

# **MEDIA DIARY NOTE**

**15 January 2015**

## **Notification of date for the publication of the Final Report of The Penrose Inquiry**

**Date:** Wednesday 25 March 2015

**Time:** Registration for broadcast & photographers - from  
10am  
Registration for all other media - from 10:30am  
Starts - 11am

**Location:** The Auditorium, National Museum of Scotland  
Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF

The Penrose Inquiry, the public inquiry into the circumstances in which patients treated by the NHS in Scotland became infected with Hepatitis C, HIV, or both, through the use of blood or blood products, has announced that its Final Report will be published on 25 March 2015.

The Inquiry was set up by Scottish Ministers under the Inquiries Act 2005 and was announced by the then Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon, in the Scottish Parliament on 23 April 2008. The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry, chaired by Lord Penrose who was appointed on 12 January 2009, are in the Notes to Editors.

To mark the publication of the Report, a press conference will be held in the Auditorium at the National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh on 25 March 2015, starting at 11am. At the press conference, which will also be open to Core Participants to the Inquiry and interested members of the public, the Chairman of the Inquiry, Lord Penrose, will outline the background to the Inquiry, along with the Inquiry's key findings and recommendations.

**Media attendance**

Media wishing to attend should register their interest by contacting Angela Hughes on 0141 204 7800 / 07970 184 198 or email: [angela.hughes@golleyslater.co.uk](mailto:angela.hughes@golleyslater.co.uk) by noon on Monday 23 March 2015.

**Broadcasting**

By law, (the Inquiries Act 2005), it is a matter for the Chairman to decide whether or not proceedings at an inquiry may be recorded or broadcast. Lord Penrose has agreed to permit broadcasting at the press conference. Broadcast journalists will have access to the Auditorium from 10am to set up.

There will be an opportunity for filming and photography with Lord Penrose before the press conference from 10.15am to 10:30am and details of the location for this within the museum will be advised on the day.

**Report**

The Final Report of the Inquiry will be available in limited quantities of print format and will also be available on the Inquiry website and on DVD.

**ENDS****For more media information contact:**

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## Notes to Editors

### 1. Terms of Reference:

1. To investigate the systems in place in Scotland for the collection, treatment, licensing, testing, preparation for supply and supply for use by the NHS of blood and blood products with particular reference to the risks of transmission of the hepatitis C virus and HIV to patients treated by the NHS in Scotland, including the role of government in regulation and setting guidelines and standards.
2. To investigate the systems in place for informing patients treated by the NHS in Scotland of the risks associated with the use in their treatment of blood or blood products, with particular reference to the risks of infection with the hepatitis C virus and HIV.
3. To investigate the systems in place in Scotland for obtaining consent from, and testing for infection with hepatitis C and HIV, patients treated with blood or blood products, and informing any patients found to be so infected.
4. To investigate the systems for recording and monitoring the numbers of NHS patients in Scotland treated with blood and blood products, with particular reference to the numbers exposed to risk of infection with the hepatitis C virus and HIV and the numbers contracting either or both such infections as a consequence of such treatment.
5. To examine the circumstances generally in which patients treated by the NHS in Scotland became infected with hepatitis C, HIV, or both through the use of blood or blood products in the course of their treatment, taking account of the development of scientific and clinical understanding and evidence internationally.
6. To investigate the deaths of Reverend David Black, Mrs Eileen O'Hara, Alexander Black Laing and Victor Tamburrini, with particular reference to the circumstances in which they became infected with the Hepatitis C virus, HIV or both.
7. To investigate the steps taken by those involved in, and those responsible for, the NHS in Scotland, including NHS Boards and the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service ("SNBTS"), their officers and employees and associated agencies, once hepatitis C and HIV were identified, to trace individuals who might have become infected with one or both of them as a result of receiving

blood or blood products; and to identify any other or further steps that might reasonably have been taken to trace such individuals.

8. To investigate the steps taken by those involved in, and those responsible for, the NHS in Scotland including NHS Boards and SNBTS, their officers and employees and associated agencies, to prevent the provision of infected blood and blood products.
9. To investigate the steps taken by those involved in, and those responsible for, the NHS in Scotland including NHS Boards and the SNBTS, their officers, employees and associated agencies to inform individuals who might have received infected blood or blood products of the risks associated with their treatment for themselves and their families; and to offer treatment to any individual at risk, and to identify any other or further steps that might reasonably have been taken to inform and to treat such individuals.
10. To examine any particular adverse consequences for patients treated by the NHS in Scotland and their families of infection through blood and blood products with hepatitis C and HIV, including the treatment offered.
11. To identify any lessons and implications for the future, and make recommendations.
12. To report as soon as practicable.

2. The Penrose Inquiry is a public inquiry set up under the Inquiries Act 2005. The Inquiries Act 2005 is a UK wide statute which provides a modern and comprehensive framework for inquiries in relation to matters of public concern. The Act sets out the legal powers and duties of both Ministers and the Inquiry chairman. In relation to a Scottish public inquiry, like this one, the Act is supplemented by the Inquiries (Scotland) Rules 2007 which set the detailed rules and procedures governing the Inquiry.

3. For more information visit [www.penroseinquiry.org.uk](http://www.penroseinquiry.org.uk)