



Trudy Smyth

GRO-C

**Fwd: STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

1 message

Smyth, Trudy GRO-C

19 March 2020 at 15:32

To: GRO-C

Hi Debbie

Thankyou for taking my call this morning.

Please see below:

i. **TO: Mr Kenneth Clarke CH QC**

13 March 2020

Dear Sirs

I am a Producer in UTV and as part of a documentary we are investigating the facts and circumstances that led to the current Infected Blood Inquiry.

I would be grateful if you could answer some questions specifically in regard to any of the following:

- a. The Department for Health during 1982-1985
- b. Statements to Parliament relating to Factor VIII blood products
- c. Access to correspondence to DHSS from the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre E&W in 1983 or otherwise
- d. Anything relating to Factor VIII

I would be grateful if you could provide your response to each of the queries we have outlined below no later than 4pm on **Monday 23rd March**

If you do not reply on or before that strict deadline we will be unable to include your comment or reply in our programme:

**On 9 May 1983 the Director for the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre sent a written warning and request to the DHSS to withdraw from use all blood products donated in the USA after 1978 until the risk of AIDS transmission was clarified.**

**A UK Haemophilia patient directly linked to USA blood products died of AIDS related illness in August 1983.**

**In or around November 1983 you informed Parliament that:**

***"There is no conclusive evidence that (AIDS) is transmitted by blood products."***

1. Please confirm why *and / or* on what evidence *and / or* on whose authority you deemed there to be no evidence that AIDS could be transmitted through blood products?
2. Please confirm why, in light of all of the warnings at the relevant time, that you did not take any measures to withdraw all blood products donated in the USA after 1978, namely Factor VIII?
3. Please confirm why Factor VIII blood products continued to be used in the UK after August 1983?

4. With the benefit of hindsight, do you consider the statement you made to Parliament in 1983 to be incorrect?
5. Do you have any comments you would like to make to those affected by the consequences of Factor VIII used in the UK?
6. Do you have any other comments you would like to make generally?

I would be obliged if you could please respond no later than 4pm on Monday 23rd March.

Kind regards

Trudy Smyth-McCann

Producer

UP-Close

UTV

Mobile GRO-C

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Trudy Smyth-McCann  
Content Editor UTV

GRO-C

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