

CG

8th May 2004

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UPDATE ON HAEMOPHILIA ISSUES

Dear Earl Howe,

Thank-you for your efforts on behalf of the haemophilia community. Enclosed is further written evidence of government lies re the Eire settlement. (See Melanie Johnson letter to Dan Norris MP). The government were corrected with evidence in writing in February, yet still the DOH refuse to apologise in writing to haemophiliacs. As you may be aware we have complained to the Parliamentary Ombudsman on this issue and I will send him this further letter. Is there any chance you could attempt to get answers on why haemophiliacs are being fed untruths on the details of the Eire settlement, the government need pinning down on this issue?

Colette Wintle and I, along with other haemophiliacs have turned to Europe, with a petition to the European Parliament. One of the points we have stated is that we feel we will never get true justice in this country as our government has repeatedly lied, withheld information, and covered up the truth from haemophiliacs. We state our belief that this government is too corrupt to own up to its mistakes and listen to its citizens. A French lawyer attached to ECAS is looking at our cases. The French are only too familiar with the corruption over the contamination of haemophiliacs as one of the health ministers went to jail over this issue.

Please check out the latest press from Scotland and the moves to force Chisholm and Reid to hold a public inquiry under the Human Rights Act.

We do not want the proposed HCV settlement from our government, we want parity with Eire. Why should a haemophiliac's life in Eire be worth ten times more than that of a haemophiliac in England? Our government is insulting haemophiliacs and their families, who are not even included in our government's proposed settlement.

I hope the information enclosed is of some use. The government need to know that the sicker our husbands/wives/partners become, the harder we will fight.

Yours sincerely, *CG*

GRO-C

Carol Grayson (Haemophilia Action UK)