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SUBMISSIONS ON THE TOPIC OF STATISTICS - 29 AUGUST 2012

**RESPONSE TO THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE PENROSE INQUIRY
 DATED 27 JULY 2012**

In response to the letter received from the Penrose Inquiry dated 27 July 2012 on the Topic of Statistics ("the Inquiry's letter"), the Scottish Blood Transfusion Service would wish to make the following submissions:-

1. With reference to item 6 in the Inquiry's letter, the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would wish to express its support for the content of Professor Goldberg's letter to Professor James dated 29 May 2012, [PEN.019.0922]. Specifically, the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would agree with Professor Goldberg that statistics emanating from The Skipton Fund should be treated with caution. In doing so, the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would wish to draw the Inquiry's attention to the witness statement of Dr Kenneth Simpson in the case of Victor Tamburrini, [PEN.014.0092], which, it is considered, illustrates the fact that it is likely that exhaustive investigations, such as were carried out for the Inquiry by the SNBTS into the alleged route of infection in Mr Tamburrini's case, would not generally have been carried out routinely by clinicians at the time of completing Skipton Application forms.
2. With reference to the National Haemophilia Database Report dated April 2012, [PEN.019.0927], the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would wish to submit the attached comments, entitled "Comments on the UK HCDO Bleeding Disorder Statistics for the Penrose Inquiry".
3. Generally on the Topic of Statistics, the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would also wish to submit an article by Franklin et al ("Benefits of a blood donation archive repository: International survey of donor repository procedures and Scottish experiences"), which was published in the journal "Transfusion!", Volume 47, July 2007. This article addresses the issue of the likely true incidence of transfusion transmitted Hepatitis C, before the introduction of anti Hepatitis C donor testing.

It is hoped that the above submissions will be of assistance to the Inquiry in its further consideration of the Topic of Statistics.

The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service - 29 August 2012

