.	Where It's no
3	~	epidemiological evidence. Does that make sense?			What
4		Yes, it does, thank you.	4	Q.	Parag
5	Α.	Yeah, so I think they definitely need to be aware of the	5		that th
6 7		science. So if, for example, I'm not trying to give any	6		virus
7		real situation, but if you have someone who's from	7	A.	Yeah,
8		a public health background and they're talking about	8	Q.	resp
9		airborne transmission, they will talk about what they've	9		bottor
10		learnt and what they know from the textbooks and the	10		this is
11		epidemiological trials but they won't necessarily talk	11		that:
12		about thermal plumes or any of the stuff that I've been	12		"-
13		talking about here, and so it's very helpful to have	13		Linds
14		that knowledge as well, so that you can interpret the	14		report
15		epidemiological data.	15		finding
16	Q.	That feeds into your recommendation about having	16		viral lo
17		a multidisciplinary approach?	17		S
18	Α.	Yes, that's why, hence why I've said it.	18	Α.	Yep.
19	Q.	Thank you.	19	Q.	The fi
20		Onto another question. If I could ask you to look	20		the tin
21		at page 65 of your report at paragraph 165 it's right	21		given
22		at the bottom of the page	22		board
23	Α.	Yeah.	23	Α.	They
24	Q.	if we can pull that up or if you just have it in	24		the tin
25					

front of you.

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1		I've not so generously allowed them.
2	тня	E WITNESS: All right.
3		DY HALLETT: Right, Ms Foubister, where are you? There
4		you are.
5		Questions from MS FOUBISTER
6	MS	FOUBISTER: Thank you, my Lady.
7		Professor Beggs, good afternoon, I represent John's
, 8		Campaign, Care Rights UK and Patients Association.
9		A lot of our questions have actually been covered, so
10		I anticipate I will be a little bit shorter, you will be
11		pleased to know.
12		Starting with this one: you explain in your report
13		and you've mentioned today certain differences in
14		opinions among scientists, whether between clinicians
15		and physicists or otherwise. When scientists are
16		offering information to government or advising
17		government, do you think that those making decisions
18		should be given an overview of differing opinions?
19	A.	Yes. I think the one thing that's it's not cut and
20		dried, you know, there are guite a few clinicians who
21		also share my viewpoint, they're not from an engineering
22		or physics background. I think that people need to be
23		aware of the physics underneath it. So you used the
24		word "opinion". They need to be a lot of this is
25		known, it's fact, it's well understood about behaviour.
20		186
1	А.	Where is it, 65?
2	Q.	It's now on the screen, I think.
3	Α.	What is it, 165?
4	Q.	Paragraph 165, so the paragraph starts, and here you say
5		that there were studies that showed that most of the
6		virus was in smaller
7	Α.	Yeah, yeah.
8	Q.	respiratory particles. The second sentence from the
9		bottom, so you did touch on this briefly already but
10		this is just to pick out a particular point, you say
11		that:
12		"The authors of the PIP report were aware of
13		Lindsley et al's findings and commented on them in their
14		report. However, their conclusions downplayed [those]

viral load is in the larger droplets."

So I have two questions.

board more rather than downplayed it?

25

Q. The first is that, based on the knowledge available at

the time, should the authors of the PIP report have

A. They looked at -- they were reporting the consensus at the time was that the virus was in the larger droplets,

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given more credit to the Lindsley report, or taken it on

rather than the small aerosols. Lindsley had just come

1		out, and I think they should have taken more notice of
2		that because this was actually hard evidence, this was
3		actually experimental evidence which undermined
4		an assumption an assumption, the assumption
5		I don't think there's any evidence out there for the
6		virus being evenly distributed throughout all the
7		respiratory particles in the large droplets. I'm not
8		aware of it, it's always been an assumption that's been
9		repeated from way back, and here was some hard evidence
10		coming out saying, no, it's in the small aerosols.
11		Well, you've got an experimental evidence against
12		an assumption, therefore, in my opinion, yeah,
13		I probably should have given more weight to that but
14		I'm not going to be too harsh on that, it had just come
15		out, you know, there was a lot of other evidence and
16		that, that they were
17	Q.	Understood.
18	Α.	dealing with and, you know, perhaps they were being
19		cautious. That's what I would say.
20	Q.	If that report hadn't been downplayed so much, do you
21		think that might have made a difference to the thinking
22		about the transmission of Covid-19?
23	Α.	Undoubtedly, undoubtedly, because that would have
24		immediately undermined the assumption of the droplets,
25		as far as I'm concerned and, you know, all there's
		189
1		and only question that remains, and it's this: in your
1 2		and only question that remains, and it's this: in your report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report.
2		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report,
		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne
2 3 4		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in
2 3 4 5		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use
2 3 4 5 6		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use of surgical masks in the hierarchy of controls.
2 3 4 5 6 7		report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use of surgical masks in the hierarchy of controls. Question: considering this, do you believe that
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Α.	report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use of surgical masks in the hierarchy of controls. Question: considering this, do you believe that reducing viral load in the room air in healthcare settings should be and should have been prioritised above the use of surgical masks? Yes, and that's what they are implying there but, as you saw from the guidelines, which were written before the pandemic, it wasn't on the radar in, other than a few places. So from the point of view of people that you're representing, this is hugely important because, wherever they're working in the hospital, whether in a clinical
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q.	report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use of surgical masks in the hierarchy of controls. Question: considering this, do you believe that reducing viral load in the room air in healthcare settings should be and should have been prioritised above the use of surgical masks? Yes, and that's what they are implying there but, as you saw from the guidelines, which were written before the pandemic, it wasn't on the radar in, other than a few places. So from the point of view of people that you're representing, this is hugely important because, wherever they're working in the hospital, whether in a clinical capacity, frontline facing Yes. patients or in a more ancillary capacity, they were exposed to potentially aerosols that are produced, and therefore at least I'm not saying that the guidelines were wrong in terms of the ventilation rates, if they've been applied or applied, what I'm saying is it should be
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q.	report, at paragraph 229, you reference the SAGE report, Masks for Healthcare Workers to Mitigate Airborne Transmissions of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus, published in April 2021, which places good ventilation above the use of surgical masks in the hierarchy of controls. Question: considering this, do you believe that reducing viral load in the room air in healthcare settings should be and should have been prioritised above the use of surgical masks? Yes, and that's what they are implying there but, as you saw from the guidelines, which were written before the pandemic, it wasn't on the radar in, other than a few places. So from the point of view of people that you're representing, this is hugely important because, wherever they're working in the hospital, whether in a clinical capacity, frontline facing Yes. patients or in a more ancillary capacity, they were exposed to potentially aerosols that are produced, and therefore at least I'm not saying that the guidelines were wrong in terms of the ventilation rates, if they've

quiry	y 11 September 2024
1	numerous studies now, they're all in the public domain,
2	and you can see that the viral material, the RNA and
3	live viruses, the bulk of it, over 80% is in the small
4	aerosols in some of these studies, implying that they're
5	coming from different places in the lungs. That would
6	have had a profound difference to that that
7	preparedness.
8	MS FOUBISTER: Thank you. Those are all my questions.
9	Thank you, my Lady.
10	LADY HALLETT: Thank you very much, Ms Foubister, I'm very
11	grateful.
12	Mr Thomas?
13	Questions from PROFESSOR THOMAS KC
14 15	PROFESSOR THOMAS: Professor Beggs, you will be pleased to know that one of the questions that I had you've already
15 16	answered, and forgive me for the positioning.
17	I'm representing and asking questions on behalf of
18	FEMHO, the Federation of Ethnic Minority Healthcare
19	Organisations and just, to give you a little bit of
20	context, FEMHO's deeply concerned about the challenges
21	surrounding infection prevention and control,
22	particularly the disproportionate impact it had on
23	black, Asian and minority ethnic healthcare workers and
24	patients.
25	So with that context in mind, let me ask you the one
	190
1	However, they were written before the pandemic and
2	that's why they need to be updated completely. But it's
3	very important that it's not just the clinical spaces,
4	it's the whole of the hospital, if that makes sense.
5	PROFESSOR THOMAS: It does, thank you.
6	My Lady, Counsel to the Inquiry has already answered
7	the second question, so I don't need to ask that one.
8	Thank you.
9	LADY HALLETT: Thank you very much, Mr Thomas, very
10	grateful.
11	Mr Marquis?
12	Questions from MR MARQUIS
13	MR MARQUIS: Professor, I ask very few questions on one
14	specific topic. I ask them on behalf of the Frontline
15	Migrant Health Workers Group.
16	To help orientate you, it's page 32 of your report,
17	paragraph 78, and it's the section of your report that
18	deals with the risk of inhaling an infectious dose.
19	A. Yep.
20	Q. So if I can just recap the evidence you gave this
21 22	morning, really to contextualise my question but also to save some time, because I have limited time. The risk
22 23	of becoming infected increases with the amount of
20	or becoming interfed increases with the amount of

- 24 particles in the air, ie the concentration?
- **A.** The risk of becoming infected increases with the 192

1		increased number of particles that you inhale. So if
2		you're in in somewhere with a high concentration in
3		the air, so the risk goes up when there's more in the
4		air, yes.
5	Q.	Exactly. The second risk is it goes up also with the
6		volume of air that one inhales?
7	Α.	Yeah, so if you're in a gym and you're working out on
8		a treadmill, you're going to you know, a huge amount
9		more air is being inhaled and so therefore if there's
10		a high concentration, you'll be taking a load more
11		viruses in. But this does apply in a healthcare setting
12		to people who are actually doing more manual work,
13		pushing loads, I assume someone like a porter would be
14		affected by this. They would be working harder in that
15		situation, so their lung capacity would go up in that,
16	_	
17	Q.	Exactly the point, it's on the physical exertion point
18		that you make reference to in that paragraph.
19		When you exert yourself physically, it has
20		a significant difference in respect of the volume.
21	A.	
22	Q.	Can I give you the example that you use in your report,
23		perhaps to save a little time?
24	A.	Yeah.
25	Q.	A resting healthy adult 193
		100
1		may be in the space for longer.
2	Q.	Well, quite. If we take, as an example, a cleaner,
3		would you agree that a cleaner who's working longer
4		hours, moving between wards, Covid and non-Covid, and
5		the non-clinical spaces that we've referred to in your
6		evidence today would be at a high risk precisely because
7		their duration is increased and their exertion is
8		increased?
9	Α.	You'd have to do the calculations, but in theory, that
10		could happen, yes. What I do is I do calculations and
11		I do the sums and then see how that works out, how many
12		likely viral particles that go in an inhale. But those
12 13		are all factors.
13 14		are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the
13 14 15		are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the
13 14 15 16		are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's
13 14 15 16 17	Q.	are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the
13 14 15 16 17 18		are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the harder the work
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Α.	are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the harder the work Absolutely, if you're
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20		are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the harder the work Absolutely, if you're the higher the risk?
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. Q. A.	are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the harder the work Absolutely, if you're the higher the risk? in there yeah. Yeah.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. Q. A. MR	are all factors. In simple terms, the more you inhale, the higher the concentration; the longer you spend in there, the greater the risk. That's All things being equal, the longer the shift and the harder the work Absolutely, if you're the higher the risk?

LADY HALLETT: Thank you very much, Mr Marquis, very grateful. Right, I think that completes your evidence,

24

25

195

- 1 A. That's --
- 2 **Q.** -- inhales 69 litres of air a minute.
- 3 A. Yeah.

4

- **Q.** The same adult, walking at a moderate pace, inhales
- 5 between 20 and 40 litres in --
- 6 A. Yeah, and someone doing hard exercise, I think it goes7 up tenfold, yeah, it greatly increases. So, therefore,
- 8 if you've got particles in the air, you're sampling them
- 9 at a faster rate.
- 10 **Q.** Three minutes to go, Professor.
- 11 You say that physical exertion is the infection risk
- 12 that is often overlooked. Now, do you mean overlooked
- 13 from an IPC perspective or just generally?
- 14 A. I think both actually.
- 15 **Q.** Okay, thank you, I'll park that there if I can.
- 16 So, as a risk factor, exertion, you've mentioned
- 17 porters, porters who are lifting and moving patients and
- 18 cleaners who are doing the physical labour of cleaning,
- 19 that would have an implication in terms of infection,
- 20 both near field and far field?
- A. Both near field and far field, the only mitigating thingagainst that is they may not be in that place for that
- 23 long, especially porters. They may be in to collect the
- 24 patient and then out, so their duration would be less.
- 25 However -- maybe also for cleaners, but then some people 194

1	Professor Beggs.
2	It's been a long day for you. I hope
3	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
4	LADY HALLETT: it's not been too tiring. It's been
5	extremely helpful
6	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
7	LADY HALLETT: and some very interesting points that
8	you've made. And I'm very grateful for all your care in
9	preparing your report and of course in giving your
10	evidence today.
11	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
12	LADY HALLETT: Thank you for your help.
13	(The witness withdrew)
14	LADY HALLETT: Right, 10 o'clock tomorrow.
15	MS CAREY: Yes, thank you, my Lady.
16	(4.10 pm)
17	(The hearing adjourned until 10 am
18	on Thursday, 12 September 2024)
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