

Mr Powell SOLB3

From: J Canavan
EHF1A
505 Eileen House
Ext **GRO-C**

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cc: Dr Rejman MEDISP
Mrs James SOLB3

HIV HAEMOPHILIA LITIGATION DISCOVERY

We spoke about your minute of 15 October concerning Pannone Napier's action in passing documents to Keith Park.

I am concerned that we should keep firm control over who has access to the haemophilia litigation documents, as provided under the terms of settlement. Otherwise they may be given an ever widening circulation and eventually some snippets could reach the media. It may then be difficult to pinpoint the source but in any case taking action against that party may not undo the damage.

Keith Park did ask permission to use information for the blood transfusion cases; we would not object to the use of relevant documents subject to adequate undertakings about confidentiality. However I understand that such permission was not given as the solicitors indicated they would seek a Court Order in view of the RHAs unwillingness to release their documents. I do not understand, therefore, how Pannone Napier could have presumed that it was in order to pass our documents to Keith Park. It seems unlikely that Keith Park would ask if they already had their own copies of the documents.

I think we need to find out which documents Pannone Napier have supplied, remind them of the terms of the settlement concerning disposal of documents and underline the point that it is not good enough to tell us after passing them on. Also as you suggested, we do need Keith Park's confirmation of the undertaking given in the haemophilia litigation.

GRO-C

J CANAVAN