



**THE
HAEMOPHILIA
SOCIETY**

The Haemophilia Society
123 Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7HR

Telephone: 0171 928 2020
Facsimile: 0171 620 1416

Maureen Murphy

GRO-C

Liverpool

GRO-C

Dear Maureen

Re: Hepatitis Campaign Brainstorming Meeting, 18th January 1996

Please find enclosed copies of notes of the meeting held on 18th January 1996.

These notes are my understanding of the key points made during the discussions.

I hope you will find them a helpful record of what was a wide ranging discussion.

If you have had further thoughts since the meeting or wish to make any additional points please write to me. It is important that we hear the full range of ideas and views.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Graham Barker
Director of Services and Development

CARING FOR PEOPLE WITH HAEMOPHILIA

Registered Charity No. 288260. A company registered in England and limited by guarantee. Registered Company No. 1763614

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**THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY'S
HEPATITIS C CAMPAIGN MEETING**

Notes of the discussion

World Mission Association
2.00 pm Thursday 18th January 1996

The Chairman of the Society, the Rev. Preb Alan J. Tanner welcomed the delegates to the meeting. Andy Cowe facilitated the meeting and explained the aim of the meeting, and Graham Barker made a presentation detailing points from his previously circulated background paper.

It was taken as a given that the Society would ask the government to ensure the best possible treatment, counselling and the availability of the highest standard of product to prevent further tragedies.

The discussion revolved around the 3 elements that could make up a settlement.

Lump sum

Regular payments

Single payments

GRO-A commented that the Society MUST come forward with a view on what is required or the government would do nothing. The Society could put forward a range of options but at some point the Government would decide and make an announcement. The Society does not have to welcome any settlement; can always go back for more later.

Lump sum payment to all

Had the advantage of being simple, fair, quick, avoids problems of discretion and recognises the social impact of the infection and not just the medical impact. It also allows people to spend the money as they see fit and to lead as normal a life as possible. This was seen as very important.

On the down side it could prove expensive to the government. There were concerns that it could make going back for more, more difficult but the Society couldn't be stopped from doing this.

There was debate as to what figure would be acceptable. The HIV settlement averaged £57,000 per person. One figure suggested for HCV was £80,000 which is the HIV settlement with inflation added to date. No figure was agreed as acceptable.

Overall the idea of a lump sum was liked by those present at the meeting. It could be a way of quickly getting some money to those who were ill, or where partners had died, who currently got no support from the Government.

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