



THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

1702/496
YJ
The Haemophilia Society
123 Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7HR

Telephone: 0171 928 2020
Facsimile: 0171 620 1416

Rt Hon Stephen Dorrell MP
Secretary of State for Health
Department of Health
Richmond Terrace
Richmond House
Whitehall SW1A 2NL

1st December 1995

Dear Secretary of State,

Re: Hepatitis C Impact Study: Interim Report

You will be aware that over 3,000 people with haemophilia have been infected with the hepatitis C virus (HCV) as a result of their treatment with contaminated blood products. You will also be aware that the Society is campaigning for financial recompense for those people infected in this way.

Over the last five months the Society has undertaken some research into the needs of people with haemophilia infected with hepatitis C, their partners and families, and to look into existing support services. The information gathered has given us an indication of the nature and scale of the impact of HCV on the lives of people with haemophilia infected with HCV. The focus of the research was on the overall impact on people's lives - the effects on their employment, their education and their family relationships - rather than just the clinical effects. The research shows the damaging impact HCV has had on the lives of those infected and not just those who are seriously ill.

We believe that this research demonstrates the need for financial support from the Government for those who have been infected. It also demonstrates the need for urgent action. We are particularly anxious to see some financial assistance for the families and dependants of those people with haemophilia who have already died from HCV. We remain, of course, willing to come and discuss this and any other matters related to the Society with you.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Society's report. I hope you will find this informative.

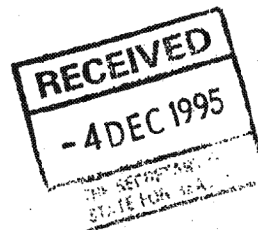
The report will be released to the press next week

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

The Rev. Prebendary AJTanner

Enc Hepatitis C Interim Report



CARING FOR PEOPLE WITH HAEMOPHILIA