

Our Ref: PLFG/so/

Mr Nicholas Fish Scheme Administrator Skipton Fund PO Box 50107 London SW1H 0YF Oxford Haemophilia & Thrombosis Centre Churchill Hospital Old Road Headington Oxford OX3 7LJ

Dear Mr Fish

15th August 2011

Skipton part 2 form for Oxford patients

I am writing to update you on the position with regard to completion of these forms. As documented in previous correspondence, the Oxford Haemophilia Centre is both the largest and oldest haemophilia centre in the country which means we have a very large historical cohort. Also in contrast to other haemophilia centres, we have kept the records of all our former and/or dead patients which means that our records go back many decades. Whilst other haemophilia centres have simply not been able to fill in any Skipton forms for some patients as no information is now available, this does not apply to us. We also have much lower comparable staffing level to other centres.

I have discussed the various options with our own hospital managers, and I understand that they have been in contact with your office as well. I am now writing to let you know that I have received written managerial approval for us to levy a fee of £75.00 for the completion of these forms. We are well aware of the "expectation" as you office has put in from the Department of Health that these forms will be completed free of charge. However, there is a significant resource issue raised here and I have also shared with you the very clear advice from the BMA that we are entitled to charge for completion of these forms which are quite different from statutory documents such as death certificates, sick notes etc. I would also make clear that the money charged will be paid directly to my employers and not me personally.

I will therefore now be writing to all those relatives who have submitted Part 2 forms to us and I enclose a copy of that letter so you are aware of what we are telling them.

Please note, however, that I will continue to complete any new Part 1 application forms that I receive as these take much less work. I would also be happy to continue to respond to the various letters I still get from your office with specific queries relating to Part 1 forms already submitted.

Yours sincerely GRO-C

Dr PLF Giangrande Consultant Haematologist