

Daily update (20 May 2024, 2.30pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

• The Infected Blood Inquiry

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The Infected Blood Inquiry

The Infected Blood Inquiry examined the circumstances in which patients treated by National Health Services in the United Kingdom were given infected blood and infected blood products, in particular since 1970. The Inquiry has published its report today. A link to the Report is attached. <u>The Inquiry Report | Infected Blood Inquiry</u>

In response to the Report, NHS Services Scotland (NSS) on behalf of NHSScotland Health Boards, have issued the following statement.

Statement on behalf of the NHS in Scotland:

"Our deepest sympathies are with the patients who were infected by the use of blood products and their loved ones.

"We sincerely apologise for the historical failings described in the Infected Blood Inquiry and empathise with the impact these events had on infected and affected people.

"We welcome the publication of this Inquiry, and we would like to thank the Chair and staff for the work undertaken to produce this comprehensive report.

"Modern safety standards are rigorous, and significant advancements in screening and testing protocols have been made since the events that have been the subject of this Inquiry. All donated blood then undergoes thorough testing before being used for transfusions. "NHS Scotland is committed to ensuring lessons from these events have been learned as we continue to prioritise a safe and sustainable blood supply across Scotland."

ENDS

Further to the Infected Blood Inquiry helpline which has been set up to take calls today, NSS are arranging for a national helpline to handle any further enquiries from Scottish patients, details of which will be published on our website.



Staff are reminded to make sure their personal contact details are up to date on eESS.

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer. A full archive of printable PDFs are available on <u>website</u>