



## SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Health Department

St Andrew's House  
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To: Scottish Haemophilia Directors

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17 January 2000

Dear Colleague

### HAEMOPHILIA AND HEPATITIS C

Further to my letter of 13 January 2000, we had an internal Departmental meeting last week with legal advisers to discuss progress with the Scottish Executive inquiry in this area. There was general agreement on the need to clarify and ensure as far as possible absolute accuracy of the numbers which you and your colleagues have already submitted to the Department, particularly as the final report of the inquiry will be made public.

You may recall that the Haemophilia Society are also particularly interested in pursuing the issue of what patients were told at the time of Hepatitis C testing, including the clinical implications of a positive diagnosis. In addition, the Society allege that Scottish patients were often completely unaware of possible adverse effects resulting from plasma derived blood products, and of other potential treatment options.

In the light of the above, Departmental colleagues and I would like the chance to discuss these important issues in more depth, and would ask you to attend a meeting in St Andrew's House in the near future to progress the inquiry. Please could you indicate your availability on the attached form, and fax it to me as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

**DR A KEEL**

Deputy Chief Medical Officer (ME)

cc Ms T Teale  
Mrs L Towers  
Ms C Dora  
Mrs S Falconer

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