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AFH

From: Dr A Smithies
Med SEB

Date: 21 October 1987

Copy: Dr Harris
Mr Heppell
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COMPENSATION FOR HAEMOPHILIACS

1. You asked for background information on the decision by Secretary of State to continue the line (endorsed by the Social Services Committee) of not providing compensation specifically for haemophiliacs infected with HIV.
2. At Annex A is the submission to MS(H) prepared by HS1 in consultation with Med SEB suggesting that the means of providing compensation to this group be re-examined.
3. At Annex B following a meeting with MS(H) and PS(H) officials were asked to draft a note for MS(H) to send to Secretary of State requesting agreement for officials to do additional work on a compensation scheme, Annex C.
4. You have already seen a copy of Secretary of State's letter to the Prime Minister giving his views on keeping to the line not to provide compensation. Annex D and E
5. In considering the consequences of a compensation scheme for haemophiliacs infected with HIV account would need to be taken of:-
 - a. the claims of recipients of HIV infected blood donations and organ transplants.
 - b. the implications for haemophiliacs to whom non A non B hepatitis has been transmitted. This is in the region of 96-100% of those who have been treated with products made from plasma pools.
 - c. The more general issue of compensating individuals who suffer as a result of their medical treatment.

GRO-C

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