

HIV INFECTED BLOOD TRANSFUSION RECIPIENTS - BRIEFING FOR No 10 -

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In general the Government does not accept the case for no fault compensation for medical accidents. However, it recognised that special circumstances applied to the haemophiliacs with HIV.

Haemophiliacs were doubly disadvantaged by the pre-existing haemophilia, which affected their employment, mortgage and insurance prospects, and by their HIV infection.

The hereditary nature of haemophilia can mean that more than one member of the family might be affected.

A similar combination of factors would not generally apply to blood transfusion cases.

In principle blood transfusion cases are no different from other people who suffered from medical accidents or the unintended side effects of treatment.