

**"Re: Lord Archer Inquiry"**

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Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB

17/06/2008 09:38

ToWilliam Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB@GRO-C

cc

bcc

SubjectRe: Lord Archer Inquiry

Fairly telling that the answer was in papers they had!

Message sent from a Blackberry handheld device.
William Connon

From: William Connon
Sent: 17/06/2008 08:00
To: Ailsa Wight; Elizabeth Woodeson
Cc: Patrick Hennessy; Zubeda Seedat
Subject: Fw: Lord Archer Inquiry

Liz/Ailsa,

FYI only. Last week's meeting with Archer was fine and there was only query, which we could not resolve at the meeting hence Patrick's email below.

The questions asked, and the subsequent discussions last week, highlighted a fairly surprising lack of understanding of a number of significant issues, on the part of the inquiry team. We were all surprised that they did not seem to have a greater knowledge of certain fundamentals, by this stage in the process. That view was shared by our NHSBT colleagues.

I did ask about timescale for their report and they were none too specific, saying initially that they hoped to report by the end of June! This was then revised to "the summer". I said that we would be happy to receive and comment on a draft copy, if that would be helpful but they declined on the basis that the public and the haemophilia lobby would almost certainly see this as some form of compromise. I told them that this was not the intention but that would be happy to check for factual accuracy etc. I also suggested that if it made things more transparent we could include any others in this process of commenting on the draft. However, Lord Archer declined to take up on this offer.

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----- Forwarded by William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB on 17/06/2008 07:46 -----

Patrick
Hennessy/POLICY/DOH/G
B
16/06/2008 18:21

To "Vijay Mehan" <Vijay.Mehan@**GRO-C**>
cc William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB@**GRO-C**,
tim.wallington@**GRO-C**,
patricia.hewitt@**GRO-C**
Subject Lord Archer Inquiry 

Dear Vijay,

At the meeting on Thursday I said that I would write about the timetable for introducing heat treatment of Factor VIII.

CMO asked for a note of progress on heat treatment on 8 July 1985. In reply, he was told that:

- all commercial F VIII allowed to be imported was heat treated from December 1984
- all Scottish supplies were heat treated from January 1985 (although I believe the Scots subsequently changed their method as there were concerns that the method first used may not have been fully effective)
- all BPL-produced FVIII at Elstree was heat treated from April 1985
- there may have been some use of non-heat treated BPL product up to July, if doctor and patient wished.

In response, CMO asked for a letter to go to haemophilia centre directors pointing out the wide availability of heat treated product and that there was no longer any need to use any remaining non-heat treated product.

This is set out in documents 28-30 in volume 79 of the papers we issued in September 2007.

The letter from CMOs office in August 1985 to Haemophilia Centre Directors on this subject was issued in May 2007 as reference 53 of the Review of Documentation on Non-A Non-B.

If you wish to have a fuller account of the timetable in Scotland, you may want to contact Sylvia.Shearer@GRO-C

With best wishes
Patrick.

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