





eptember 1995

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

0171 - 219 6479

0171 - 219 6378 (Constituency Calls)

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Turp .

content for me to arrange

GRO-C

Jer 364 2 181049

I hope you will forgive me writing to you in very frank terms.

You replied to my letter of the 22nd August - concerning haemophilia sufferers who had contracted the hepatitis C virus as a result of medical treatment - with what was clearly a standard letter. You must know that sentences like "I am sorry to read that Mr GRO-A suffers from haemophilia . . . " and "I hope that this will reassure . . . " are more inclined to antagonise than to comfort. Mr GRO-A telephoned my office to see if you had replied to my letter and was told that you had. I have therefore no choice other than to send it to him. But it will only add to the anguish.

I do not minimise the problems of pressure on your time and I realise therefore the temptation to send out such letters. But they really do more harm than good.

May I, in these exceptionally distressing circumstances, ask you if you would agree to see me, together with a couple of representatives from the Manor House Group? I know it will take half an hour of your time, but it would be very worthwhile from every point of view.

GRO-C

27 SEP 1995

Stephen Dorrell Secretary of State for Health Richmond House London SW1A 2NS