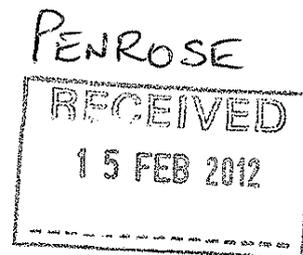


Ms Tracey Turnbull
Central Legal Office
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EH6 5JR



14 February 2012

Dear Tracey

Re: Professor Goldberg – Further request regarding Statistics

It would be immensely helpful to the Inquiry if Professor Goldberg would be able to assist us with some queries regarding work he produced for us in the course of 2011.

With reference to his report "*an estimate of how many individuals in Scotland became infected with Hep C via blood transfusion between 1970 and 1991*" provided 16 September 2011, and signed in October, we would like to ask the following questions:

1. How were the figures obtained in the table which shows the range from 1,183 to 1,978 estimated to have been infected with HCV? It would be really helpful to us, and the other parties, to have an explanation in 'layman's' terms.
2. Can Professor Goldberg confirm the weighting, if any, given to the fact that prisoners were donating blood in Scotland from 1970 to early 1983 in the calculations?
3. During his oral evidence on 16 March 2011 (at page 140) Professor Goldberg was asked if, when he met Dr Soldan (which he said he was going to do the following week), he could ask her about the calculations underpinning the DoH review figures. Did he ask her, and what was her response?

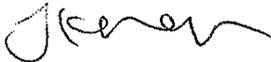
4. We note that the work Dr Soldan did for Dr McClelland produced an estimate of 3,498 people infected with hepatitis C from blood transfusions in Scotland between **1980** and **31 August 1991**. The work Professor Goldberg carried out for us last year produced estimates of those infected between **1970** and **1991**, with a mid-estimate figure of 1,532. We note that Dr Soldan's time period is a decade shorter than Professor Goldberg's: can he provide a detailed, reasoned explanation for this? It would be helpful to have as clear an explanation as possible, as we hope to understand it, and intend to make it available to the other parties as well.

5. Counsel also have a query specifically referring to the Health Protection Scotland website. With regard to the figures for infection with the hepatitis C virus to 30 September 2011, the website states there had been 30,934 diagnoses in Scotland. Of these, 361 have 'blood factor' as their risk factor. There is a further column totalling 1,662 for 'other' risk factors, such as transfusion, sexual contact, tattoo/piercing etc. We would be grateful if Professor Goldberg could provide the Inquiry with a breakdown figure for the number infected through transfusion alone.

We appreciate our further requests could result in considerable further work for Professor Goldberg, and are grateful to him for the extra time it will take to respond to our queries. The work is valuable and will assist the Inquiry in its work.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely



Janet Marsh