

AG/lmc

19 August 1998

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr Mike McGovern
Health Services Directorate
Department of Health
Wellington House
133 - 155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

Dear Dr McGovern

Re: **Scheme of Payments for those infected with HIV through
Blood or Tissue Transfer**

Ms [GRO-A] - d.o.b. [GRO-A] 62
[GRO-A]

GRO-C



Thank you for your letter about this matter. Because (as you will appreciate) Ms [GRO-A] has received a very large number of transfusions, we have confined ourselves to identifying donors from two groups of donations:

- 1) Those donations Ms [GRO-A] received up to March 1992 (when she had a possible seroconversion illness). All except one of these donors were subsequently tested for anti-HIV (either because the donor happened to have donated again, or because the donor responded to a special request from me to donate). All were found to be anti-HIV negative. One donor is untraceable, notwithstanding the help of the FHSA.
- 2) Later we were informed of a further possible seroconversion illness (in May 1993). I am currently investigating this group of donors. I am afraid I do not know when I will have this information, as we are in the middle of a change over period from one archive system to another and my IT colleague tells me that he simply does not have access to such files at the moment. We have made the appropriate representations to try to rectify the situation.

However I feel that it is unlikely that all of Mrs [GRO-A] donors will either be contactable now or will have donated again since the index donation. This is not for any sinister reasons, but simply because a significant percentage of donors cease to donate every year. The matter therefore may have to be settled on a balance of probabilities by the Adjudication Board.

I will keep you in touch with progress.

Yours sincerely

[GRO-C]

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