# Contaminated Blood Scandal: Victims Await Justice and Compensation in the UK



Thousands of lives continue to be affected by the contaminated blood scandal in the UK, where patients contracted HIV and hepatitis through blood products between the 1970s and 1990s. Known as one of the NHS's worst treatment disasters, it saw around 6,000 people with haemophilia and other bleeding disorders infected, with only about 250 of those co-infected with both viruses still alive today.

Amanda Patton recalls her brother Simon Cummings, a popular radio DJ who died in 1996 at age 38 from HIV acquired through haemophilia treatment. Martin Reid from Aberdeenshire, infected with hepatitis C as a child, discusses his long-term health impacts including anxiety and depression, despite being cured in 2011.

The Infected Blood Inquiry, which was set to release its final report on May 20, 2024, has been a significant event in the quest for justice and compensation for the victims. Cabinet Office Minister John Glen has been meeting with affected community members, discussing anticipated compensation structured into categories like injury and financial loss.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak plans to issue a formal apology on behalf of the Government, acknowledging the grievous errors that led to this scandal. The Government has committed to establishing an Infected Blood Compensation Scheme, ensuring all necessary regulations and funding are in place.

Family members and victims continue to share their stories, hoping for justice and closure from the long-awaited inquiry report and potential future compensation.