

LIEIO

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HIV/AIDS LITIGATION

We have attended two preliminary hearings of this litigation, and have now received the plaintiffs main Statement of Claim (copy attached).

It is clearly going to be alleged that funding of the CBLA, and of the 13 Regional Transfusion Centres, was material in determining the date by which self-sufficiency in Factor VIII could have been achieved. They are asserting that self-sufficiency in blood products would have mitigated the effects of HIV transmission through Factor VIII (see para 32 of the Statement). Investment in RTCs will be material if they seek to establish that more Plasmapheresis Centres could/should have been built to increase plasma collection.

We are searching our files for details of funding, but would be grateful if you could also verify investment figures from your records.

This material may be called for by the plaintiffs (under the rules for pre-action discovery of documents) and I would be grateful if you could institute such a search as soon as possible.

Any positive comments we might make would also of course be welcome! I would be happy to discuss.

GRO-C

JOHN CANAVAN