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Telephone ((GRO-C

John Patten MP,
House of Commons,
L O N D O N, SW1A 0AA.

21st. April 1986.

Dear Mr. Patten,

Thank you for your letter of 14th. April, and indeed, for sparing the time to discuss my problems in person on 11th. April.

I am most grateful to you for taking up the matter with the Health Minister, Mr. Barney Hayhoe.

On reading your letter, I feel I may not have correctly expressed my case for compensation. I feel that all those Haemophiliacs who are positive to the HTLV-3 antibody, by virtue of their treatment with American Factor VIII concentrate, should be considered for some form of compensation. This is for two main reasons: Firstly, due to the nature of the A.I.D.S. virus, symptoms of the illness may present themselves many months or even years later, thus causing lasting anxiety for those involved and their families. Secondly, because it is a 'sexually transmitted disease', it is certain to create enormous difficulties with every Haemophiliacs' social and sexual relationships. This is in addition to their normally restricted social lives, which I spoke of when we met. As there is presently no effective treatment, let alone a cure, for A.I.D.S., and seemingly no prospect of one in the foreseeable future, compensation will be of little help to those unfortunate enough to actually contract the full illness.

I hope this does not seem an unreasonable point of view, and that you feel able to commend it to Mr. Hayhoe.

Thank you, once again, for showing an interest in the problems of, not only myself, but many Haemophiliacs throughout the country.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

Nicholas C. Medley.