

127m4. DECISION

Patricia,

**CONTAMINATED BLOOD PRODUCTS AND HEPATITIS C:
CALL FOR INQUIRY**

The attached note from Caroline Flint and Norman Warner details the Haemophilia Society's request for a public inquiry into the issue of contaminated blood products and hepatitis C.

Caroline and Norman do not feel that an inquiry is justified, especially as we do not consider the UK was at fault. As an alternative they have explored the possibility of commissioning an independent review and commentary on all the papers, under the NHS Act 1977.

If possible Norman would like to make an announcement on this over the summer, to pre-empt questions in the Lords upon his return.

Are you content with the line they propose to take against the need for an inquiry?

Are you content for an independent commentary on the papers to be carried out?

Jennie
24/07/06

If both NW + CF really believe
an independent commentary is worth it
for a affordable (I assume will need to
pay Lin Lee) - fine. But I fear it will fuel, not
deflect, calls for a public enquiry - which we
are absolutely right not to do.

GRO-C: PH