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Sir Robert McCrindle, M.P.
House of Commons,
London,
SW1A 0AA.

10th October 1991

Dear Sir Robert,

Please find enclosed a reprint from the journal "Medical Laboratory Sciences". One of the Co-authors is the well respected Director of the North London Blood Transfusion Centre. I would be most grateful if you could find out for me why the Department of Health is insisting all blood donors are screened for hepatitis C virus.

A cost of £850,000 to prevent just one case of severe liver disease per year, surely cannot be justified in an environment where all that happens in the Health Service must be cost effective.

My hospital alone has had to find an additional £15,750 to fund this testing for the remainder of the year (£27,000 for a full year). As the enclosed letter will show **NO EXTRA FUNDS** are being provided by the D of H.

I am sure you are well aware of the desperate financial situation of many of our hospitals - including those in Essex - What is the Government trying to do by imposing this extra burden upon us? I await your answer with interest.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

George Hart FIMLS CMLM