Haemophiliacs

Sir Michael McNair-Wilson: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many haemophiliac victims of HIV contaminated factor VIII have died from AIDS; and how many have died since November 1989.

Mrs. Virginia Bottomley: The total number of haemophiliacs with AIDS who have died up to the end of February 1990 is 118. Of that figure 11 have died since November 1989. It is not known how many died as a result of AIDS or from any other cause.

Sir Michael McNair-Wilson: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many writs from haemophiliac victims of HIV contaminated factor VIII have been filed against his Department, regional health authorities and the Committee on Safety of Medicines; and how many were received (a) by 31 December 1989 and (b) since 1 January 1990.

Mrs. Virginia Bottomley: Health authorities are separately represented and the Department does not routinely receive information on the number of writs issued against them. I understand that 928 writs have been filed against the Department and Committee on Safety of Medicines, of which around 650 were received by 31 December 1989.