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INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN2050071

What was the outcome of the meeting at the Department of Health of its Recombinant Roll-out Working Group on 5 July; what representations the Secretary of State for Health has received since that meeting from the chairman of the **Haemophilia** Society; and whether the four commitments now sought by the society will be met.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Lord Warner): A meeting on the roll-out of recombinant treatment for adult **haemophilia** patients was held on 5 July. Following this meeting the chairman of the **Haemophilia** Society wrote to the Secretary of State for Health on 6 July and 16 July about the funding for the recombinant roll-out programme. A reply was sent on 29 July.

The Government remain committed to the roll-out programme. We will continue to work with key stakeholders to ensure that the four commitments set out in the letter from the **Haemophilia** Society are met. Our aim is that by March 2006 the vast majority of **haemophilia** patients will be receiving recombinant treatment.

Skipton Fund

15th July 2004

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

Further to the Written Answer by the Lord Warner on 24 June (WA 151) concerning representations about the Skipton Fund sent to the Department of Health on behalf of the **Haemophilia** Society in Scotland, when they expect the department's response to be placed in the Library of the House; and whether it will also be copied to Members involved with the correspondence. [HL3517]

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Lord Warner): The Department of Health's response has been forwarded to my noble friend and a copy has been placed in the Library.

Hepatitis C and HIV Inadvertent Blood Infection: Payment Schemes

20 Apr 2004

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

From what budgets the ex gratia payments scheme for hepatitis C infection from contaminated National Health Service blood products will be funded; and[HL2239]

From what budgets the payments scheme for infection with HIV from contaminated National Health Service blood products is funded.[HL2240]

Lord Warner: The Departments of Health in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be funding the hepatitis C ex gratia payment scheme, known as the Skipton Fund, from central departmental budgets.

The payment schemes for those inadvertently infected with HIV as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products, the Macfarlane and Eileen Trusts, are funded from the Department of Health's Central Health and Miscellaneous Services budget and by Section 64 grant aid.

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

Why widows of **haemophilia** patients who have died of hepatitis C infection from contaminated National Health Service blood products are to be excluded from payments scheme, while the widows of patients who have died from HIV infection are included in the existing payments scheme for that infection.[HL2241]

Lord Warner: Unlike the Macfarlane and Eileen Trusts, which administer schemes for those infected with HIV, the ex gratia payment scheme for those infected with hepatitis C as a result of National Health Service treatment with blood or blood products, known as the Skipton Fund, is not a charitable trust.

The Skipton Fund has been designed to make lump sum, ex gratia payments to those living with the hepatitis C virus and has not been designed to compensate for bereavement. For these reasons it is distinct from the HIV payment schemes.

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

What limits the Department of Health has imposed on its consultation with the **Haemophilia** Society on implementation of the ex gratia payments scheme for hepatitis C from contaminated National Health Service blood products; and for what reason.[HL2242]

Lord Warner: Representatives of the **Haemophilia** Society have met with officials and the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Public Health during the course of the Department of Health's deliberations on the hepatitis C ex gratia payment scheme. A constructive dialogue has been established and is continuing.

Most recently, officials from the health departments in England, Scotland and Wales met representatives of the **Haemophilia** Society and other patient groups on 26 March 2004 to discuss the implementation of the hepatitis C ex gratia payment scheme, and in particular the application process. The Department of Health welcomes further feedback from the **Haemophilia** Society and other interested parties on this and any other aspect of the implementation of scheme.

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

What is the total sum paid by the Macfarlane Trust to the widows and other dependants of **haemophilia** patients who have died from HIV infection caused by contaminated National Health Service blood and blood products.[HL2280]

Lord Warner: Specific figures for the total sum paid by the Macfarlane Trust to widows and other dependants of **haemophilia** patients are not available. The scheme of payments adopted by the trust and its provision for regular and one-off payments makes it impossible to calculate how much money has been paid to these recipients.

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether they will require people to be included in the ex gratia payments scheme for hepatitis C infection from contaminated National Health Service blood products to sign a waiver before payment; and, if so, in what terms and on what grounds.[HL2281]

Lord Warner: Recipients of payments made under the hepatitis C ex gratia payments scheme, known as the Skipton Fund, will not be required to sign any form of waiver.

Hepatitis C

5th April 2004

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

Further to ministerial undertakings to consult the **Haemophilia** Society on all aspects of ex gratia payments scheme for hepatitis C infection from contaminated National Health Service blood products, when the Department of Health will be meeting the society to discuss issues of implementation.[HL2021]

Lord Warner: As part of the Department of Health's ongoing dialogue, officials from the departments of health in England, Scotland and Wales met with representatives from the **Haemophilia** Society and other patient groups on 26 March 2004 to discuss the implementation of the ex gratia payment scheme, and in particular the application process.

Haemophilia Patients: Macfarlane Trust Payments

29th March 2004

Lord Morris of Manchester asked Her Majesty's Government:

What public funds, at constant prices, have been made available year-by-year to the Macfarlane Trust to provide ex gratia payments for **haemophilia** patients infected with HIV by contaminated National Health Service blood and blood products; and what was the level of payments; and[HL1904]

What public funds, at constant prices, have been made available year-by-year to the Macfarlane Trust to provide ex gratia payments to the widows and other dependants of **haemophilia** patients infected with HIV by contaminated National Health Service blood and blood products; and what was the level of payments.[HL1905]

Lord Warner: Since the inception of the Macfarlane Trust, the Department of Health has provided the Macfarlane Trust with the following funding.

Year	Grant
1989	£10,000,000
1990	£0
1991	£0
1992	£0
1993	£5,000,000
1994	£0
1995	£0
1996	£2,500,000
1997	£0
1998	£3,000,000