

M205
CHP005/001/002
20/04/06

BLO 2

Monday 27 February 2006
Written Answer

PQ07522/2005/06
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NHS: Contaminated Blood Products

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

Further to the answer by the Lord Warner on 12 January (*Official Report*, col. 300) about documents dealing with contaminated National Health Service blood products that were destroyed in error by the Department of Health in the early 1990s, on what date or dates they were destroyed; by whose decision they were destroyed; and whether it is only documents on these products that have been destroyed in error by the department. [HL3732]

The Minister of State, Department of Health (Lord Warner): My noble friend is aware that during the HIV litigation many papers were recalled. We understand that papers were not adequately archived and were unfortunately destroyed in the early 1990s.

My noble friend is also aware that further documents were destroyed in the 1990s. Officials at the Department of Health have established that these documents related to the minutes and papers of the Advisory Committee on the Virological Safety of Blood between 1989 and 1992. These papers were destroyed between July 1994 and March 1998. A decision, most probably made by an inexperienced member of staff, was responsible for the destruction of these files.

Emile, M205
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grateful if you could amend
the AQ reply sent on the
g-drive, then file
thanks

GRO-C