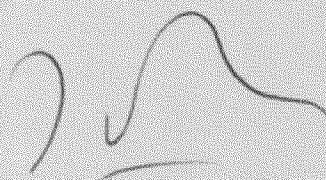


Lord Warner

Opposite is a suggested  
reply for your approval  
and signature.

Mr Flint has agreed  
the answer - see Flag A.

Are you content,  
please?



# PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PQ01688	2005/2006
Lords Written	

The Lord Morris of Manchester - To ask Her Majesty's Government whether in hardship cases they will remove the cut-off date for applications for payments from the Skipton Fund for patients infected with hepatitis C as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products. (HL1000)

For Answer on:	
Notice Paper Date:	04/07/2005
Notice Paper Page:	479
MP (Party):	MORRIS OF MANCHESTER, LORD (LABOUR)

DRAFT REPLY TO REACH PARLIAMENTARY BRANCH BY

**12:00 Thursday 7 July 2005**

**PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS UNIT**  
**FINAL MINUTE**

**1. Reply approved by:**

Name	<i>Ailsa Wight</i>	Building	<i>SKH</i>
		Room	<i>460B</i>
Branch	<i>General Health Protection</i>	Ext	<i>25357</i>
		Date	<i>8 July 2005</i>

**2. Reply composed by:**

Name	<i>Zubeda Seedat</i>	Ext	<i>25143</i>
Room	<i>631B</i>	Building	<i>SKH</i>

**3. The following special points should be noted:**

**Background**

1. Lord Morris is President of the Haemophilia Society and regularly asks questions on the Hep C ex-gratia payment scheme, particularly in relation to the issue of widows and dependants who are excluded from the scheme.
2. We have no plans to change the remit of the scheme in relation to particular cases.
3. It is possible that this question relates to recent developments in Scotland where debate has been focussed on the cut off dates of 29 August 2003 and 5 July 2004 (see below).

**Background to developments in Scotland**

4. On 30 June, Scottish Ministers agreed to pay the relatives and dependants of those who died between 29 August 2003 (when the scheme was announced) and 5 July 2004 (when the scheme was launched), *but who have not made a claim between this period*. This concession was made in an effort to prevent an amendment going through which would have had the effect of extending eligibility to the relatives and dependents of people who contracted hep C through contaminated blood and blood products, and who have died. We are currently considering the implications of the decision by Scottish Ministers on the operation of the Skipton Fund.

PQ01688 2005/2006

Written Answer

Han Ref: Vol

Col

~~LORD MORRIS OF MANCHESTER (LABOUR ):~~

The Lord Morris of Manchester - To ask Her Majesty's Government whether in hardship cases they will remove the cut-off date for applications for payments from the Skipton Fund for patients infected with hepatitis C as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products. (HL1000)

**SUGGESTED REPLY**

The hepatitis C ex-gratia payment scheme has been designed to alleviate the suffering of those people living with the hepatitis C virus. We have no plans to amend the eligibility criteria to take account of individual cases.

✓ CF

12/7

14/7/05

**The Lord Morris of Manchester** asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether in hardship cases they will remove the cut-off date for applications for payments from the Skipton Fund for patients infected with hepatitis C as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products. (HL1000)

**The Minister of State, Department of Health (Lord Warner):**

The hepatitis C ex-gratia payment scheme has been designed to alleviate the suffering of those people living with the hepatitis C virus. We have no plans to amend the eligibility criteria to take account of individual cases.

Norman Warner

Him 16/5

Thursday 14 July 2005  
Written Answer

PQ01688/2005/06  
Han Ref: Vol 673  
Col WA170

**Hepatitis C and HIV Inadvertent Blood  
Infection: Payment Schemes**

**Lord Morris of Manchester** asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether in hardship cases they will remove the cut-off date for applications for payments from the Skipton fund for patients infected with hepatitis C as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products.

[HL1000]

**The Minister of State, Department of Health (Lord Warner):** The hepatitis C ex-gratia payment scheme has been designed to alleviate the suffering of those people living with the hepatitis C virus. We have no plans to amend the eligibility criteria to take account of individual cases.