

## 5. My conclusions

- 5.01.** Donna Blitzen has long term personality traits that render her vulnerable to sensitivity about her appearance. Despite these, she was able to function normally, working, maintaining friendships and bringing up her children. She had an operation in 2001 to help her confidence, which was not as effective as she had anticipated and which was associated with a number of complications. Since that time she has developed a generalised anxiety disorder and dysthymia. She is increasingly sensitive about her appearance and embarrassed by the need to wipe her nose when in public, which is exacerbating her social isolation and maintaining her psychiatric problems.
- 5.02.** She is unable to shop normally, leave the house without a good reason or work. She feels that her ability to entertain her sister is impaired.
- 5.03.** Psychological treatment and medication are both available. It is far from certain that Donna Blitzen would find the available treatments acceptable or effective. Her strong belief is that she cannot face the world until her face is back to normal, making any therapy that involves increased social contact or facing the public without a change in the appearance of her nose and mouth problematic.

## 6. Statement of Conflicts

I confirm that I have no conflict of interest of any kind, other than any which I have already set out in this report. I do not consider that any interest which I have

disclosed affects my suitability to give expert evidence on any issue on which I have given evidence and I will advise the party by whom I am instructed if, between the date of this report and the trial, there is any change in circumstances which affects this statement.

## 7. Statement of Truth

I confirm that I have made clear which facts and matters referred to in this report are within my own knowledge and which are not. Those that are within my own knowledge I confirm to be true. The opinions I have expressed represent my true and complete professional opinions on the matters to which they refer.

## 8. Declaration of Awareness

I confirm that I understand my duty to the court and have complied with it and will continue to comply with it and am aware of the requirements of Part 35 and Practice Direction 35, the Protocol for the Instruction of Experts to give evidence in civil claims 2005, as amended, and the practice direction on pre-action conduct.

Signature

31 September 2009

Dr Lesley Haines, MB, ChB, MSc, MRCPsych

**Consultant Psychiatrist**