

Susan Murray and Tracey Turnbull
Central Legal Office
NHS National Services Scotland
Anderson House
Breadalbane House
Bonnington Road
Edinburgh
EH6 5JR

28 November 2012

Dear Susan and Tracey

The Penrose Inquiry – Request for further evidence from Drs McClelland and Gillon on the topic of Statistics

Following the procedural hearing on the topic of Statistics held on 29 October 2012, Lord Penrose issued his written decision on 9 November. Specifically he said in his written decision: '[T]here are issues on which it is appropriate to have further information, concerning the basis on which Dr Schnier and Professor Goldberg proceeded and concerning the up to date data supplied by UKHCDO.'

As a result the Inquiry would be grateful if the questions contained in the attached schedule could be put to your clients, Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon.

You will see that the schedule of questions refers to a document which for your ease of reference we have put onto the **enclosed CD**, which also contains a copy of the questions to be put to your clients.

Lord Penrose has decided not to make any approach to Professor Goldberg at this stage but will decide whether or not to put any further questions to him once he has received the replies from the other witnesses.

Lord Penrose would be grateful to receive responses from your clients within four weeks, if at all possible, if this is unlikely to happen could you please advise me as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Janet Marsh

A47096

SCHEDULE**FURTHER QUESTIONS ON STATISTICS****Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon****Transfusion patients – HCV**

Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon should each be asked the following questions arising from the Schnier/Goldberg paper, “Estimation of the number of individuals infected and alive in 2011 as a consequence of blood transfusion in Scotland 1970-1991”.¹

The Schnier/Goldberg paper, in paragraph 3.2, sets out ten assumptions on which the paper is based.

1. What data and opinion evidence did Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon provide to Dr Schnier and Professor Goldberg in respect of each assumption?
2. Where opinion evidence was provided in respect of an assumption, on what was that opinion evidence based?
3. Are Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon aware of the extent to which the data and opinion evidence they provided to Dr Schnier and Professor Goldberg formed the basis of each assumption i.e. if some assumptions were based entirely on the data and opinion evidence provided by Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon, are Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon able to identify these assumptions?
4. Do Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon have any reservations about the reliability of the data and opinion evidence provided by them in respect of each assumption? If so, please explain the nature of the reservations.
5. Do Dr McClelland and Dr Gillon consider that any further steps or investigations can reasonably be undertaken to make the data and opinion evidence they provided to Dr Schnier and Professor Goldberg more reliable?

¹ [[PEN.019.0899](#)]