## Caring for people with bleeding disorders



## THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

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Susan Deacon MSP
Minister for Health & Community Care
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7 June 2000

## Dear Ms Deacon

I write to follow up our earlier contact with regard to the problems of people with haemophilia and hepatitis in Scotland. Having met with you in September last year the Society was encouraged at your commitment to investigate the background to the infection of Scottish haemophilia patients via contaminated blood products, and particularly the time lag between the introduction of virally inactivated clotting factor in England and Scotland. You will be aware that many of the Society's members have contributed to the investigation being carried out by your officials.

However, it is now more than eight months since our meeting with you, and more than five months since the Society and our individual members made submissions to the Scottish investigation. While we understand that the issues are complex, and that the investigation must be thorough, there is growing concern within the haemophilia community at the apparent delay in producing the report. We are mindful that the summer recess is just a month away, and that many MSPs, including the Health Committee, will want a full opportunity to discuss and debate the report's findings.

In the light of these issues, the Society would very much like to meet with you again before the summer recess, and hope that we can arrange an early date.

!	Yours sincerely
	GRO-C
<u> </u>	KARIN PAPPENHEIM Chief Executive

