

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Jenkin of Roding

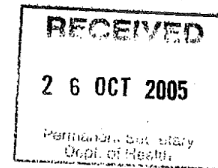


Please reply to:

House of Lords,
Westminster,
London SW1A 0PW.

Tel: **GRO-C**
Fax: **GRO-C**
E-mail: jenkins@ **GRO-C**

Sir Nigel Crisp,
Permanent Secretary, Department of Health,
Richmond House,
79 Whitehall,
London SW1A 2NS



25th October 2005

Dear Nigel,

It is some months since you and I met to discuss my request to examine certain files which related to my period as Secretary of State for Health – 1979-81. Though it has taken rather longer than I had hoped (partly due to the move of offices) I have in fact now been sent copies of the many papers that I flagged in the files which I inspected. Some of the papers cannot be sent on to those who asked me to undertake this search for reasons which have been explained to me.

However, as you indicated at the outset, all the files which would have borne upon the subject of contaminated blood products no longer exist. I have to say that I find this extremely surprising given that the Government must have known that there were many further cases of people suffering from contaminated blood, notably haemophiliacs, some of whom have contracted various forms of Hepatitis.

I would very much like to come and discuss this with you and to explore why it was thought right to destroy these files. They represent, by any standards, a most unhappy chapter in the Department's history and I would be very distressed indeed if this was felt to be an adequate reason for their destruction.

Perhaps your Private Secretary would be kind enough to telephone me with a view to making an appointment.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Haemophilia Briefing Lord J - request for meeting with [unclear] another [unclear]