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I am writing to advise you of the announcement made today by the Secretary of State for Health in response to the Report of the Review of Aspects of the Support Available to Individuals Infected with HIV and/or Hepatitis C by NHS Supplied Blood Transfusions or Blood Products and their Dependants.

I would also like to apologise for the very short notice, which I have unavoidably been able to give you about the announcement - due to Parliamentary procedures. Although I was particularly keen to publish the Review Report before the end of the year, regrettably the parliamentary time did not allow us to do that before the end of 2010. I therefore wanted to ensure that it was made available at the first possible opportunity.

I am enclosing the Review Report, and the Secretary of State's statement, together with the accompanying press notice, which set out the detail of the response.

I am extremely grateful to you for all the contributions I have received. Whilst not each and every view could be accommodated, I believe the Review Report and the Government response represent a considered and balanced approach to the many issues raised, and address the very real key concerns expressed during the course of review.

Anyone with hepatitis C who may be eligible under the new arrangements can find out more about what they need to do by contacting the Skipton Fund, either online at <http://www.skiptonfund.org/Eng/index.html> , by email at apply@skiptonfund.org or by phone 02078081160.

Queries about the prescription payments, which will apply to both HIV and hepatitis C infected individuals, should be addressed to the relevant Trust or Fund.

2 *Get notes*

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