




18/10/02

Dear Mr Kennedy,

Thankyou for your reply and continuing support for the fight to secure justice for people infected with Hep C from blood products.

At the moment, we are waiting to hear what Malcolm Chisolm will say to the reports of the Health Committee. It just seems to be dragging on and on, but hopefully he will have to bow to the pressure of cross party support and constant media coverage, that condemns this and every government past's skirting of responsibility, and give us some kind of compensation.

To be honest, the money doesn't matter that much, sure it'd be nice to not have to worry about how I'm going to earn a wage when I'm too ill to work, but I just want someone to be accountable for this. I feel like I've been sentenced to death and no-one is going to be brought to justice over it. Philip Dolan, the Haemophilia Society's Scottish representative says that there were repeated warnings to various Health Ministers and officials over unsafe blood products, all of which went unheeded. In France, Italy and Japan there has been convictions of Government Ministers who also ignored the warnings and we are fighting to have the same done here. I have attached some articles which go into this in more detail. Basically, I am writing to you asking you to support us in this and other aspects of the campaign for justice. Could you perhaps lend your weight in asking one of the terrestrial TV channels to produce a programme documenting this whole blood scandal? I'm sure there would be no shortage of people willing to testify to this appalling travesty.

Also, I have just found out that during my time being treated as a child at York Hill Hospital, Glasgow, there were 26 HIV infections there (basically all of the Scottish cases). There were 18 children and 8 adults, and all were infected from a contaminated American blood product named Armour. Apparently, the consultant,  was also warned not to use the American stuff, and if there was a Scottish shortage, was to get it brought up from England. However, when there was a shortage, he went ahead and used the American products, which was harvested from jails, skid row and various other high risk populations. This almost floored me when I found this out. The man who was meant to look after me through my childhood, has signed my death warrant. I am told that he emigrated. However, can you please use your standing to see that something is done about this? I feel the only sensible course of action I have open to me is to write to you and other politicians asking for your help.

We shall keep fighting, and although I am getting weaker all the time, I am determined to see something done about this.

Yours Sincerely

