

From: Do Not Reply donotreply@dh.gsi.gov.uk  
Subject: Your email to the Prime Minister  
Date: 19 August 2016 at 15:39:58  
To: Murphy, Gregory gregmurphy@ GRO-C

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Our ref: PMDE-1046782

Dear Mr Murphy,

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 July to Theresa May about infected blood. As the matters you raise concern health, your correspondence has been passed to this department and I have been asked to reply.

I was sorry to read that your father was infected through NHS-supplied blood and understand your concerns.

Ministers recognise that there is still a desire by many campaigners for a public inquiry in England. However, given the breadth of Lord Penrose's report and the fact that the report sets the events in Scotland in the wider UK context at that time, the Department of Health's view remains that there is no need for a public inquiry in England.

Ministers believe that another inquiry would not be in the best interests of those infected and their families as it would be costly and could further delay the implementation of the scheme reforms and the disbursement of the extra funding provided by the Government.

In the UK, action was taken as soon as possible to introduce testing and safety measures for blood and blood products as they became available. The introduction of heat treated products in 1985 was a key factor in the safety of the UK's blood supply, and the establishment of ex-gratia schemes in the UK was in recognition of the special and unfortunate position of those who were inadvertently infected.

I am sorry I cannot be more helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Miles  
Ministerial Correspondence and Public Enquiries  
Department of Health

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