

Copies to:
Shadow Health Spokes'
Mr Eddie O'Hara MP.

Mrs Virginia Bottomley,
Secretary of State for Health.

Mr G W Murphy,

GRO-C

Liverpool,

GRO-C

29 September 1994.

Dear Secretary of State,

INFECTION OF HIV NEGATIVE HAEMOPHILIACS WITH HEPATITIS C

May I draw your attention to the above matter and particularly the case
regarding my father: Mr William Murphy (GRO-C 1934) of (GRO-C

GRO-C

Liverpool

GRO-C

Haemoragically stated as a sufferer of Haemophilia A, Mr Murphy contracted the liver disease, Hepatitis C, following a duodenal ulcer operation at the Royal Liverpool Hospital in November 1981.

Obviously exposed to the infected blood products administered by the NHS at the time, it was only natural for Mr Murphy to fear that he had contracted HIV. In 1986 it was confirmed that he had NOT developed the virus and was deemed to be fortunate. This now seems quite ironic.

It was confirmed in January 1992 that Mr Murphy subsequently developed Cirrhosis of the liver as a direct result of the Hepatitis and was informed by Dr Charles Hay, of the Royal Liverpool Hospital Haematology Dept, that the condition would inevitably lead to fatality.

After brief tests examining the potential for a liver transplant in August of this year a malignant tumour was discovered on the liver.

Before chemotherapy could be administered Mr Murphy died on September 3 after the cancer burst causing a massive abdominal bleed.

Mr Murphy's death certificate reads: 1. *Retroperineal bleed-caused by*
2. *Hepato-cellular carcinoma caused by* 3. *Cirrhosis of the liver due to*
Hepatitis C caused by 4. *Haemophilia A.*

It is quite clear in our minds and indeed in the minds of most medical professionals that Mr Murphy's death was directly linked to the administration of infected blood products - precisely those administered to patients who went on to develop HIV - in the early 1980s.

Given that the case of the haemophiliac and other patients who developed HIV was rightfully addressed and settled by the Government, I put it to you that

Mr Murphy's case - and I'm sure others - should equally be addressed and examined by your department.

To highlight the current inconsistency: Mr Murphy was one of three haemophiliac brothers. The other two contracted HIV and subsequently died in 1989 and 1990 respectively and their families were 'compensated' and indeed had sundries, such as funeral expenses, paid. Mr Murphy's case, because he was HIV negative, does not come into that category.

I am, at this stage, drawing your attention to this matter in the broadest terms. I am sure you will appreciate the vulgar irregularity that currently prevails. I feel sure that it is a matter the Government will wish to investigate.

You will note from the top of the letter that I have sent a copy of this letter to the Opposition health spokesperson and Mr Murphy's constituent MP.

I will take this opportunity to inform you and the Health Department that I do not intend to let this matter rest.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

GRO-C

GREGORY MURPHY.