

**BACKGROUND NOTE: FOLLOW UP TO PO5008535
LETTER FROM LORD JENKINS**

1. Lord Jenkins wrote to Lord Warner on 14 December about a letter he received from Mr **GRO-A** about haemophilia patients who were inadvertently infected with HIV and Hepatitis C through blood products. In his letter Mr **GRO** requests copies of minutes of the NBTS, NBA and Haemophilia Centre Directors meetings.
2. Mr **GRO-A** has written to the Department on numerous occasions, he would like access to these papers as part of an on-going campaign calling for a public inquiry into why so many patients were infected with HIV and Hepatitis C through contaminated blood and blood products.
3. Unfortunately, in this case the reply from Lord Warner to Lord Jenkins was drafted by the correspondence unit using a number of standard lines, and the reply did not fully address the points raised in the letter. It also left Lord Jenkins with the impression that we had inadequate file records. Lord Jenkins rang Sir Nigel's office to take up the issue of the Department's filing and document management system.
4. The draft letter seeks to reassure Lord Jenkins that DH does operate an effective records management system. We have also used this opportunity to give Lord Jenkins a fuller response to his letter.

Blood Policy Team
28 February 2005