



Zubeda Seedat  
05/10/2004 15:30

To:  
cc:  
cc:  
Subject: RE: Skipton queries

----- Forwarded by Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB on 05/10/2004 15:30 -----



<Bob.Stock@GRO-C  
GRO-C  
05/10/2004 10:37

To: Richard Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@ GRO-C  
cc: Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB@ GRO-C  
<Gerry.Dorrian@ GRO-C  
<Cathy.White@ GRO-C  
<Sandra.Falconer@ GRO-C  
<Aileen.Keel@ GRO-C  
Subject: RE: Skipton queries

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Richard

I suspect that Peter will not find your phrase "As far as spontaneous clearers are concerned we had a  
very useful discussion during which Professor Lee joined us and our position remains unchanged.  
They do not come within the scope of the Scheme" explicit enough to answer all his past queries on  
the PCR issue. I had noted at our video conference that the action on this was that Hugh was to write  
to Peter and his text would be circulated to us in advance for comment. I take it that this is still in the  
frame?

Bob

----- Message from <Richard.Gutowski@GRO-C> on Mon, 4 Oct 2004 14:48:31 +0100 -----

Sent for  
comment  
12/10  
by Fredy

Bob email  
13/10  
dve  
14/10



"Peter Stevens"

GRO-C

04/10/2004 18:31

To: Richard Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C  
cc: <Cathy.White@GRO-C>  
<Gerry.Dorrian@GRO-C>, Zubeda  
Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C, Bob Stock  
<Bob.Stock@GRO-C>

Subject: Re: Skipton queries

Richard

Thank you. I had not heard of the works outing to Caxton Street - I hope it coincides with my presence there.

You and Bob might be interested to know that I spent several hours on Friday afternoon with the Haemophilia Society trustees, including Phil Dolan. Although Skipton was intended (by me) to be only tangential to our business, over an hour of the meeting was devoted to questions about it. Among these (and my answers, in brief) were:

- has the appeals process/Panel been established yet? - No. (See Below)
- how many doctors have asked for payment (I did not know, but thought it was very few; I learned this afternoon that there have been a significant number, all told by Keith to look elsewhere)
- can we make payments by cheque? - Not without significant delay in making the payment

There was also considerable review of our progress to date (you have the latest numbers, so do the Society trustees) and of the spontaneous clearance issue.

On that I note your comments about last Thursday. We now have about 80 applications on hold because the answers to 2A ii and iii are both "no". Unless Christine Lee says to Elizabeth Boyd, who is one of our directors, that she can approve such cases for whom the answer to 2 A iv is "yes", we shall presumably have to fail the lot.

That leads me to the appeals process, the need for which is now critical. We have so far rejected 5 applications:

- one appeared not to have had any NHS treatment
- 3 show infection well outside the qualifying period (thank you for your suggestion of the 35-day period of grace)
- a consultant was unable in one case to isolate the source of infection because of a period of IVDA preceding the hospital treatment.

We have had a letter from that last applicant asking what the appeal process is; there are a few similar cases where we are awaiting the consultant's opinion on the IVDA, which might similarly lead to appeals.

At the very least we need to have something to say about what the process will be and when people will be able to instigate an appeal. This is especially important in view of the number of Scottish applications coming through lawyers, notably Ross Hardie.

I note with pleasure the imminent arrival of new directors. London residents would be highly appreciated, since they can share the not inconsiderable burden of approving applications; those who live further afield will, I am sure, have their uses.

I look forward to seeing you in Alliance House soon. Incidentally, we will be getting the printed Stage 2 documents next week - with luck we will be able to show you some copies fresh off the press.

Peter

----- Original Message -----

From: <Richard.Gutowski [GRO-C]>

To: "Peter Stevens" < [GRO-C]>

Cc: "Bob Stock" [GRO-C]

<Zubeda.Seedat [GRO-C]> <Gerry.Dorrian [GRO-C]>

<Cathy.White [GRO-C]>

Sent: Monday, October 04, 2004 2:48 PM

Subject: Re: Skipton queries

> Peter

>

> Thanks for various notes on queries you have had. As you know we met last

> week and reached a conclusion on some of the issues you raised but not all.

>

> As far as spontaneous clearers are concerned we had a very useful discussion during which Professor Lee joined us and our position remains unchanged. They do not come within the scope of the Scheme.

>

> We regard a military establishment abroad as coming within the Scheme as they would have received NHS blood from Southampton.

>

> As far as the patient in France is concerned we wondered whether he could obtain the information in writing to obviate the need to visit a clinical establishment in person. Is there any way that the Skipton Fund could obtain the information for him?

>

> As to the patient who received contaminated blood on 17 September we believe he should be paid and suggest you introduce a 35 day rule after 1 September which is the normal shelf life for blood.

>

> The case from Professor Colvin should receive both payments provided he provides evidence of cirrhosis.

>

> The other part 2a questions are difficult and we are convening a medical panel of medical officers from the four administrations to deal with them and any others you have. This is separate to the Appeals Panel which will

> be public appointments exercise undertaken by the NHA appointments

> Commissions on our behalf. We believe this to be the best route as it will

> be seen to be transparent and independent from Whitehall. We will also use

> the opportunity to appoint new Directors for the Fund.

>

> I understand that we are having a group outing to your offices sometime next week. Hope to see you then.

>

> Regards

>

>

> Richard

>

>

>

> "Peter Stevens"

> [GRO-C]

> Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB [GRO-C] "Bob Stock"

To: Richard

>  
<Bob.Stockm>  
> **GRO-C** >

>  
> 20/09/2004 18:10

cc:  
bcc:  
Subject: Skipton queries

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>  
> Is the issue of natural clearers any closer to solution? The number of  
> applications on hold because of this problem is beginning to mount (and  
> giving rise to quite a lot of telephone enquiries, which are both  
> inefficient and leading to an awareness "out there" that there is a  
> problem.

>  
> Most of the other "holds" are on minor technical things that we are  
chasing  
> up. The Gibraltar hospital remains one on which we are waiting on you.

>  
> There remain a very small number of cases that might be better taken to  
an  
> Appeals Panel., which is also in your domain.

>  
> Will you want to see the final pdfs of the Stage 2 questionnaire and  
> guidance notes, whihc I should have later this week?

>  
> Peter

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